More About Our Cover:

May 15 marked the dedication ceremonies for the newly completed Ambassador College Hall of Administration, Pasadena campus. The majority of administrative offices of the College are now located in this beautiful new building. Our cover photograph, taken from atop the Student Center, features the Hall of Administration in the foreground and shows in the background the San Gabriel mountains on a clear, bright spring day in Pasadena. The inspiration of the dedication ceremonies for Ambassador College's first real office building makes it a fitting cover for the dedication number of TOMORROW'S WORLD.

Kilburn — Ambassador College
A new magazine is born! It comes to fill a most serious need—in your life! You live in a world of frustration and despair, whose greatest problem is the very question of survival! And now our new magazine, TOMORROW’S WORLD, comes to bring hope, assurance and truth.

Our commission is to proclaim to the whole world the good news of the coming world of peace. World leaders, however, will not produce it. The search for peace seems to be the number one occupation of governments today. Yet none knows where to find it. None knows the way to peace!

It is like the elderly lady who searched every nook and cranny of her home to find where she had mislaid her glasses. They were nowhere to be found—until she went to wash her face. Then she discovered they had simply been pushed up above her forehead. They were right there all the time—she had simply not known where to look.

But if we were to tell the world about the only place where the way to peace can be found, the world would not listen, for that is a Source the world has rejected. It refuses to look there for the way, or to listen if it is read. It simply does not speak their language.

Consequently, we get this good news to the world in the world’s language. The Plain Truth magazine makes that Truth plain—in a language this world understands, and will accept.

But now comes TOMORROW’S WORLD, for those who accept the one Source where this Truth may be found—those who wish to go deeper into this precious gold mine of Truth, in its own language!

We have been given, one might say, a dual commission: 1) Our first and principal commission is to proclaim to the whole world, as a witness, the good news of coming world peace. In Bible language, it is called “Christ’s Gospel” (the word gospel means good news)—and that Gospel is the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is the coming world government that will bring peace. World leaders—both statesmen and scientists—are saying the world’s only hope is world government. So we proclaim it in their language—not Bible language. We are commissioned to proclaim it only as a witness. Following Christ’s example—and Peter’s and Paul’s—we make no effort to “cram Christ’s religion down their throats.” Jesus said none can come to Him (spiritually—religiously) except the Spirit of God draws him. We are humans. We cannot “draw them.” That is not our job—it is God’s. Jesus never pleaded, “Won’t you accept me?” He never urged or begged any to “be saved.” Nor did Peter nor Paul. That is a modern Protestant religious invention and practice. Our commission to the world is to preach the good news as a witness. This we do in their language. This we do as an interesting, dynamic educational broadcast—not as a religious program.

For this, The Plain Truth is our vehicle—in-print, besides free booklets.

But our second commission is to “feed Christ’s sheep,” to put it in Biblical language. Those whom God, through His Spirit, has drawn to Christ—has converted—need deeper spiritual food. And now TOMORROW’S WORLD becomes our magazine to help in that phase of our commission.

World leaders search for the way to peace. Yet they see nothing ahead but ever-worsening troubles with no solutions. The reason they see no solutions is that they wilfully hide their eyes from the causes. For every wrong result there has to be a cause. To cause the desired results of peace, happiness, prosperity, and abundant well-being, our Creator set in motion invisible and inexorable laws. There is no other way to obtain these desired ends.

Yet a rebellious mankind refuses obedience to that way. It seeks those results by going the opposite way. And that is the way that produces every unwanted trouble! There is one root cause for all the
troubles this world is suffering — transgression of our Maker’s right way of life — that way expressed in principle by the Ten Commandments.

This world, in general, has lost contact with, and therefore knowledge of its Maker — the source of everything good that man desires.

The living God our Creator rules over His entire vast, limitless creation. But to fulfill His purpose, He has marked out a duration of 6,000 years to allow man to make his own free choice. Humans have been made free moral agents — creatures of choice. Then there is to follow that 6,000 years the direct supernatural intervention of the Great Ruler of the Universe. He will enforce the rule of His Government for 1,000 years. Even the nature that has drawn humanity like a magnet toward false values and into the wrong ways will be changed! TOMORROW’S WORLD will, therefore, be a world of peace, prosperity, happiness, abundant well-being!

Our commission is to proclaim to the whole world this good news of the Kingdom of God and of His gift of eternal life; and to prepare the way for the coming of the glorified Messiah. Very soon, now, He will come to this earth in supernatural power and glory! He is coming to rule all nations — to set up world government! World statesmen and scientists say world government is the only hope of world peace. But men could never achieve it. Christ is coming to rule with total supernatural power and force! He is coming, strange as it may sound, to force peace, happiness and abundant well-being on a human race that will not accept, voluntarily, the way that will cause it!

Our commission is to get the good news to the world.

But we cannot gain the attention of the world by using religious or Bible-sounding language.

We have to be realistic. The world in general, by nature, is hostile to God’s Message — when spoken in religious-sounding language. God explained that through the apostle Paul. He wrote: “The carnal mind is enmity [hostile] against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be” (Romans 8:7).

If we go to the world with Bible language, the world will not listen!

On the other hand, we know that the very foundation of all knowledge — the very basis of all right education — is God’s revealed Word — the Holy Bible! But the world does not know that. Nor will the world, IF it knows it is coming from the Bible, accept it.

Actually — think of it — the Bible is the basis of right education. But the world will not look into the Bible for it. Nor, if you speak in Bible language, will it hear or accept it!

To reach the consciousness of the world, therefore, we have to say it in the world’s language! Now what is salvation? It is the purpose for which we were put here on this earth. So, to the world, we don’t use the word “salvation.” We talk about the fact that one of the very basics of knowledge is an awareness of the meaning and the purpose of life — to make life meaningful. The world will listen to that kind of language.

To gain the attention of the world — to get God’s Truth — Christ’s Gospel — into the consciousness of the millions in the world — we have to speak the world’s language! Not the spiritual-sounding language of the Bible.

So, in The Plain Truth, and other literature, we do this, even as the apostle Paul did. He set us an example. We speak to unconverted, non-religious people, in non-religious language.

Paul said: “I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.” He explained: “Unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews.” He spoke their language! “To them that are under the law, as without law. . . To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak. . . And this I do for the Gospel’s sake. . .” (1 Cor. 9:20-23).

Did you ever stop to think why we named the parent magazine “The Plain Truth?” Jesus said, “Thy word is Truth.” God’s Word — the Bible — is Truth. The Plain Truth magazine makes Bible truth plain!

But how can you do that to a world prejudiced against the Bible — a world whose carnal minds are hostile against God — whose minds are prejudiced against reading what they recognize as coming from the Bible?

Do you realize that modern education as a whole — especially high school and university-level education — has literally rejected the Bible? They have adopted the theory of evolution. That theory becomes their concept — their approach to all knowledge.

For example, take the textbooks on history. You

(Continued on page 22)
Is the Bible RELEVANT in the Space Age? Can it REALLY be understood? This article reveals how scores of thousands are discovering they CAN UNDERSTAND the Bible!

by Richard H. Sedliacik

IS THE BIBLE out of date in the Space Age? Most people seem to think so.

Yet the Bible seemed very up-to-date to the crew of Apollo 8 as they began their last swing around the moon. Awestruck by what they saw, astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders were moved to read the Biblical account of creation to the entire world!

Meanwhile, back on earth, an incensed atheist couldn't bear to hear these brave men read God's Word from the moon. She even tried to legally BAN prayer and Bible reading from outer space!

Ignored by Most Christians

But paradoxically, most people—including professing Christians—have already voluntarily banned all personal Bible reading here on earth.

Here is an eye-opening example of the appalling ignorance of the Bible among professing Christians today, as related by a startled newspaper reporter:

"Some months ago, a Protestant pastor administered a Bible quiz to members of his congregation. The questions were very simple. Anyone with a gen-
eral knowledge of the Bible should have been able to answer all of them easily.

"The results staggered the pastor!

"Only five percent of his flock made a commendable grade on the test. Fifteen percent failed to give a single correct answer. Sixty percent were unable to name the four Gospels. Seventy-five percent could not identify Calvary as the place where Jesus was crucified.

"Some congregations might do better than that. But not many. The vast majority of Americans today are Bible illiterates! They simply have never read the book which they profess to regard as the 'Word of God.'" (By Louis Cassels, Courier-Times, Tyler, Texas.)

"Can't Understand It"

This same newspaper reporter continued to explain why most professing Christians do not read or study the Bible.

"A great many people have turned away from the Bible because, when they do try to read it, they find they cannot understand it.... To the modern reader, it has a remote and antiquarian flavor. It is likely to leave him with the impression the Bible is an ancient history book that has no real relevance to his life here and now."

Another survey made a few years ago by the Canadian Council of Churches asked 6,500 ministers to name the chief reason for this failure to read the Bible. Almost 50 percent thought non-readers consider the Bible irrelevant; 26 percent thought that the people could not understand it; 24 percent felt people find the Bible uninteresting.

Paradoxically, this Biblical ignorance is considered "respectable" today. "It is one of the curious phenomena of modern times," reports J. B. Phillips in The Young Church in Action, page six, "that it is considered perfectly respectable to be ABYSMALLY IGNORANT of the Christian Faith. Men and women who would be deeply ashamed of having their ignorance exposed in matters of poetry, music, or painting, for example, are not in the least perturbed to be found ignorant of the New Testament." (Emphasis ours.)

And so the Bible has become little more than an obsolete "sacred book" to which most of its devotees pay lip-service, but which they practically never read, study, or understand!

"The true reasons for such widespread Biblical ignorance and lack of understanding will astound you.

How Theologians View the Bible

You would expect atheists and agnostics to deny the divine origin of the Bible. But today leading ministers and theologians are foremost among the critics of the Bible!

One such minister of a very large church denomination said recently: "No mainstream Christian Church accepts the Bible as the literal interpretation of the Word of God. Some of it is folklore, some legend, some tribal history."

How does he know? Answer: He doesn't! He has accepted as true the theories and hypotheses taught in the graduate schools of theology.

Now listen to these words of another well-known minister: "We know now that every idea in the Bible started from primitive and child-like origin...." and that it is an "impossible attempt to harmonize the Bible with itself, to make it speak with unanimous voice, to resolve its conflicts and contradictions...."

What a paradox! This man was looked up to as a minister of God. Yet he attempted to discredit the very Book he was supposed to uphold and teach. Branding the Bible as the vain efforts of men, he called it a book of fables and myths, instead of the Inspired Truth of God Almighty!

In the introduction to a well-known modern translation of the Bible, the author summarizes his ideas in the claim that many books of the Bible are "notes by disciples, worked up into literary papers which have been repeatedly edited, sometimes by pious collectors."

This very learned scholar thought that the earlier portions of the Bible stem from "the natural desire to gather up the primitive traditions of the people." He took for granted, and without proof, the false assumption that God had nothing to do with its inspiration!

Another theologian summed up the modern trend this way: "We must take the Bible seriously, but not literally!"

With statements such as these ringing in their ears, is there any wonder why hundreds of ministers publicly confess — and thousands privately admit — that they themselves can't understand or believe the Bible?

Statements such as these by well-known ministers, theologians and Bible scholars are DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE for discouraging the average person from trying to understand, or even read the Bible!

Confusion Begins With the Pulpit

A minister of one respected large church denomination told his congregation one Sunday that the Genesis account of creation "should not be taken literally."

Yet the account was very real to Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders while in lunar orbit. Perhaps this minister would change his "views" if he were sent to the moon someday!

After the service about 200 parishioners gathered in a basement hall to talk with this minister about his sermon. One of them commented:

"I don't know what to read and what not to read in the Bible. I'm confused. I don't know what to believe and what not to believe. What part of the book is true and what part is just a story? If one Bible story is a fairy tale, what about the next story?" [Emphasis ours.]

Little wonder the average man-on-the-street is sour about the Bible!

What else would you expect the average person to believe about the Bible when men, looked up to as Biblical "specialists" and "experts," declare it to be a PIOUS FRAUD?

The trouble with most people is that they take for GRANTED what other people say about the Bible.

Most people — including church laymen and the clergy — have not taken the time to really look into the Bible for themselves! They simply have (Continued on page 31)
Just what do you mean...

The KINGDOM of GOD?

Is it the CHURCH? Is it something “set up in the hearts of men”? Is it the British Empire? Is it “the Good within you”? Is it “the Millennium”? Each of these is widely taught — yet none is right! The shocking TRUTH is here made PLAIN!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

WHY cannot the churches agree on what is the GOSPEL? Jesus Christ came preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. Yet few preach about the Kingdom of God today, for they have lost all knowledge of what it is!

A prominent evangelist said to a worldwide radio audience that the Gospel of the Kingdom of God is not for us today. Some denominations proclaim a “Gospel of Grace”; some what the Kingdom of God really is! Some the “Science of Mind” or Christianity” as a whole, constitutes the particular denomination, or “Christianity”!

What is the one and only Gospel of Jesus Christ? The world does not know! It has not been preached for 18½ centuries, strange as that may seem. Look into your Bible. Look at it from the very beginning!

“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ,” you’ll read in Mark 1:1. “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the GOSPEL of the KINGDOM OF GOD, and saying, the time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel” (Mark 1:14-15).

It is necessary to believe that gospel to be saved! And how can you believe it, unless you know what it is?

Jesus went everywhere preaching the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM OF GOD. He taught in parables about the KINGDOM OF GOD. He sent out seventy men preaching, and commanded them to preach THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Luke 10:9). He sent the Apostles, on whom the Church of God was founded, to preach only THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Luke 9:1-2).

Isn’t it amazing that the world has lost the knowledge of what it is?

The apostle Paul preached the KINGDOM OF GOD (Acts 19:8; 20:25; 28:23, 31). And God Almighty, through Paul, pronounced a double curse on man or angel that would dare preach any other Gospel! (Gal. 1:8-9.)

Why then, do so many dare to preach so many other gospels? The good news of the KINGDOM OF GOD is something you must understand, and believe, in order to be saved! Jesus Christ said so! You had better be finding out what it is!

Daniel Knew!

Haven’t you heard men speak of the Kingdom of God something like this:

“By Christians everywhere working together to bring about world peace, tolerance and brotherly love, the Kingdom of God may at last be established in the hearts of men.”

Because they rejected Christ’s Gospel 1900 years ago, the world had to supplant something else in its place. They had to invent a counterfeit! So we have heard the Kingdom of God spoken of as merely a pretty platitude—a nice sentiment in human hearts—reducing it to an ethereal, unreal NOTHING! Others have misrepresented that the “CHURCH” is the Kingdom. Others confuse it with a “millennium.” Still others have, in our century, claimed the British Empire is the Kingdom of God. How deceived can this world get?

The prophet Daniel, who lived 600 years before Christ, knew that the Kingdom of God was a real kingdom—a government ruling over literal people on the earth.

Jesus Christ brought additional knowledge about it which the prophet Daniel might not have known. Still, Daniel knew there was going to be a real, literal Kingdom of God on the earth.

Daniel was one of four extraordinary, intelligent and brilliant Jewish lads in the Judean captivity. These four men were stationed in the palace of King Nebuchadnezzar of the Chaldean Empire, in training for special responsibilities in the Babylonian government. Daniel was a prophet who had been given special understanding in visions and dreams (Dan. 1:17).

Nebuchadnezzar was the first real
world ruler. He had conquered a vast Empire, including the nation Judah. This king had a dream so impressive it troubled him — moved him to tremendous concern. He demanded that his magicians, astrologers, and sorcerers tell him both what he had dreamed, and what it meant. They could not. They were baffled. Then Daniel was brought before the King.

Daniel disclaimed any more human ability to interpret dreams than the Chaldean magicians, “But,” he said, “there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days” (Dan. 2:28).

First, God’s purpose was to reveal to this world-ruling human king that there is a God in heaven — that God is Supreme Ruler over all nations, governments, and kings — that God rules the universe! This Chaldean king knew only about the many pagan demon gods. He knew nothing of the true living Almighty God. Like people and rulers, even today, he did not know that God is the living, real, active ruling and governing personage who actually and literally governs not only what is on earth, but the universe entirely!

The whole purpose of this dream was to reveal God’s government — the fact that God rules — the truth of the Kingdom of God — the very thing that is the one and only true Gospel of Jesus Christ! And, secondly, to reveal — preserved in writing for us today — what is to happen “in the latter days” — actually within the next two decades — this last half of the 20th century!

For Us, Today!

This is no dry, dull, dead writing for a people of 2500 years ago. This is living, tremendous, BIG NEWS for OUR DAY! It is advance news for us, NOW. News before it happens — of the most colossal event of all earth’s history certain to occur in your lifetime — during the very next few years!

This is THE TRUE GOSPEL! It is the very Gospel Christ preached! It is intended for you and me TODAY! It is vital that you UNDERSTAND!

Read, in your own Bible, verses 28 through 35. In his dream, this king had seen a vast stature — larger than any image or statue ever built by man — so tremendous it was terrifying, even in a dream. Its head was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass, legs of solid iron, feet a mixture of iron and clay.

There was a time element. Nebuchadnezzar had viewed it until a supernatural stone came from heaven, smashing the statue on its feet. Then the whole of the statue broke into small pieces, and was actually blown away by the wind — it disappeared! Then this stone expanded miraculously and quickly became a great mountain — so great it filled the whole earth!

What did it mean? Did it have meaning? Yes, because this was God’s doing. Unlike ordinary dreams, this one was caused by God, to convey the message of God’s sovereignty to Nebuchadnezzar; and — because it is part of the written Word of God, to us today — to reveal important facts of the true Gospel!

“This is the dream,” said Daniel (verse 36), “and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.”

This, then, is God’s interpretation. It is decidedly not Herbert W. Armstrong’s interpretation. Men ought never to interpret the Bible. The Bible gives us God’s own interpretation! Here it is:

“Thou, O king, art a king of kings;” — he was the first real world ruler over a world empire! “... for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.” God was revealing Himself to this human world dictator as the most high ruler over all.

People today, like this Chaldean king, seem not to think of God as a ruler — as the Supreme One who governs — as the Head of government. The Eternal was revealing Himself through Daniel to Nebuchadnezzar — and through the Bible: to you and to me today — as a sovereign, all-powerful, governing God who is to be obeyed!

“Thou,” continued Daniel to this human emperor, “art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth” (verses 37-39).

What Is A Kingdom?

Notice! This is speaking of kingdoms that bear rule over the people on earth. It is speaking of governments! It is not speaking of ethereal sentiments “set up in the hearts of men.” It is not speaking of churches. It is speaking of the kind of governments that bear rule and authority over nations of people here on earth. It is literal. It is specific. There is no misunderstanding, here, as to what is meant by the word “kingdom.”

There is no misunderstanding the interpretation. God gives His own interpretation through the prophet Daniel. The great metallic image represented national and international governments — real, literal kingdoms.

It represented a succession of world-ruling governments. First was the head of gold. That represented Nebuchadnezzar and his Kingdom, the Chaldean Empire. After him — later, in time sequence — was to come a second, then a third kingdom “which shall bear rule over all the earth” — world Empire!

Then, verse 40, the legs of iron represent a fourth world Empire. It was to be strong, even as iron is strong — stronger militarily than its predecessors. Yet, as silver is less valuable than gold, brass than silver, iron than brass, though each metal was harder and stronger, the succession would deteriorate morally and spiritually. The two legs meant the fourth Empire would be divided.

After the Chaldean Empire came the still larger Persian Empire, then the Greco-Macedonian, and fourth, the Roman Empire. It was divided, with capitals at Rome and Constantinople.

Now — verse 44! Read it! Get your Bible. See it with your own eyes in your own Bible. Here, in plain language, is God’s explanation of what the kingdom of God is:

“And in the days of these kings...” (Continued on page 25)
“...Till You Smoke Yourself to DEATH!”

Is smoking hazardous to health? What are the ODDS of getting lung cancer or heart disease, if you smoke? Why do MILLIONS smoke despite dire warnings? It is time you knew the answers — they could save your LIFE!

by William F. Dankenbring

I was one of the fellows who walked a mile for cigarettes for 40 years. Results — no vocal cords. I just can see, and my hearing is about gone — all that goes hard on a man.”

So said a man in Jacksonville, Florida, in a letter to us.

Another person wrote, “I have been in a wheel chair since 1964 through loss of right leg one and one-half inches above knee due to poor circulation brought about through heavy cigarette smoking after I retired in 1962. I had been smoking since I was eight years old. The tar and nicotine was blocking blood vessels and arteries, just as rust blocked water pipes, cutting down the flow of blood causing gangrene to form in my foot. They had to go above the knee to get away from gangrene.”

These personal accounts reveal some of the suffering which is caused by cigarette smoking! But are they mere isolated incidents? What is the truth? Is smoking really DANGEROUS to health?

Notice a few more heart-rending examples.

Smoker’s Last Plea

William Talman, a famous television actor, died of lung cancer not long ago. Six weeks before his death he taped a one-minute television commercial on the hazards of smoking. Talman had smoked three packs of cigarettes daily for his entire adult life.

Talman, the losing prosecutor on the Perry Mason television series said, “You know, I didn’t really mind losing those courtroom battles. But I’m in a battle right now I don’t want to lose at all, because if I lose it means losing my wife and those kids you just met. I’ve got lung cancer.”

In the commercial against smoking, Talman recalled that when he was 8 or 9 years old his father offered him $1,000 and a gold watch if he could get to the age of 21 without smoking.

“I lost that case before I was 12,”
Talman said. “Of all the cases in my
whole life that I've lost, of all the bets
I've lost, of all the chances I've blown,
that one I regret the most today . . . .”

During the shooting of the ad, Tal-
man was in obvious pain and was
heavily sedated.

Talman said, “So take some advice
about smoking and losing from some-
one who's been doing both for years.
If you haven't smoked — don't start.
If you do smoke — quit. Don't be a
loser.”

A Smoker’s Own Obituary

“Cigarettes were the death of me,”
wrote veteran newspaper reporter Mark
Waters six days before he died of lung
cancer. He had smoked for 42 years,
beginning at age 14. “I smoked two
packs a day, inhaling most of the
smoke,” he said.

Waters recounted in his own obit-
uary how he never really got any real
pleasure out of smoking. His mouth
always tasted like a birdcage. Smoking
brought on emphysema, making it hard
to breathe. A few years before the end,
he came down with a horrible cough,
he became hoarse, and a nasty soreness
came upon his left lung. “You have a
lung tumor,” the doctor told him.

Waters concluded his own obit-
uary, “Whether this story will stop anyone
from smoking, I don’t know. I doubt it.
Not a soul I’ve preached to has quit
smoking — not a single, solitary soul.

“You always think: ‘It will happen
to the other guy; never to me.’

“But when you get your lung cancer
— God help you.”

The last words he wrote were:
“I don’t have a ghost of a chance.
“It’s too late for me.
“It may not be for you.”

The Army of Smokers

The United States Department of
Agriculture estimates there are about
70 million tobacco users in the United
States alone. Dr. Daniel Horn, director
of the Public Health Service’s National
Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health,
estimated in 1968 that there were about
48 million adult smokers, with about
21 million ex-smokers.

Said Dr. Horn, “The country can’t
afford to have people continue smoking
when you realize that ONE-FOURTH
of the total illness in the United States
can be attributed to cigarette smoking.”

Nationwide, from 1900 to 1962, per
capita consumption of tobacco rose dra-
matically! From 1910 to 1962, cigarette
smoking rose from 138 cigarettes per
person in 1910 to 3,958 per person in
1962 — a startling rise.

Data provided by the Internal Re-
v nue Service shows that Americans
smoked 543.5 billion cigarettes in fiscal
1968. Although this was a slight 0.28
percent decrease per capita from 1967,
it still registered an overall consumption
record!

How many cigarettes is this? What
does the figure 500 billion mean to
you?

If you stuck all these cigarettes end
to end, you would have a long super-
sized cigarette stretching more than
27,000,000 miles in length! It would
stretch to the moon and back 54 times.

If you wrapped these cigarettes
around the earth, you would have a
“tobacco road” about 25 feet wide,
completely circling the world!

That’s a lot of cigarettes.

Total cigarette production in 1967
was about 580 billion, and the number
of cigarettes smoked that year averaged
about 4,345 per person, a whopping
rise over 1962.

The tobacco industry, obviously, is
a big business. In 1963 Americans
smoked 523 billion cigarettes, bought
more than 7.1 billion cigars, used 69.5
million pounds of tobacco in pipes,
bought another 64.8 million pounds for
chewing and 32.5 million pounds of snuff. In money it came to more than $8 billion. In 1967 sales rose to $9 billion.

Tobacco is the nation's fifth largest crop, after cotton, wheat, corn and soybeans. It is grown on 750,000 farms, is processed in 550 factories in 30 states, employing more than 96,000 people. Over 4,500 wholesalers and 1,500,000 retailers are involved in selling the stuff to the consumer.

Each year tobacco companies spend about $300,000,000 in various media on cigarette advertising.

Chemistry of Smoking

Some 300 different chemical compounds have been identified in tobacco smoke. One puff of cigarette smoke contains 15 billion particles of matter. Among them are many of the most noxious substances known to man!

Here is a partial list: Nicotine, pyridine, methyl alcohol, ammonia, carbon monoxide, furfural, formaldehyde; cancerogenic benzopyrene, phenols, acetone, arsenic; acids such as formic, oxalic, citric, acetic, coffee, hydrocyanic.

Nicotine is one of the quickest, most fatal poisons known. A fatal dose is about 100 milligrams — about what one cigar contains. If 500 milligrams of nicotine were directly injected into the bloodstream, the person would be killed instantly!

Tobacco “tars,” of course, have been linked with cancer. They are carcinogenic. Tars are formed during the heating of the tobacco leaf. If a mouthful of smoke is blown through a handkerchief, a brown, malodorous stain can be seen — evidence of the tars.

A smoker who uses about a pack and a half of cigarettes a day deposits upon the mucous membranes of his mouth, pharynx, larynx and lungs nearly a quart of tobacco tar in a year!

Benzopyrene is one of the most powerful known cancer-causing agents in animals. Arsenic is another cancer-causing chemical found in cigarettes. A man who smokes a pack a day may take as much as 36 milligrams of arsenic into his body every year from smoking alone. The arsenic comes from lead arsenate used as a pesticide on tobacco plants.

Every time a smoker smokes, these chemicals invade his system. One of the chemicals — collidine — is used for killing experimental animals. It causes paralysis and death. Another — prussic acid — can kill within minutes. Methyl alcohol causes first blindness, then death. Formaldehyde is used by morticians for embalming dead bodies. Tobacco has an arsenic content 50 times the amount legally permitted in food.

Dr. A. C. Ivy, of the University of Illinois, has found that a person smoking a pack a day for 10 years inhales eight quarts of tobacco tars during that time.

The PUFF of Death

Is smoking really dangerous to health? If you smoke, what is happening to your body?

“Dr. William H. Stewart, U.S. Surgeon General, estimates that someone dies from cigarette smoking in the United States every 105 seconds. The total, he said, is 300,000 per year — SIX TIMES the number killed in auto wrecks and one-sixth of the nation’s total deaths” (UPI, Feb. 24, 1969).

In one year, Americans reaped an extra 12 million chronic ailments, due to smoking cigarettes! A report released by U.S. Surgeon-General William H. Stewart in 1966 revealed that smoking was responsible for 300,000 extra heart attacks in the U.S.; one million more cases of chronic bronchitis or emphysema; almost two million extra cases of sinus trouble, and more than one million more stomach ulcers.

The study covered 42,000 U.S. households and covered the period from July 2, 1964, to July 1, 1965. The study also claimed there are 306,000,000 more man-days of restricted activity among cigarette smokers than among non-smokers.

More evidence of health hazards from smoking came from the Welfare Department. In a report to Congress by former Secretary John W. Gardner of the Health, Education and Welfare Department, it was concluded that:

1) Approximately ONE THIRD OF ALL
DEATHS of men between 35 and 60 are “excess” deaths in the sense they would not have occurred as early as they did if cigarette smokers had the same death rates as nonsmokers.

2) Seventy-seven million days of work are lost each year in the United States which would not have been lost if smokers had the same rates of illness as nonsmokers! (UPI, July 12, 1967.)

In September 1967, U.S. Surgeon-General William H. Stewart told a world conference: “The proposition that cigarette smoking is hazardous to human health is NO LONGER CONTROVERSIAL. It's a scientific fact.” (Sydney Morning Herald, May 22, 1968).

At the world conference held in New York, delegates from 35 countries listened to world leaders and discussed what action could be taken to combat the menace of smoking to health.

One speaker called tobacco smoking "the greatest man-made EPIDEMIC in human history."

The Chief Medical Officer of the British Ministry for Health, Sir George Bodber, told the conference, “We can be certain that many more than 50,000 deaths a year in England and Wales are directly due to cigarette smoking."

If these statistics are not impressive enough, listen to these facts.

Dr. Hollis S. Ingraham, New York State’s Commissioner of Health, declared that cigarettes are more lethal for Americans than all the bullets, germs and viruses combined!

According to the Public Health Service, cigarette smoking can shorten life expectancy by eight years, on the average. Said the PHS, “... evidence herein presented shows that life expectancy among young men is reduced by an average of eight years in ‘heavy’ cigarette smokers, those who smoke over two packs a day, and an average of four years in ‘light’ cigarette smokers, those who smoke less than one-half pack per day.”

Speaking at the world conference on smoking, former Senator Robert F. Kennedy declared, “Every year cigarettes kill more Americans than were killed in World War I, the Korean war, and Vietnam combined. Each year cigarettes

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Most people seem to spend life in a “waiting” posture. Constantly planning, hoping, “waiting it out,” they look for new experiences, travel, financial windfalls, new breakthroughs in their marriages — spending much of their time in WAITING for something new and different. It’s time you MADE history, instead of waiting for it to pass you by.

by Garner Ted Armstrong

There’s a little of the dreamer in all of us.

Otherwise, you wouldn’t see so many discontented, struggling, mediocre lives around you — lives dedicated to the “not quits” of living — searching, reaching out, hoping, planning — and usually failing.

Like gamblers who plunged that last five on a bad throw of the dice, millions of people resignedly accept a “not quite” in life.

What is a “not quite”? Well, it’s one of the dozens of compromises you have learned to live with. It’s another of those excuses you offered yourself for small disappointments and failures. It’s another dashed hope, broken promise, missed appointment, rejected song or novel, cancelled trip, or broken date.

It’s the whole series of little justifications you have offered yourself for being what you are, where you are; doing what you’re doing — and still being somehow dissatisfied with it all — just as you are, right now.

What about it?

Is your life a real success? Are you really happy? Is your job exciting, inspiring, challenging and rewarding? Is your marriage, or your social life a constant delight — enjoyable and fulfilling? Are you out of debt — in solid financial shape?

Some Day

This is no “pull-yourself-up-by-your-own-bootstraps” article on “self-help” or some kind of personal betterment philosophy. I’ll offer no shortcuts to some swift windfall or success. But it’s about time we really saw the “waiting posture” in most of us — saw it in true perspective — and identified it as the culprit that brings us no end of private pain!

From your earliest recollections of frustrations — you began waiting.

Remember how it was the day the little redheaded bully knocked you down in an argument over the marble game? You shook your skinny little fist and said, “You just wait — you big bully — I’ll get even! ... you just WAIT!”

Or, you probably said, “One of these days — just one of these days . . .”

But you never did. Somehow, the grand dream of your favorite little girl watching you turn the neighborhood bully into a quavering mass of tears just never materialized. Oh, you hoped it would. You may even have dreamed about it. You could have boasted of it to friends — or looked at muscle-building courses in magazines.

But this passed, with other youthful hopes and dreams.

Does this sound far-fetched? I doubt it. Whether your experience was exactly this, or just something similar — so many of us have had such frustrations; broken dreams, missed opportunities, shattered hopes.

And it wasn’t only the boyish or girlish hopes that were shattered — but the very most important ones. Hopes of marriage, home and family — hopes of success, challenge, discovery, new thrills and experiences.

Let’s face it: Millions — no, more than that — of mankind must live daily with their “not quits” of life.

Conditioned to Failure

It doesn’t take many years for most of us to understand the hypocrisy in the world around us. As early teen-agers, we begin seeing the double-standard world. Our parents may say one thing, and do another. The newspapers are loaded with scandals, “inside stories,” infamous trials, Hollywood divorces, and a potpourri of sundry immoral trivia which soon convinces us the idealistic dreams of early youth were really worthless, after all.

Probably, we began wondering at quite an early age WHAT we would be. We wanted to BE somebody — somebody, well . . . . different. Everybody has had the same experience. Everybody has thought, at one time or another, “But — why does it always have to be me?” This is mostly vanity, of course, but it happens, nevertheless.

From childhood, each person wanted to be something — someone! A fireman? Most boys have thought of it. A pilot? An astronaut? Probably so. Or a chemist, an aeronautical engineer? Or perhaps a captain of a ship, or a cowboy, or a corporation executive, an inventor, or a famous politician.

But practically nobody planned to be what most people are.

How many boys longed to be truck drivers, plumbers, carpenters, laborers, machinists, elevator operators (there still are a few), concession operators, or door-to-door salesmen of at least two hundred different articles with varying degrees of uselessness?

And how many girls really dreamed of marrying just the man they’re married to — with the job he has, the home they live in, the car they
drive, the children they have, the debts they're in, and the future they share?

But most people aren't terribly unhappy in such circumstances.

They're just "mildly" unhappy.

But unhappy at all isn't happy. And the unhappiness comes from the frustration of a whole series of small failures. These are the "not quites" in life.

Most people didn't have "quite enough" education. They don't have "quite enough" money to pay the bills. They "almost" got that raise, that trip, that vacation, that new TV set, or that new automobile.

And even our accidents, failures, and financial mistakes are justified in that same manner. When someone has had a minor traffic mishap, he'll usually speculate, for useless hours, on the "If I had just . . . " idea. That means he'll wonder why he didn't just take a little longer to fumble for his car keys; or not hurry quite so fast to make that green light, or stop at the store like he'd intended — a whole host of ideas about events which could have placed him in that fateful intersection either ahead of, or safely behind, that other car.

We all speculate about what we call "fate."

And soon, in our many, many little failures, our frustrations and "not quites" we just resign ourselves to our "fate."

Most people are fairly philosophical about failure. They accept it with quite a degree of alacrity. Some are even seemingly content with it. These are the natural enemies and scoffers of the rich. To such a person, ANYONE with "money" just "got the breaks," but never, never earned it.

He'll usually be quite an authority on success — on famous, successful people — even though he doesn't have much of it. As a matter of fact, it is a never-ending source of amazement that the lower the amount of success, the more authoritative, all-knowing, perceptive, and wise the person will appear to be.

Of course, many could say someone has to be the common laborers of the world — and of course, many will agree. And nothing is wrong with work: nor with carpentry, plumbing, electrical engineering, or truck driving. But unless a man is literally — quite literally — challenged by such jobs, and finds them exciting, stimulating, and rewarding, then he's only "marking time" in another of those "not quites."

Too many people have had to "get a job" instead of developing their God-given talents into an occupation!

But we grow conditioned to failure.

Even in the world at large, we see failure.

We're told, sagely, that we must grow accustomed to living somewhere in the awful and unthinkable area between a war which must never be fought, and a peace which can never be won. We're so scared of the bomb, we simply ignore it. We have even, many of us, accepted the story that the bomb is a good thing, and that its very existence — in tonnages of killing power — forty-four times more than necessary for annihilating all mankind — is what is preventing war.

Even in world news and world conditions, most of us are conditioned to failure.

And it happens in our state elections, our local counties, and our school boards. It soon begins happening with our children, and in our closest companions.

From learning how each new President of the nation finds himself hopelessly ensnared in a bureaucratic morass so deep, so inextricable, that he is, in some vitally important issues, almost unable to move in any direction; to discovering the new governor we thought would answer all our hopes and dreams ended up raising our taxes — we grow conditioned to these things.

The Age of Non-Involvement

But, we reason — there's nothing we can do about it all.

Each of us has decided we're only ONE person, and therefore so infinitely helpless.

We know many of the wrongs around us. After all, we live with them daily. We see the starvation in Biafra, the tension in the Mideast, and the vague, unreal stories of vast purges behind the Bamboo Curtain. Daily, we read in our papers of the huge, ponderous, never-encouraging problems of the governments of the world.

Probably, we have a certain attitude toward each one of them. An opinion. But here it stops. We form an "attitude." We conjure up an "idea." And that, in itself, in our mediocre world, seems quite sufficient.

But a private philosophy of a truck driver, or an electrical engineer, or a plumber, or even a corporate executive or airline pilot — doesn't change the world.

It's grown to the point that world conditions seem to us about like the weather. It's something everybody talks a lot about, but never does anything about.

Our leaders haven't helped much.

But then, that's the way of leaders. They can hardly promise total solutions when not thoroughly understanding the problems. No leader, in his right mind, will promise solutions. He'll speak of "programs" and "progress." He'll talk of "studies" and "methods." He'll even mention the usual workaday terms of peace, safety, prosperity; or attacks on poverty. But he will not promise an end to crime and violence — nor an end to race hatreds, nor an end to wars in the world.

He cannot.

Because he only controls a portion of government. He does not control human nature.

Soon, then, the "not quites" of us simply resign ourselves to the vague, "living for the moment" attitude of the rest of us. Our "waiting" posture is always evident. We're waiting for a better day in the world; a cleanup in the neighborhood, and lessening of taxes. We're waiting for crops to mature, or the new models to appear, or for our boy to graduate from college. But always we're waiting. Waiting, and waiting. We wait for peace — but it never seems to come.

So enter compromise. Enter non-involvement. Most of us find out soon enough that the way to make things
work for us in our own environment is to avoid getting “involved” in some novel or revolutionary thing. The “don’t make waves,” “don’t rock the boat” attitude is deeply instilled in us, by the very nature of society.

That’s why most of the older generation cannot see anything beyond simple rebellion in the hoarse screams of indignant “turned-off” youth on many a college campus.

The adults have gotten used to the “not quite” in life — why can’t the kids do the same thing? The kids don’t have the answers — but at least, many of them are beginning to understand the questions. The Communists are very eager to use the near-fanatical dedication of many youths who feel they are struggling for something new-found cause.

And, in some cases, those causes may be morally sound — even if the methods are both immoral and illegal.

But still, the older generation, conditioned to the “not quite,” and fully committed to the “waiting posture” in life — is unwilling to get that “involved” in something.

Trouble with much of the youth is — they mistake “involvement” for a right cause. They seem to feel if they can do anything which “society” (meaning, usually, the police and any other authorities) is against, then it must automatically be right, because so many of them are convinced the older generation is all wrong!

It’s too bad the youth of our peoples cannot have a true champion — a true cause — a worthwhile work. Of course, they can, if they knew where to look — and that’s what this article is about — where to look.

What about it? Do you recognize the waiting posture in yourself? Can you think of the dozens of things you’ve yearned to do, to accomplish, to experience, to see — and acknowledge that you never will?

Believe it or not — this vague frustration; this feeling of “not quite” is one of the most important causes of unhappiness in life! It has broken up marriages, ruined businesses, thwarted education, shattered romance, and even caused suicide.

Usually, it’s milder than that.

Most people just find ways to live with the “not quite.” They keep thinking “some day.” “Some day,” they tell themselves, they’ll really get busy and cut down on their drinking habits; widen their circle of friends, and trim off that ugly waistline.

But they never do.

Why Most Give up

Let’s face it, most people live accidentally.

You probably don’t know anyone who has really planned — set a goal — and then patterned his life. Most people take life as it comes to them — haphazardly, accidentally, without long-range thought or planning. That’s why the majority follows where the leaders lead. Leaders must plan — must have goals and purposes. History proves most of those goals and purposes have been incredibly selfish; and that the leaders of the world — not the “little people” afflicted with the “not quite” — have finally produced a nuclear stalemate; a daily terror of a world fraught with more problems of more far-reaching and profound consequences than ever; armed to the teeth with hydrogen bombs and missiles — and still divided, suspicious, hostile, and self-seeking.

And the majority of mankind seethes in frustration.

You were not asked whether you wished to be plunged into the nuclear age.

Society was not consulted. No group of scientists, government leaders, military men, and representatives of all the millions of “not quite” sat down to seriously, carefully, studiously ponder the hazards versus the benefits of a nuclear age.

Had they done so — no one can safely predict their final decisions, since most final decisions coming from similar groups of eminent leaders have proved inordinately crass, and sometimes disastrous.

But you weren’t asked.

You weren’t asked about Korea. Or about Vietnam. But your sons, husbands, fathers and cousins may have fought there. And many, many of them have died there.

But wars are only a part of why people resign themselves to “not quite.” The conditions of life around them are another vital part. Whether it’s racism, the squalor of the ghetto, or the huge pile of rusting junk in the back yard—now grown familiar to them, they soon learn to accept these things as the “status quo,” and live with them. That’s “just the way it is,” they tell themselves. “That’s the way the ball bounces” — “that’s the way the cookie crumbles” are the catch-phrases for excusing the “not quite.” They’re expressions of futility; of resignation, and of frustration.

Perhaps you’re one of the many who practically never fails to pick up a newspaper, or hear a radio news broadcast, or read a particularly nauseating article in a magazine, and get all-fired mad about it.

Perhaps it’s reading, now, about the dangerous side-effects of “the pill.”

Or maybe you were a mother who had an armless child — because practically all the doctors in the world told you, patronizingly, that thalidomide was a wonderful new elixir to solve all your problems. And the majority of mankind seethes in frustration.

You probably express an opinion about these things. You may decry, deplore, reject, criticize, and generally condemn all you wish — there’s not a single thing you can do about it. Or at least, so you think.

On decisions made by the local school board; or the tax laws, or the intrusions into your private life of any number of others regulatory agencies — why bother to speak? They’re all a part of the ponderous, intricate, bureaucratic morass of society — something so huge you can’t understand it, let alone try to change it.

So little by little, as you grew into a ready-made world, accidentally, you
learned to accept mild opinions, indignations, and disgust — philosophically.

You learned you could spout off in the barber chair, or on the courthouse steps, or in private conversation all you wish — but that you were powerless to do anything about it. You soon learned to live with many “not quite.” And you patiently sit back and wait. “Some day” you hope things will change. “Some day” you figure people may begin doing the right thing even by mistake.

An Age of Opinions and Talk

Our ultra-liberals are angry with the new bumper sticker — “America, Love It or Leave It.” This is virtually unconstitutional (that magical, all-powerful, catch-all for every mysteriously liberal decree), they snort. The precious right of dissent is suddenly more dignified, more truly patriotic, more deeply American, than any other one. Some people may feel it was the prime reason for founding the country.

Of course, they’re partly right. The “Like me, or get out” may be well and good for private institutions, family gatherings, and churches — but it hardly suits a country.

So they talk. Everyone talks. They talk about the “Russians,” about Red China and the UN, about the elections, the Mideast, and everything of world importance. They talk of taxes (as they always have), the rising cost of living, crime and dope addiction, and sex. And like the opinion sections of magazines and newspapers, the talk can be as widely divergent as any possible human extreme. While one writer may be rapturously enthralled at the newest shocker on the stage, Hair (where, in the final scene, all the principal players appear in the altogether), another will indignantly blast the show as another sure sign of decaying morals of the country — and the world.

And who is to say who is right? The educators and philosophers avoid the words, “right” and “wrong.” The “Moral Relativists” and preachers of situation ethics have convinced much of the public that there is no clear distinction between what’s right and wrong. It may have been well and good for the midwestern farmer father to thunder at his children to “do what’s right” back there in yesterday — but the forces of nihilism have been very successful in their ridicule of any such dogmatism.

So today, the people talk. They argue. They listen with rapt attention to the new breed of professional cynics on radio and television whose blissful delight is to interview some suspected charlatan and “get him to say what he didn’t intend to say” on the show.

These men, these cynics, are followed ardently by millions. They can tell you many, many wrongs — but seem to be unable to suggest rights. They can, with piercing accuracy, display all that’s shoddy, clandestine and suffused in society — but seem virtually tongue-tied when it comes to what should be right.

The various telephone-conversation radio and TV shows all have their eager listeners.

And this carping, this criticism, this griping about conditions at least seems to relieve some small part of the frustrations most people feel. If they’re talking about the war in Vietnam, it seems this is at least a second best to doing something about it. And many people carefully avoid controversy. Unwilling to stand out as being SOLIDLY “for” or “against” — or to appear really involved in some particular issue, they’ll say, “Well — it’s only my opinion, of course — but . . .” and then express their “opinion.”

And this, too, is proof of the “waiting posture” of many people.

Do you get the point? There is a futility about us today — a defeatism — a willingness to live with no solutions, no answers — that is everywhere evident. Too many people have resigned themselves to mediocrity in life. They’re unhappy — mildly frustrated — yet willing to accept those “not quite” in life in favor of taking the knocks they know will surely come with real involvement in some burning issue.

But it’s about time more people became involved. Really involved! It’s time people did get a little excited about the issues — instead of mildly musing over them a few moments, and then continuing along in their own private rut of life.

You know the issues. The population explosion; the wars and threats of more; the stockpiling of hydrogen weapons and the threat of more nations joining the nuclear club; the starvation — hideous, ugly, wretched starvation in Biafra, and other places in the world; the drought and famine in India; the “purges” in China; the mounting crime and violence in the Western World; the campus riots; the race hatreds all around you; the worthless, empty nihilistic lives all around — the breakup of the home and marriage; the sacrificing of millions of children on the altar of divorce and lust! The sick entertainment; the hard-core pornography — these and a virtually innumerable host of other evils bombard us daily.

And most of us just grow little philosophical callouses — and “wait.”

But you don’t need to feel helpless. You don’t need to wait! You can get involved in these vital issues — yes, worldwide issues of mammoth importance and significance!

This new magazine is direct involvement in those issues!

Fulfilling a new need in this great worldwide work — a work that is utterly unique in the world — this magazine deals with the practical facts of tomorrow’s world!

We, of this great work, are involved!

We, of the World Tomorrow program on radio and television, of The Plain Truth magazine, and of this new publication, the news of tomorrow’s world, are involved!

We don’t merely philosophize — argue — or express a “point of view.” I do not offer my “opinions” over the program — nor will we in the pages of these magazines!

Rather, we will continue to warn this dying, sin-sick world of the horrible, unimaginable consequences of man’s unbelievable stupidity! Man has rejected his God! He yearns.

(Continued on page 22)
SEVEN RULES TO RIGHT DECISIONS

Life is a series of decisions leading to success or failure. How would you like to be able to make the right decision EVERY TIME? Learn how, in this vital article that can change your life.

by Albert J. Fortune

How many times has your life, your happiness, your self-respect been upset and disturbed because you've made a wrong choice, or an unwise decision?

Looking back on our past all of us can remember choices we had or opportunities that presented themselves — and we wish we could go back and change what we did.

How would you like to be able to make the right choice — every time? You can, you know, if you apply the right principles every time! The principles for making right and wise decisions are available to you. If you are willing to diligently apply them each time, your life can become a series of successes in the decisions you have to make.

Are you willing to learn these principles?

Life Is Choice

Life is a series of decisions.

You can't begin a day without making choices. What time to rise, what clothing to wear, what to have for breakfast, what course of action for the responsibilities of the day, etc., etc.

The majority of our decisions are routine and dictated by routine and preset requirements of job, school, weather and environment. Most of us do well enough in these routine decisions. It is the bigger, more unusual decisions that affect our lives where we become vulnerable and need to make the right decision. Decisions like: Whether to buy a new car and which kind — whether to quit your job and move to another area — whether to go into business for yourself — whether to add a room to your house or buy new furniture — whether to go to college, or take a trip to a distant place.

Sadly enough, many have faced major decisions in life, chosen unwisely and found their lives in a shambles which took time and tears to remedy.

Making wise decisions is not a matter of chance. Some people are not just "lucky" while others are unlucky. Success in choices depends on basic factors. Those who are "lucky" have their luck in accidentally or intentionally using the right principles in making their choices.

If you know the right principles and apply them, you eliminate most of the elements of chance. Success is assured because you have eliminated the risks.

The Right Source

Most people, faced with important decisions make the same fundamental error! This error is common to man because man is basically a self-centered creature. He usually depends on himself for the inherent ability to arrive at a conclusion.

The Word of God — the Bible — which is the book about man, but inspired by man's Creator — God — who knows man intimately, most accurately describes this basic fault in man.

"Oh Lord, I know that the way of man is NOT in himself: it is NOT in man that walketh to direct his steps." These words were written, under the inspiration of God by His prophet Jeremiah, chapter 10 verse 23. The fundamental, underlying basis for making right decisions lies OUTSIDE the pole of the man making the decision. This seems remarkable, but it is nonetheless true.

Whenever we have a decision to make, the first thing we usually do is to assume we have the basic ability to come to that decision. In reality, God's Word makes clear we ought NOT to rely upon our own abilities alone. True, we may have to use the abilities God has given us, but directed by God — not ourselves.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Prov. 3:5).

Wisdom is truly realizing the basic nature in man. Few people have discovered this basic nature. Most people feel they are benign creatures, basically good, gentle, having outgoing concern for others, generous, kind, considerate. Hence, being all this, they certainly could be relied upon to make a decision which would take all factors into consideration. But, unless God's spirit has opened their minds most people don't know they are inherently by nature selfish, covetous, greedy, full of vanity, deceitful, proud and wicked.

It is true, you know.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: and the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the Law of God, neither indeed can be" (Jer. 17:9 and Rom. 8:7).

Those who have come to know God have learned this about themselves and have come to the first point of wisdom which is NOT to depend on this source for a decision.

Leaning to this source for a decision will ALWAYS tend to lead us to a wrong decision. This source of wis-
The responsibility of ruling a mighty nation and making all the decisions that are part of being a monarch weighed heavily upon him.

What was the first thing Solomon did? His actions are an example for us — recorded in the Word of God. "And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead . . . for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge [decide] for this thy people, that is so great?" (I Chron. 1:8-10). Because Solomon sought God first and acknowledged Him as the source of right direction, God granted him wisdom and knowledge to make right decisions and choices.

No matter how large or small a decision we have to make, we should always go to God first and acknowledge Him as the source of direction, wisdom, and knowledge to make the right choice.

Even if we must make a quick — rapid-fire — decision, we always have time — even if it is only an instant — to pray within ourselves, "Father, help me to see Your will."

Rule Two: Get Examples From the Bible

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

The Bible — God's Word — is an instruction book for man and a history of man's mistakes, successes, rewards and punishments. It runs the full gamut of human experience.

In the Old Testament, when God was bringing Israel out of Egypt, the people had to make many decisions. Some were right — many were wrong! These examples are priceless in helping us avoid making similar mistakes in decisions we must reach.

Some of the wrong decisions which led to disaster for the people are recorded a second time in I Corinthians in the 10th chapter. Notice what the apostle Paul says about these occurrences: "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come" (verse 11).

By a deep knowledge of God's Word — through constant study and meditation — we have a backlog of experience to draw upon. We certainly can profit by the mistakes others have made, and also from their wise decisions.

Seek in your knowledge of God's Word, or by meditating further on it, to find a basic principle that relates clearly to your choice or decision. Try to determine how your reasoning may be similar to a specific example in God's Word.

Jesus's Example

Jesus, under severe temptation from Satan to make a wrong decision, knew this principle well. When the Tempter sought to entice Jesus to choose immediate world rule — showed him alluring world kingdoms to tempt Him — Jesus said: "IT IS WRITTEN, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by EVERY word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). Jesus also said twice more "It is written!"

We should follow His example! Jesus knew God's Word. He drew heavily upon it to make His choices.

The unjust judges of this world follow this principle even if their choices may be wrong. No judge presiding over a court case ever comes to a decision without knowing the decisions that have been rendered previously in similar cases. Lawyers always rehearse previous court cases for what has happened in the past.

We have literally hundreds of "court cases" upon which God has rendered His verdict — IN THE BIBLE. Yet far too many of us neglect to seek that knowledge from God's Word and apply

(Continued on page 30)
The ANSWER to UNANSWERED PRAYER

Why doesn't God intervene and answer your prayers? How can you be SURE of getting an answer? Do you know the SEVEN conditions God has set?

by Roderick C. Meredith

Has God gone "way off" somewhere? Why do the polished prayers of the preachers and politicians seem so empty and futile? Why don't they get results?

The fundamental reason why the prayers of most people — yes, even ministers — are not being answered today, is that they do not really know the true God. They think of God as a sort of vague, far-off, indefinable something. They know not the true God who is the active, law-giving Ruler of the universe. They seem to forget that God reveals Himself in His Word, the Bible, and that He shows us the kind of God He is — that God informs us how we should obey Him, and what He has promised to do for us.

Believe the Bible

Can we take God's Word literally? Does God mean what He says in it?

Jesus thought so. He said, "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The apostles constantly taught and acted as if God's Word were literally true.

Who is right? Are you going to follow the differing ideas of men, or do you want to obey Jesus and live by every word of God (Matt. 4:4)?

To get results in your prayers, you should believe in the God of the Bible. Believe His Word is truth. And be willing to act on God's Word and His commands.

Free yourself from the hidebound traditions of this confused world and its "churchianity." Seek the true God in prayer. Study God's Word to find out His commandments and His promises. Then, take God at His word!

The Bible reveals seven basic conditions which you should fulfill to be certain of answered prayers.

What are they?

Seek God's Will

In James 4:1-4, the apostle showed that the children of this world — fighting and warring as they do — fail to receive help because they often neglect to ask God's help. And when they do, it is only to ask for their own selfish ends. To ask selfishly is to "ask amiss." You can expect no answer to such a prayer.

To get an answer, follow Jesus' example when He said, "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me" (John 5:30). But can you know God's will? "Whencefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. 5:17).

Study God's Word as Paul commanded Timothy (1 Tim. 2:15). Then you will begin to think more as God thinks. You will come to know what God's will is in every circumstance. If you believe and know that God is love, that His will is for our good, then you will want to pray according to God's will.

You need not always have a specific promise in the Bible to know that something is God's will. Through experience and guidance, you will learn how to apply the principles of God's revealed will to any situation which may arise.

The point is that you must pray according to God's will to receive an answer. "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him" (1 John 5:14-15). God's Word reveals that by fulfilling this condition you know that God will answer your prayers!

Asking according to God's will is the overall, fundamental condition of answered prayer. All other conditions could be grouped under this one because they are the specific points of God's will in regard to prayer. The following six, together with and magnifying this first condition, will ensure answered prayers.

Believe God

Most people do not realize that a lack of faith is simply a disbelief that God will keep His promises or back up His Word. Have you ever thought of it that way?

God has promised to heal His children through the prayers of His ministers (James 5:14). If you doubt this promise, you are making God a liar!

Real faith is not an emotional "feeling" that you generate by thinking certain thoughts over and over. You don't "talk yourself into," or "think yourself into" real, believing faith. Godly faith is simply your willingness — through God's help — to quietly, patiently trust God to perform His Word. Abraham had that kind of faith. The apostle Paul wrote of him: "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform" (Rom. 4:20-21).

Abraham relied completely on God to perform His promises. Do you?

If you lack real faith, ask God to
give it to you. Faith is one of the gifts of God's Holy Spirit.

James was inspired to write that a man must have faith to receive answers to his prayers (James 1:5-7). A man who waters will not receive an answer. “For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord” (verse 7).

God has made hundreds of promises in His Word which we can claim. Healing is just one of them. When you are sick, do you obey God’s command to “call for the elders of the church”? Do you completely trust God to keep His promise to heal, although consulting a doctor for help and advice is just one of them. When you are sick, do you obey God’s command to “call for the elders of the church”?

The attitude of “fervent” prayer is very important to God. The very first prerequisite to a knowledgeable faith is to fear Him and respect His Word. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Psalm 111:10).

Carnal man needs to realize that he is only dust and shall return to the dust unless and until he receives the Spirit of God, which is the begettal to eternal life. Eternal life is a gift from God (Rom. 6:23), not something we already have. “For what is your life? It is only a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisphet away” (James 4:14).

We need to fear God, realizing that our lives are in His hands. We should be humble, realizing that any gifts or talents we may have are ours because God gave them to us.

When we can approach our Creator in that attitude — respecting His power and authority over our lives — then He will hear our prayers.

When Christ was in the human flesh, even He feared God as we should. “Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared” (Heb. 5:7). When we fully realize our own helplessness, then we will cry out to God as we should.

Peter wrote “be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble” (1 Peter 5:5).

The attitude of humility and godly fear is vital in prayer, and at all times.

Be Persistent

In Luke 18:1-8, Jesus spoke a parable to teach us that we should always pray, and never give up hope. He showed that even an unrighteous judge would finally hear the pleas of a widow who kept coming to him. So we should keep praying to God, even though He doesn’t answer right away.

God has made many promises in His Word. But He has nowhere said that He will perform them at the time, or in the way that we choose. Sometimes it is very good for us not to have our prayers answered immediately. God is building patient faith into our characters.

James was inspired to write, “the trying of your faith worketh patience” (James 1:3). If God doesn’t answer your prayers immediately, exercise patience and keep praying until He does answer.

Don’t nag at God. He has supreme wisdom to know when and how would be best to answer your prayers. But if you have prayed as you should, He will answer. God always keeps His promises! So be persistent. Keep praying in faith, and God is bound to perform His part.

Obedience

A sixth condition of answered prayer is one which is neglected and violated consistently by most professing “Christians.” This hinges directly on the before-mentioned fact that very few people today really know the true God. People do not look to God as the authority in their lives. Instead, they make a “god” out of this world’s society and its customs, traditions, and religious practices.

God inspired Paul to write, “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey” (Rom. 6:16). If you obey the ways of sin practiced in this world, you are putting this society and its pagan customs in the place of the true God!

God wants more than “lip service.” He requires OBEDIENCE!

If you haven’t learned to fear the true God and accept His Word as the authority in your life, then you don’t even really know God. “He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his com-
mandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:4).

How can men persistently refuse to keep God's commandments, and then expect Him to answer their prayers? Peter answers, "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil" (1 Peter 3:12).

Sin is simply breaking God's Law (1 John 3:4). God will not hear the prayers of those who persist in sin — in evil. If people would obey God, they would get answers when they pray. Then God wouldn't seem so far away, so unreal — as He probably does to most of you! Think it over. Then do something about it.

Does God ever hear the prayers of the unconverted? Yes, He does. God himself has blinded the eyes of many to the truth at this time (Rom. 11:7-8). It is His responsibility that they don't know the truth yet. So God does sometimes hear and answer the prayers of those who obey as far as they know.

The lepers and cripples who came to Jesus to be healed didn't know all of God's truth. But they did realize that Jesus was sent from God and could heal. And they acted on what they knew.

So it is a matter of your heart or attitude. If you come to God in a humble, repentant spirit and are determined to obey Him to the best of your knowledge, He will hear your prayers. But this is no excuse for anyone who knows the truth to disobey God!

True Christians can have a special confidence that God will answer their prayers if they are obedient. "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" (1 John 3:22).

Use Christ's Name

The seventh condition of answered prayer is the correct use of Christ's name. This is a greatly misunderstood subject, and the use of Christ's name is often abused.

After Jesus had been with His disciples for over three years, and had taught them God's will and how to obey it, He said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:23-24). These verses give us the privilege of employing Christ's name — asking by His authority — when we pray to God. But most people misunderstand how we can ask "in Jesus' name."

When our government sends an Ambassador to another country, he is given authority to carry out certain business in the name of the United States Government. He can act in the name of our government because it has conferred on him the authority as its chosen representative to carry on certain business on its behalf. His authority is limited to do only what the government has specifically authorized him. If he exceeds his delegated authority, his actions are null and void and will not be backed up by his government.

That is the way we are to ask things "in Jesus' name." Christ has given His ministers the duty of performing certain functions in His name — or by His authority. We can rightfully ask for things "in Jesus' name" only when we know that it is His will — that His authority stands back of it.

Just rattling off the words "in Jesus' name" to a prayer that is contrary to God's will and Christ's will is of no avail whatsoever.

Those who abide in Christ and are God's children have the privilege of praying in Christ's name. Jesus explained, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

Yes, Jesus' words must abide in you. You must ask according to His Will. You must abide in Him — belong to Him. "Now if any man hath not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Rom. 8:9). And God gives His Holy Spirit to them that obey Him (Acts 5:32).

So to pray in Jesus' name, you must at the same time be yielding to His will to the best of your knowledge. "In Jesus' name" means by His authority. You are praying through Him as your High Priest (Heb. 4:14-16).

Christ — our High Priest — was tempted in all points like we are (verse 15). He understands our weaknesses. It is His revealed will to give us of His Spirit (Luke 11:13) and to help us live a more abundant life (John 10:10). You need to Study God's Word to know the principles of His will, that you may ask by His authority.

Praying in Jesus' name is a great privilege. Use Jesus' name correctly, and your prayers will be answered because of the authority conferred through Him.

Action Will Follow

If you faithfully conform to these seven conditions of answered prayer — with God's help, you may then have absolute confidence that God will hear and answer your prayers. You will be changing, growing closer to God each day. You will be actively seeking and doing His will.

This intimate contact with the Creator of Heaven and Earth will give you a peace of mind and quiet confidence that nothing can destroy. But your confidence will not be in self, but in the greatest power there is. In every trial and problem, you have the right to call on the Supreme Power — the active, living God who reveals Himself in the Bible.

God has inspired an example of how He heard and answered even the prayers of an unconverted man because that man was in a right spirit, and had obeyed what he knew. In II Kings 20:1-11, we read the account of how king Hezekiah was about to die and sought God's deliverance.

God's own prophet, Isaiah, had told Hezekiah that he would die. But Hezekiah knew that God was an all-merciful God, and that he had obeyed God the best he knew how and could.

So Hezekiah "wept sore" and besought God's intervention (verse 3). He put his heart in his prayer!

In spite of the fact that He had previously told Isaiah that Hezekiah would die, God heard and answered Hezekiah's fervent prayer! He added fifteen years to Hezekiah's life!

What a result of prayer!

But was that all?

No indeed. Hezekiah did not doubt
God's power to intervene and act as this world does. He made a further request that God would give him a special sign that he would be healed (verse 8).

God's servant, Isaiah, gave Hezekiah the choice of the sign — the shadow would either go forward ten degrees, or backward ten degrees. Hezekiah said it would be harder for the shadow to go backward ten degrees. "And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the Lord: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward" (verse 11).

Because of Hezekiah's faith, obedience, and fervent prayers, God Almighty not only healed him and added fifteen years to his life, but He actually caused the sun to reverse itself in the heavens!

This was not an "optical illusion." God's miracles are real! "For with God NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE" (Luke 1:37).

If you believe that God's Word is truth, this should inspire you to pray as never before! Pray for God's Work, for God's servants, for His people everywhere. Ask in faith for your own needs. Rely on God in every trouble. He is a God of power!

What Are You Waiting For?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

for peace — and is going in the EXACT OPPOSITE direction from peace — TOWARD war; toward unhappiness, futility, uselessness, failure!

There IS NOT ANOTHER WORK ON EARTH LIKE THIS ONE!

We, in this Work of God, are not "waiting it out" — resigning ourselves to the "not quite" — the small disappointments. Rather, we're continually INSPIRED, THRILLED by new developments; new programs.

Millions listen to my voice over the air, and that is deeply rewarding and satisfying to me, and to all of us! Hundreds of thousands can now watch The World Tomorrow programs on television.

Our huge, worldwide advertising campaign has brought additional MILLIONS of precious lives into direct contact with this Work!

MILLIONS have read the vital books on the true origin of the American and British peoples, and their IMMEDIATE DESTINY. MILLIONS have read the hard-hitting articles in The Plain Truth, and dozens and dozens of thousands have sat down to deeply study their Bibles, the very Word of the Living God, through the Correspondence Course.

People in Ghana, India, Vietnam, Eastern Europe, Central and South America, Indonesia, China, Mexico; from Finland to South Africa, and from Tasmania to British Columbia, are being CHANGED! Their lives have been profoundly moved — CHANGED — by the impact of this last-ditch effort of Christ!

They're learning how to live — how to make their marriages HAPPY, how to lovingly rear their children, how to obey God's LAWS given them for their GOOD. They learn how HUMANITY WILL BE SAVED!

And many of them are getting involved! Many of them are getting ALL THE WAY involved with God their Father, and the Work of His Christ! But only GOD can accomplish that!

Only God can stir a person to REALLY get involved with Him, and in His Work!

Jesus said none CAN come to the Son except the Spirit of the Father draw Him! Of course, it's possible to resist the pull of God's Spirit; possible to lose out on the most precious and rewarding things in life. No one can push some other person toward God's soon-coming world-ruling government. God will not, and no one else can.

You must decide each thing you do.

But the time for waiting is long over, now. Those who still "wait" through life will not have long to wait, now — because this great Work of God is in its last efforts!

EDITORIAL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

find NOTHING in them about the historic creation of Adam and Eve, or the presence of Satan in the garden of Eden. You find NOTHING about any man named Noah and a universal earth-filling deluge. You find NOTHING in accepted history textbooks about Israelites in Egypt, or Pharaoh's armies being drowned in the Red Sea. The modern historic approach is: that if an event is recorded in the Bible it never happened; for modern scholarship discredits the Bible as a source of historic TRUTH.

God knew they would. Through the apostle Paul, God says:

 "When they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful, but became vain in their imaginations [reasonings], and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise [intellectual, scholarly, highly educated], THEY BECAME FOOLS... 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 [proper]" (Rom. 1:21-22, 28).

Notice, they did not retain GOD in their knowledge! In the knowledge they disseminate, GOD IS NOT IN IT — nor God's revelation of Truth — the BIBLE.

They are hostile against it.

So, how do we get Christ's Gospel Message past that barrier of prejudice, and INTO THEIR CONSCIOUSNESS?

If we ran an article in The Plain Truth headlined: "REPENT, AND TURN FROM YOUR SINS, FOR CHRIST IS COMING SOON," how many of this world's educated do you suppose would read it?

Do you see what I mean? We do say it in The Plain Truth — but not in those words! We speak to the world in the world's language!

We are now putting large-space ads in mass-circulation magazines around the world. We offer readers of these magazines an already-paid subscription to The Plain Truth. These ads are placed before a worldwide readership of about 150 million people. So how do
we get Christ's Message into their consciousness? We speak their language.

When our headline says: "WHY MARRIAGES BREAK UP" with such drop-heads as: "This article brings you the true perspective of the modern Western heads as: "This article brings you the marriage crisis" — the incredible statistics about divorce and marital unhappiness — and gives you the practical laws that make marriage work" then hundreds of thousands — even millions — do read it. We caught their attention — we pricked their interest — we created suspense in their minds to want to know the answer.

In the article, like any article in Life or Look magazines, or in the London Sunday Times, we give them the facts — the statistics — state the problem. But WHERE do you suppose we get the answers? Where do we find the laws that work? Why, in God's Bible, of course. But we don't necessarily need to quote the Bible. That's not their language! So we tell them THE TRUTH — we make the TruthPlain — in their language, because it would not be plain to them in a religious language they do not understand!

We put it in the language of EDUCATION, not the language of religion. And FIVE MILLION ARE NOW READING The Plain Truth!

Now, naturally, speaking to this whole world, in a manner that can make the TruthPlain to them, in their language, we cannot say, "now take up your Bibles, and turn to thus and such chapters and verses, and we will expound them and make them Plain." 1) That would not make it Plain to them, because they don't speak that language, and 2) due to prejudice, they would refuse to read it, anyway. We would fail to get the Truth through to their consciousness.

You must realize there are two kinds of minds — 1) the carnal, or natural, physical mind with which all have been born; and 2) the spiritual mind that has been opened by God's Holy Spirit, and now has spiritual comprehension.

The natural carnal mind may have great comprehension of material knowledge. The brain of a cow or a chicken is something pretty stupid by comparison. But, spiritually speaking, the great minds of great men or women, still carnal, are just as spiritually stupid and unable to understand, as the cow or chicken brain is materially unable to comprehend.

Our number one commission is to REACH THE WORLD — as a witness! The Plain Truth is our magazine for them.

Our second commission is to feed spiritually Christ's "sheep." The new magazine, Tomorrow's World, is for those who are God's people — who want, and are able, to go into the deeper spiritual truths — those to whom we can say, "Open your Bibles, and we will expound and MAKE THE TRUTH PLAIN!"

Our number one commission is to proclaim Christ's GOOD NEWS as a witness — not to try to force conversion on any. Only God can convert.

None can come to Christ as Saviour, anyway, until and unless God the Father draws them. God GRANTS repentance (John 6:44; Acts 5:31; 11:18).

Once we gain the INTEREST of readers, make plain the FACTS — give them the KNOWLEDGE — it may lead to their salvation, if and when God grants repentance and draws them by His Holy Spirit. But first, we must reach through, past their prejudices, and plant the right KNOWLEDGE in their consciousness. That requires an EDUCATIONAL, not a religious program. And, let me repeat, our major commission is to get the Good News to them as a witness. Of course there is the second phase of our commission — to FEED CHRIST'S SHEEP.

The Plain Truth is our instrument for the former — Tomorrow's World for the latter.

This, then, is the magazine to FEED CHRIST'S SHEEP. To feed those spiritually hungry for the deeper spiritual food.

We hope you UNDERSTAND! We plan to make Tomorrow's World available — subscription already paid — to any and all who hunger and thirst for God's Truth, and who can receive and digest the stronger spiritual food.

Smoke Yourself to DEATH
(Continued from page 12)

Therefore, if you smoke, you need to ask yourself the question: Do you enjoy life?

Do you really want to LIVE?

The Surgeon-General's Report

January 11, 1964, was a crucial day for cigarette smokers. That was the day the President's Committee made its report entitled Smoking and Health — a thoroughly documented, researched, voluminous report. The Report traced the steady rise of cigarette smoking and compared it with the rise of several different diseases. The Committee evaluated scientific evidence based on numerous animal experiments, observations of thousands of patients and autopsy studies of smokers and nonsmokers, and several population studies.

What were the salient conclusions of the report?

Here are a few:

In men who smoke cigarettes, the death rate from lung cancer is almost
4800 DEATHS DAILY IN U.S.

800 DEATHS DAILY FROM SMOKING

Lung Cancer
Heart and Circulatory Diseases
Other Causes

1,000 percent higher than in nonsmokers!

Smoking was found to be the most important cause of chronic bronchitis, increasing the risk of death from that disease and from emphysema.

Cigarette smokers have a 70 percent higher death rate from coronary heart disease — the leading cause of death in the United States — than nonsmokers.

The Hammond-Horn Study

For six years in the early 1950's, Dr. E. Cuyler Hammond and Dr. Daniel Horn conducted a massive survey for the American Cancer Society. The survey covered 188,000 American men. Over 22,000 Cancer Society researchers assisted in the monumental task of collecting and collating the mountain of statistics.

From the mass of material, Drs. Hammond and Horn developed some astonishing facts and figures which led to the incontrovertible conclusion that —

1. All smoking shortens life;
2. Cigarette smoking shortens life more than any other smoking;
3. The more cigarettes a person smokes, the greater risk of an early death!

The conclusions of the study were presented to a stunned audience of medical men at the 1957 convention of the American Medical Association.

The most dramatic correlation the survey showed was between smoking and death from cancer and heart disease, the two dread killers today.

The Hammond-Horn study exploded upon the American public like a bombshell. It showed that death rates from all causes combined are 68 percent greater for cigarette smokers than for nonsmokers. The death rate for less-than-half-a-pack-a-day smokers was 34 percent higher; for a half-to-a-pack-a-day smokers, 70 percent higher; from one-to-two-pack-a-day smokers, 96 percent higher; two or more packs a day 123 percent higher.

But what about specific diseases?

Lung Cancer: Overall, deaths were 1,000 percent higher among smokers than nonsmokers. But two-pack-a-day smokers ran 64 times the risk of lung cancer than nonsmokers. Even men who smoked less than ten cigarettes a day increased their chances for lung cancer by 15 times!

Heart Disease: Cigarette smoking increases a man’s chance of dying from a coronary attack by 50 percent — and the risk of a coronary fatality rose with the increase of cigarette consumption. Whereas those who smoked half a pack a day or less had 29 percent more coronary deaths, those who smoked over two packs a day had 141 percent more coronary attacks!

Peptic Ulcer: Smokers showed a 116
percent higher death rate from ulcers of the duodenum. There were 51 deaths from stomach ulcers among smokers, but none among the nonsmokers.

Other diseases: The death rate of smokers was 93 percent higher than nonsmokers for cirrhosis of the liver; 50 percent higher for cancer of the pancreas; 58 percent higher for cancer of the kidneys; 61 percent higher for cancer of the stomach; 117 percent higher for cancer of the prostate; 58 percent higher for cancer of the kidneys; 61 percent higher for cancer of the stomach; 93 percent higher for cirrhosis of the liver; 50 percent higher for cancer of the pancreas; 58 percent higher for cancer of the kidneys; 61 percent higher for cancer of the stomach; 93 percent higher for cirrhosis of the liver; 50 percent higher for cancer of the pancreas; 58 percent higher for cancer of the kidneys; 61 percent higher for cancer of the stomach; 93 percent higher for cirrhosis of the liver; 50 percent higher for cancer of the pancreas; 58 percent higher for cancer of the kidneys; 61 percent higher for cancer of the stomach; 117 percent higher for cancer of the prostate; 75 percent higher for cancer of the prostate; 117 percent higher for cancer of the bladder; 352 percent higher for cancer of the liver and gall bladder.

But the final bombshell produced by the Hammond-Horn report was the striking fact that when men stopped smoking, the death rate dropped amazingly! Light smokers who had quit the habit for ten years revealed a death rate almost as low as that for nonsmokers. Even heavy smokers who had kicked the habit had a death rate only half of that of men who continued to smoke!

The truth should be plain. Smoking IS hazardous to health — but if a person quits smoking, his chances of escaping disease rise almost miraculously!

CANCER Country

The television cigarette advertisements feature magnificent country, beautiful lakes and streams, young men and women in the pink of health, strolling, happily smoking some cigarette. But this is not the true cigarette “country.”

The real cigarette country is the cancer ward of your local hospital, where smokers have undergone surgery for the removal of their throats, mouths, tongues, jaws, chins, noses, pharynxes...

These miserable wretches paid a dear price for their smoking habit. But strangely, many of them continue smoking, faithfully puffing away at Brand X or Brand Y.

This is the real Cigarette Country. If you are a smoker, and want to stop smoking but haven’t managed to muster the courage and will power, take off a few hours and visit the local hospital, especially the cancer ward. Perhaps the miserable sight will be all the added spur and prod you need to quit smoking now — before your turn comes up!

(To be Continued)

KINGDOM of GOD?

(Continued from page 8)

it is here speaking of the ten toes, part of iron and part of brittle clay. This, by connecting the prophecy with Daniel 7, and Revelation 13 and 17, is referring to the new United States of Europe which is now forming, out of the European Common Market, before your very eyes! Revelation 17:12 makes plain the detail that it shall be a union of ten kings or kingdoms which (Rev. 17:8) shall resurrect the old Roman Empire.

So, mark carefully the time element! “In the days of these kings” — in the days of these ten nations or groups of nations that shall, within a decade, now, IN OUR TIME, resurrect briefly the Roman Empire — notice what shall happen:

“...shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed...but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever!”

Yes, in OUR TIME!

Now here we have described four universal world empires — the only four that ever existed! Revelation 13 and 17 show that, after the fall of the original Roman Empire, there would be ten revivals — seven of which would be ruled over by a Gentile church — the “daughter” of ancient Babylon — a church claiming to be Christian, but actually named by God “Mystery Babylon the Great” — or, more plainly, Babylonian mysteries!

Six of those have come and gone. The seventh is now forming — the last, final, brief resurrection of the Roman Empire by ten European groups or nations. These are the ten toes of iron and clay mixed.

In their days — and they shall last but a very short space, possibly no more than two to three-and-a-half years — shall the God of heaven set up a KINGDOM.

This, then, shall be the Kingdom of God!

Compare with Revelation 17. Here is pictured a church. Not a small church
— a great church. She rules over "many waters" (verse 1) which are described in verse 15 as different nations speaking different languages. She posed as the Church of God — which Scripture says (Eph. 5:23; Rev. 19:7; Matt. 25:1-10; etc.) is the affiliated "bride" of Christ, to be spiritually married to Him at His second coming.

But she has committed fornication. How? By having direct political union with human governments of this world! She "sat on" (Rev. 17:3) all seven of these resurrections of the Roman Empire — called the "Holy Roman Empire." She ruled over the human kingdoms — as a common-law and unmarried "wife" ruling her paramour "husband" — a totally unnatural and ungodly relationship.

She is, therefore, to "sit on" this last "head of the Beast" — this final resurrection of the Roman Empire. It will be a union of church and state. It is to endure but a very short time. It is to fight against Christ at His second coming! That will be its end.

We see it in process of rising, now. Therefore we are close to the coming of Christ! We are now very near the end of this age!

When Christ comes, He is coming as King of kings, ruling the whole earth (Rev. 19:11-16); and His kingdom — the Kingdom of God — said Daniel, is to consume all these worldly kingdoms.

Revelation 11:15 states it in these words: "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever!"

This is the kingdom of God. It is the end of present governments — the governments that rule Russia, China, Japan, Italy, Germany — yes, and even the United States and the British nations. They then shall become the kingdoms — the governments — of the Lord Jesus Christ, then King of kings over the entire earth.

This makes completely plain the fact that the Kingdom of God is a literal government. Even as the Chaldean Empire was a kingdom — even as the Roman Empire was a kingdom — so the kingdom of God is a government. It is to take over the government of the nations of the world.

Jesus Christ was born to be a king — a ruler!

When He stood, on trial for His life, before Pilate, "Pilate therefore said unto Him, Art thou a King then?" Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world." But Jesus also said to Pilate: "My kingdom is not of this world" — (John 18:36, 37). His Kingdom is of the world tomorrow!

Have you not read what the angel proclaimed to Mary, the mother of Jesus, prior to His birth? Jesus told Pilate He was born to become a king. The angel of God said to Mary: "... thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: and He shall reign over the House of Jacob forever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:31-33).

These Scriptures tell you plainly that God is supreme ruler. They tell you in plainest language that Jesus was born to be a king — that He is going to rule all nations of the earth — that His Kingdom shall rule eternally.

But all this is only part of the fantastic, amazing, actually shocking truth about the kingdom of God.

The kingdom of God will rule over the peoples and nations of the earth. Yet these mortal peoples and nations will not be the Kingdom, not even in the Kingdom of God. They shall be merely ruled over by it!

We still have to learn of what, or of whom it is composed. Can you, as an individual, ever become a part of this Kingdom?

Can Be Entered?

In Jesus' day, the religious leaders knew He was a Teacher sent from God with God's truth. They branded Him a false prophet, heretic, and seditionist. Yet they knew His was the Voice of God!

One of them, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, occupying an office of authority over the Jews, came secretly by night to see Jesus.

"Rabbi," said this Pharisee, "we know that thou art a teacher come from God" (John 3:2). Yes, we Pharisees, he said, know that! He did not say "I know it." He said "We know" — we Pharisees! They knew He spoke the truth — yet they not only rejected it, they crucified Him!

But Jesus heeded straight to the line! He told Nicodemus about the Kingdom of God. He told him some things you need to understand!

Notice! "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God" (verse 3 — John 3). Yes, notice! The Kingdom of God is something that can be seen, but only by those who have been "born again." It is something others cannot see! Read our booklet Just What Do You Mean — Born Again!

But what about the church? Can carnal people who make no claim to having been "born again" see a church? Of course! But they cannot see the Kingdom of God! So said Jesus! Then, if you believe Jesus, the church cannot be the Kingdom of God!

Notice further: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God" (verse 5). The Kingdom of God is something that can be entered into — but, only those "born of water and of the Spirit" can enter into it!

Notice further: In the resurrection chapter of the Bible, we read: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God: neither doth corruption inherit incorruption" (I Cor. 15:50). The Kingdom of God is something no human, of flesh and blood, can enter or inherit!

Now do flesh and blood people enter into the church? If so, then the Kingdom of God cannot be the church — for the Kingdom of God...
is, something flesh and blood humans cannot enter into!

What do you think the “church” is? Is it the building? Flesh and blood people can and do enter buildings and cathedrals called “churches.” Is it the converted people? Flesh and blood people can and do enter into the membership of any group of people that may call itself the church. But flesh and blood cannot enter the Kingdom of God — so the church is not the Kingdom of God!

In Men’s Hearts?

Now some think the Kingdom of God is some ethereal sentimental feeling or something set up in men’s hearts. If so, then the Kingdom of God enters into mortal man. But these plain Scriptures say plainly that it is men, after they are no longer flesh and blood — but resurrected into spirit-composed bodies — who can enter into the Kingdom of God. It does not enter into men. Men enter into it — after resurrected in glory — after they are no longer “flesh and blood.”

Is it the “god within you”? No, it is not something that was born inside of man, or has ever entered into man — it is something man may enter after he is “born again.”

What about the British Empire? Well, I have been pretty well over the British Isles, Canada and Australia — and all of the multi-thousands I have seen there were flesh-and-blood humans. They did enter The British Empire — but they cannot enter the Kingdom of God, in their present flesh-and-blood life. So the British Empire cannot be the Kingdom of God.

But, someone misunderstanding the Scripture may ask, “Didn’t Jesus Himself say that the Kingdom of God is ‘within you’?” In the 17th chapter of Luke, verse 21, King James translation, is a MISTRANSLATION which has led some to suppose the Kingdom of God is some thought or feeling or sentiment within man.

In Hearts of Pharisees?

Let’s take a good look at this. First realize, if it does say that, it is contradicted by all the other Scriptures I am giving you in this article. If the Bible does contradict itself, you can't believe it anyway — so then it still would prove nothing.

First, to whom is Jesus speaking? Read it!

“And when He was demanded of the Pharisees, when the Kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or, Lo there! for, behold, the Kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:20-21).

He was speaking to the unconverted, carnal, hypocritical, lying Pharisees. Notice, “He answered them, and said——” It was the Pharisees who asked Him the question. Were they in the church? No, never! If one thinks the Kingdom is the church — and the Kingdom was “within” the Pharisees — was the church within the Pharisees? Such an assumption is rather ridiculous, now, isn’t it?

Notice again, precisely what Jesus said. Remember the church had not yet been set up. Jesus did not say “the Kingdom of God shall be set up in your hearts.” He said none of the things people interpret into this verse. He said to the Pharisees “the Kingdom of God IS” — present tense is, NOW! Whatever He was saying the Kingdom of God is, He made it present tense, not future.

But Jesus was speaking in the Hebrew or the Greek language. At any rate, Luke wrote these words, originally, in the Greek language. He did not write the words “within you.” The Greek words he wrote were mistakenly translated into the English words “within you.” If you have a Bible with the marginal references, you will notice that this is corrected in your margin to read “in the midst of you,” or “among you.” If your Bible is a Moffatt translation, you will notice that the translation recognized that Jesus was talking of His reign or rule, at the head of government.

This is the Moffatt translation of the same verse: “He answered them, ‘The Reign of God is not coming as you hope to catch sight of it; no one will say, ‘Here it is’ or ‘There it is,’ for the Reign of God is now in your midst.’”

The Revised Standard translation renders it “the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you.” All these translations render it present tense.

Jesus was not talking about a Church soon to be organized. He was not talking about sentiments in the mind or heart. He was talking about His reign, as the Messiah! The Pharisees were not asking Him about a Church. They knew nothing of any New Testament Church soon to be started. They were not asking about a pretty sentiment. They knew, from the prophecies of Daniel, Isaiah, Jeremiah and others, that their Messiah was to come. They overlooked completely the prophecies of His first appearing as the “Lamb of God,” to be slain for the sins of humanity — being born as a babe, growing up, being rejected and despised by them, as recorded in Isaiah 53. They looked only to the prophecies of His second coming as the all-conquering and ruling King.

But they had even these prophecies distorted in their minds. They looked for Him to come as a purely Jewish Messiah, to liberate them from the Romans, and reversing the situation so that the Jews would be masters over the Romans. They looked for a limited Jewish Kingdom, located in only a small part of the world, with the Messiah ruling and letting the Jews lord it over the Romans.

This, the Pharisees anticipated as the Kingdom of God. They had an erroneous conception of the Kingdom of God — but at least they did know it was to be a reign — a government.

World-Ruling Government

Jesus set them straight. He explained that it would not be a local, or limited Kingdom for the Jews only. It would not be merely one of many human and visible kingdoms which men could point out or see, and say, “This is it, here”; or “that is the Kingdom, over there.” But He, Himself, was born to be the King of that Kingdom, as He plainly told Pilate (John 18:36-37). The Bible uses the terms “king” and “kingdom” interchangeably (see Daniel 7:17-18, 23). The King of the future Kingdom was, then and there, standing in the midst of them. And
in the language in which He spoke to them, that is precisely what He said — as the marginal rendering and other translations state.

Jesus went on, in the following verses, to describe His second coming, when the Kingdom of God shall rule all the earth. In Luke 17:24 He refers to lightning flashing, just as in Matthew 24:27, describing His second coming to rule the whole world. Verse 26 — as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be when Christ comes in power and glory as world Ruler. Verse 30 — the day when He is revealed.

Plainly, Jesus was not saying that the Kingdom of God was within those Christ-hating, hypocritical Pharisees. Nor was He saying that the Church would be the Kingdom.

Now continue with the other Scriptures, and it becomes very plain!

Jesus distinctly said that those Pharisees would not be in the Kingdom of God. To them, He said: “There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye (you Pharisees) shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the Kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the Kingdom of God” (Luke 13:28-29).

The Kingdom of God is something men shall enter — at the Resurrection of the just! Yet Abraham is not there yet (see Heb. 11:13, 39-40).

Has Not Yet Appeared

But one may ask, did not Jesus Christ say the Kingdom of God was “at hand”? Yes, we quoted this, in the beginning of this article, from Mark 1:15. This naturally led some to mistake what He said, and what He meant, and assume the Kingdom of God was established and set up during Jesus’ ministry. Thus some supposed it was the Church.

But Jesus did not say the Kingdom of God had been established. It was now being preached (Luke 16:16). He did not say it was already here. Jesus, Himself, corrected this false notion. Will you read this in your own Bible? Will you then believe Jesus Christ — or will you call Him a liar and believe so-called “Christian” traditions of men? Will you believe your Bible?

Notice — read it in your own Bible: Jesus “added and spake a parable . . . because they thought that the Kingdom of God should immediately appear” (Luke 19:11). Why did Jesus speak this parable? Because some, even then, mistakenly thought the Kingdom should immediately appear — because some thought it would be the Church!

Now continue: “He said, therefore, a certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a Kingdom, and to return” (verse 12). Christ is that “nobleman.” He is speaking of His ascension to the throne of God His Father, in heaven. Notice, He went there to be given rulership of the Kingdom — to receive the Kingdom. Notice, too, He is to return, when He has received it! He has not yet returned! Other scriptures explain this. We will turn to them a little later.

But continue: “And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.” The original 12 tribes of Israel had been divided into two nations, immediately after the death of King Solomon. The nation Israel rejected Solomon’s son, Rehoboam, and set up Jeroboam as their King. They made the city of Samaria their capital. But the tribe of Judah seceded from Israel, in order to return Rehoboam as King, and Jerusalem as their capital. Then the tribe of Benjamin joined them, and many Levites. The northern Kingdom then became known as the Ten Tribes.

Now Jesus Christ was born of the tribe of Judah. The promise of the “Sceptre”—or kingly tribe, from which the Messiah was to be born — was divinely given to Judah. Consequently when it is stated that Christ “came unto His own, and His own received Him not,” it is speaking of His having come to the Jews of the Kingdom of Judah, dwelling then in Palestine, with its capital still at Jerusalem. At that time the Ten Tribes had migrated from Assyrian captivity northwest across Europe. They were far away, had lost their identity, were speaking a different language. It was then 700 years after their captivity and removal from northern Palestine.

Not Church Language

And so the nobleman’s citizens who rejected him were the Jews at Jerusalem and dwelling in Palestine. And notice, Jesus is here talking about a Kingdom which is a literal government. His citizens would not accept Him as King — they refused to have Him reign over them. That is not Church language — that is civil government language!

So it becomes plain that the ten servants of the parable, to whom He gave the ten pounds, represent the Ten Tribes, who had become known as the Lost Ten Tribes. After the Jews rejected Christ, He sent His original apostles to the “lost sheep of the House of Israel” — and the term “House of Israel” always applies, after the division, to the ten-tribed kingdom — never to the Kingdom of Judah — or, as often called, the House of Judah.

Continuing the parable, spoken because some thought the Kingdom of God was immediately, then, in the first century, to appear: “And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the Kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading” (verse 15). When Christ returns, we shall all be called before the Judgment Seat of Christ — to give account!

Now notice in verse 17, the one who had gained ten pounds is given authority to rule cities — “have thou authority over ten cities!” To the one who had gained five pounds, he said, “Be thou also over five cities.”

This is speaking of the Second Coming of Christ — and of His delegating authority to rule to saints converted during this Christian era, between Christ’s first and second appearances on earth.

This parable, then, was spoken to
make clear to us that the Kingdom of God is a literal government, to be set up at Christ's second coming — and not before! The Church, then, cannot be the Kingdom of God. But the true Church of God is to be changed, by a resurrection and instantaneous change from mortal to immortal, into the Kingdom of God. The Church, when all its members have been changed to immortality, shall become the Kingdom of God. But it is not, now, the Kingdom!

Saints to Rule

Now read the description of Christ's actual receiving authority to RULE the Kingdom. He is the nobleman who went to heaven to receive this kingship, and to return.

We have already seen how the prophet Daniel recorded the setting up of the Kingdom of God — at Christ's coming — to consume all present national governments on earth, and set up the world-ruling Kingdom of God. This was recorded in the second chapter. Notice now chapter seven:

"I saw in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him" (verse 13). Jesus continually referred to Himself as the "Son of man" — all through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Christ ascended to heaven in clouds (Acts 1:9). He ascended to the very throne of God in heaven (Mark 16:19). Now continue:

"And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" (verse 14 — Daniel 7).

That is plain! Christ ascended to the throne of God in heaven. God is Sovereign over the entire universe. This vision shows God Almighty, Father of the resurrected living Christ, conferring on Christ dominion. Dominion means sovereign or supreme ruling authority. Also given to Him was "a kingdom." Where is that Kingdom to be? It says "a kingdom that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him." The people, and the nations speaking different languages, are here on earth. He is given dominion over all nations — the whole world!

**Important Word “UNTIL”**

Now will you read, in your own Bible, Acts 3:21? It says the heavens have received Jesus Christ until — not permanently, just until a certain time. Until when? Until the times of RESTITUTION of all things. Restitution means restoration to a former state or condition. It is speaking of restoring God's laws, God's government — of restoring happiness and universal PEACE.

In this 7th chapter of Daniel, the prophet had experienced a dream, and visions. He had seen four wild animals. Notice, verse 16, the interpretation begins verse 17. This is God's inspired interpretation — not mine: "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the Kingdom, and possess the Kingdom forever, even for ever and ever" (Dan. 7:17-18).

Notice it! Not only is Christ to rule — but the圣者 — that is, converted true Christians — those begotten as sons of God — are to take and possess the Kingdom! They are to rule under, and with Christ! In the New Testament it is recorded that converted saints are co-heirs with Christ!

In this same 7th chapter, Daniel explained another power. The fourth beast of his dream — the fourth Empire — the Roman Empire, was pictured as an animal having ten horns — explained here and in Revelation 13 and Revelation 17 as ten revivals or resurrections of the Roman Empire, after its original fall in 476 A.D. But among them — after 476 A.D. — arose another little horn — a religious kingdom, actually ruling over the last seven of the other "horns" or revived Roman kingdoms (verse 20).

Now read about this "little horn" — the religious kingdom — verse 21: "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; until (note, another "UNTIL") the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the Kingdom."

The saints — then no longer human flesh and blood, but immortal — are to possess the Kingdom, at the second coming of Christ!

Jesus Christ makes that plain. It is Christ who is speaking in Revelation 3:21, and 2:26-27: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne." The Father's throne is in heaven — where Jesus Christ is now; but Christ's throne, in which the saints shall sit with Him, is the throne of David, in Jerusalem (Luke 1:32).

Further: "And he that overcometh and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron."

**Can't Know the TIME**

After His resurrection, on the Mount of Olives at the very hour of His ascension to heaven, Jesus was explaining to His disciples how they would receive the inspiring God-begetting power of the Holy Spirit on the approaching day of Pentecost.

His disciples wanted to know whether the Kingdom of God was to be set up at that time! The CHURCH was established on that imminent day of Pentecost. Was that CHURCH, then, to be the setting up of the Kingdom?

"Lord," they asked, "wilt thou at this time restore again the Kingdom to Israel?"

Jesus again made plain that the Church is not the Kingdom.

"And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up;
and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9).

The commission He had given the CHURCH was to preach His Gospel to all the world. They were to receive the Holy Spirit, begetting them as saints—as Christians — putting them into God's CHURCH. This would infuse them with the power to carry out the mission of the Church. But it was NOT the setting up of the Kingdom of God. Of that they were not to know the time.

Just what did Jesus mean, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons"? He explained it another time. It is recorded in Matthew 24:36. There He was speaking of the end of this world, and His second coming:

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." He was speaking of His second coming, and setting up of the Kingdom, the time of which no man knows, but only the Father.

However, though we do not, even now, know the day or the hour, we do know, from God's prophecies, that it is today very near! Notice this, in Luke 21:25-32: He had been foretelling the world events, right now beginning, leading to "distress of nations" in world troubles and world wars, "with perplexity"— "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth"—world trouble such as never before experienced. "When ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the Kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled."

The Two Fateful Alternatives

This world trouble began in 1914, with World War I. There was a recession from 1918 until 1939. We are in a second recession now — although we are in what we call "COLD WAR." But now at last we have nuclear energy. We have hydrogen bombs stockpiled in such power and volume that they could blast all human life off this planet several times over. There are other destructive weapons today in existence, any of which could erase humanity from the earth.

Today world-famous scientists say

Seven Rules

(Continued from page 18)

it to our decisions. Far too many of us just do not know God's Word well enough! Therefore we make wrong decisions on points for which there are direct examples in the Word of God.

Your best insurance to guiding your steps through your changing pattern of life is a deep and profound knowledge of God's Word.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).

Rule Three: Get all the Pertinent Facts

In most decisions you will have time to carefully consider all the factors. Too many times when a decision needs to be made we "leap before we look." This is another universal error most people make — they don't take enough time to consider all the facts!

Basic "high-pressure" salesmanship is designed around this human weakness and natural human lust. Ninety percent of purchases made are "impulse buying." People go "shopping" without a factual study of the type, quality, price, performance and need factors already clearly defined. Therefore they are prime targets for the fast talking line of the high-pressure salesman — and in His backyard — where his glittering gadgets have you spellbound.

Not that we're specifically talking about decisions on buying, but it is an excellent thing to remember that the item you are tempted to buy will still be there tomorrow or the next day or next week. Only your desire to have it makes you feel like you must get it now. The salesman knows that too.

One key which will save you many headaches and pocketbook pains is learning to "wait 24 hours" — especially in reference to impulse buying. Every salesman knows a person is most apt to buy on the spur of the moment after he has been pushed "off balance" by his basic desire to possess plus the strong "pitch" he has just been given. But if you will say, "I'll think it over"— leave the store — go home and wait until tomorrow — most likely many factors will come to you which you were unable to consider under the pressure of the moment.

This key also applies to any choice you have to make. We are always "off balance" until we have carefully weighed all the facts.

Whatever time you have before you must decide, use it to weigh carefully all the alternatives that lie before you and the costs or actions they demand.

It is always good to accumulate a written list of all the pros and cons. It will serve two purposes. One: you remain a living human in 20 more years!

But notice what Jesus Christ said!

Can you believe Jesus Christ?

Where is your trust — in the Word of God, or in paganized, empty, deceiving teachings falsely labeled "Christianity"— inherited as "Christian tradition" — which says the CHURCH is the Kingdom of God; or, that the Kingdom is merely a meaningless, frothy and ethereal sentiment "set up in our hearts"? It's about time you come to know who are the false prophets, and who is speaking the true Word of God faithfully!

(A copy of this article is available in booklet form. Address any requests to the Editor. See inside front cover for addresses).
won't forget the unpleasant aspects which we are so often prone to nullify or treat lightly. Two: it will force you to take the time to consider the factors in detail, which, again, we are usually reluctant to do.

Be sure you get the FACTS. Don't be satisfied with guesses and assumptions. If there are FACTS to get, get them. It's your life!

**Rule Four: Seek Wise and Abundant Counsel**

In getting the facts, we should again remember not always to lean to our own knowledge of the subject. We should seek those who have the most accurate information relative to our choice.

Let us suppose you are considering a change from one area of the country to another. This involves a change of job — change of home — change of school for children — change of climate — change of cost of living — and many, many other things. A wise decision cannot be reached without learning what these factors are like in the new area. One way to learn these facts is to ask or counsel with someone who is an authority on these factors in the new area.

In every case seek wise counsel from a reputable authority or sources you can rely on. Don't rely on backyard advice or “water-cooler wisdom” for a decision in your life.

Don't be satisfied with one opinion only! A primary principle from God's Word shows us to seek wise counsel: "WHERE NO COUNSEL is, the people fall: but in the MULTITUDE OF COUNSELLORS THERE IS SAFETY" (Prov. 11:14).

Many times we feel it is a sign of weakness to ask for help and opinions. This is again vanity and self-centeredness.

Even in the largest corporations the wisest executives seek out advisors and counsellors to help them make wise decisions.

**Rule Five: Make a Definite Decision**

In applying the preceding rules, we will have come to the place where we are ready to make a definite decision: Now is the time!

We have asked God for wisdom and direction; we have searched His Word for examples and lessons. We have gathered and weighed all the facts and eventualities. We have sought authorities, wise and abundant counsellors. The choice or decision should now be CLEAR.

Make that decision DECISIVELY — POSITIVELY!

Don't vacillate! Don't waver!

Again God's Word gives us the example. "For he that waveth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed... A double minded man is unstable in all his ways" (James 1:6,8).

This brings us to the sixth rule.

**Rule Six: Have Faith in the Decision**

Faith is one of the most powerful forces we can employ to cause circumstances to turn out right. Once we have come to a decision based on God's principles we can have FAITH it will work out correctly.

We should EXPECT our choice — to turn out right and good. We can have ABSOLUTE FAITH that it will!

"Faith is the substance of things [or conclusions] hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1). Believing is now our part! The whole eleventh chapter of Hebrews is a testimony of those who made choices and decisions in their lives toward an ultimate goal and they attained them THROUGH FAITH!

Jesus said, "If thou canst believe, ALL THINGS are possible to him that believeth!" (Mark 9:23).

Trust your decision. Trust the God who led you to it. Believe it will turn out as planned. Expect it to! HAVE FAITH.

**Rule Seven: Work Diligently for the Desired End**

The last rule is where many fall down. The right conclusion to a decision is NOT AUTOMATIC! We must go all out to bring the desired end to reality.

In the course of obtaining all the facts and getting wise and abundant counsel we will have discovered many things to do!

Now that we have made our choice and have faith that it will work out, we need to roll up our sleeves and get to work!

Another basic principle from God's Word will help. Wise Solomon learned from God: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecc. 9:10).

Here is where many of us fail. We do not diligently and systematically go step-by-step through every phase of effort toward the desired goal!

Resolve, in every choice or decision, to thoroughly and judiciously DO YOUR PART.

There is never a time in your life when you can afford to NEGLECT these principles.

Write them down on a card and carry them with you. Learn them — make them a part of you. Put them into practice in your life.

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**Bible Study**

*(Continued from page 6)*

NEVER PROVED what they have come to believe.

And so most people continue to carelessly assume the Bible teaches hundreds of conflicting ideas — that it is irrational and irrelevant in our scientific age — and that the Bible is responsible for the hundreds of differing sects and denominations we find in the world today!

**What Is the Bible?**

There is a statement in the Bible which says: "All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching..." (II Tim. 3:16, R.S.V.).

The Bible is God's revelation to man of basic knowledge — laws and principles which man is unable to discover for himself — knowledge which is otherwise utterly inaccessible to the mind of man.

For example: God did not directly reveal the law of gravity in the Bible. He equipped man with the powers and abilities to discover gravity for himself.

But man has never been able to discover what he is, and why he was put here on earth — whether there is a real purpose for human life, or what that purpose is. Man has not been able to discover the true way to peace, happiness, abundant well-being and real success. Colleges and universities do
teach students how to earn a living — but they fail to teach them how to live.

The Bible reveals all this — and more!

Nowhere but in the Bible can one find this basic necessary knowledge. God inspired the Bible to be the very basis of all true education.

The Bible, then, is the foundation of all knowledge! It gives the true approach to the acquisition of knowledge in the fields of history, education, psychology, home economics, sociology and the health sciences. It reveals basic principles concerning business, commerce, science, the arts, law, government, philosophy and religion.

The Bible also explains the meaning of the Space Age. And it shows us how peace, prosperity, success and happiness are coming to all the world within just a few years!

People could understand the Bible — if they were really willing. The Bible is plain and simple. It means exactly what it says! If we take it as it is, without trying to interpret its meaning, it does make sense.

How You Can Understand

If you really want to begin understanding the Bible, you should enroll immediately in the Ambassador College Correspondence Course. This absolutely free educational service for all peoples at all levels is published as part of the worldwide educational program of Ambassador College.

This course is a totally new and different method of study. It makes the Bible plain and simple to understand — and relevant in the Space Age! This dynamic, down-to-earth course of understanding pulls no punches. It tells the truth straight from the shoulder — from the Bible! It also draws from our worldwide sources of information.

You've never seen any course like it before!

The Ambassador College Correspondence Course is a regular, monthly course designed to guide you through a systematic study of your own Bible. It is not a study of men's ideas about the Bible, but a study of the Bible itself. The Bible is the only textbook!

Literally dozens of different subjects of vital interest to you in this pulsating Space Age are thoroughly gone into and made clear with each monthly lesson of this unique course. And you are directed to the clear, plain, simple answers in your Bible!

The Ambassador College Correspond-
The one most important fact students have found is that the Bible does interpret itself. These two letters explain it:

“...you ask the questions and tell us which scriptures to read and then the Bible itself explains it. I’ve heard you say many times on your radio broadcasts, ‘Let the Bible interpret itself.’ It really can and does, if people would only give it a chance. Thank you so much for letting me be a part of this wonderful course.”

Mrs. P. L., Youngstown, Ohio

“I just completed the first lesson of the Ambassador College Correspondence Course. There aren’t enough words to express my gratitude. I think the only word that can describe my feeling is relief! At last a source with which to really study the Bible and learn from the Bible, instead of just taking someone else’s interpretation. All my life I’ve heard people say: ‘The Bible can be interpreted many ways.’ I can’t say that I believed or disbelieved that statement. I just didn’t think about it. To me it was just an impressive book that everyone seemed to have. Now that I have respect for the Bible and am reading it, I feel that no interpretation is needed. It is plainly written. I am really looking forward to my next lesson.”

W. G., Cincinnati, Ohio

Notice how the following student learned the Bible is relevant in the Space Age:

“Your Correspondence Course really shows one how to study the Bible and what the Bible really says. Most people don’t realize that the Bible is a book for our day and age. They have never proved that it is true or that there is a God. You give the proof. I now believe that there
really is a God, and that the Bible is His Word. The Bible has become a new book to me. I never realized what the Bible said until now.”

D.M.,
Apache Junction, Arizona

Other comments:

“I have just completed my first four lessons of the Correspondence Course. Suddenly I realized the amazing change in my understanding of the Bible as I recalled the days before I ever requested the course. It has helped move me out of complete misunderstanding, myth, guesswork and bewilderment, and into a clear and ever-revealing knowledge of the Bible. The comments in The PLAIN TRUTH magazine about the wonderful course, I used to regard subtly. But now I also share those other people's great enthusiasm.”

Edward M.,
Hanford, California

I have found this course such an amazing 'spiritual eye-opener and night cap' that I just can’t wait for the answers and the next lesson. It is an eye-opener, as it is my first study in the morning: a night cap, as it is the last thing I study before going to bed. I am a student at college and have a lot of studies to do at times, but from the amazing truth I have discovered from the Bible through the Correspondence Course, I will have to budget my time to continue my search for truth concerning prophecies of our times and spiritual guidance in my every day Christian life.”

Student,
Nassau, Bahamas

“Before hearing The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast I had many unanswered questions that were so big that a psychiatrist was unwilling to answer them for $20.00 a visit. The only answer I received from him was that I should take a trip to Europe, go hunting, roam the countryside to get close to nature, take up sail boating, get married, etc. This didn’t answer any one of my questions. Through The WORLD TOMORROW broadcasts and the Ambassador College Correspondence Course I have received direct and workable answers to all my questions. I am now learning the real purpose in life and receiving blessings beyond my wildest dreams.”

Student, Vancouver,
B. C., Canada

Don't Delay — Enroll Now

You, too, can begin to share these same experiences. You can begin to UNDERSTAND the knowledge that really counts!

The only qualification necessary for taking this course is the ability to read. No prior college training or other advanced education is necessary. These lessons are plainly written so even a child can understand. And remember — the Ambassador College Correspondence Course is absolutely FREE of any tuition cost to you! Your lessons have already been paid for by others who are voluntarily helping to send this course to the world as an educational public service WITHOUT ANY COST whatsoever. You may continue receiving monthly lessons as long as you wish. But you’ll never be billed or solicited in any way.

Will you let the Ambassador College Correspondence Course make the Bible relevant to your life today? You can begin by writing to the Editor in care of the Correspondence Course Department and requesting your first exciting monthly lesson. (See inside front cover for the addresses.)

Do it right now — lest you forget! You'll be glad you did.
Letters to the Editor

In Anticipation

“I am writing to thank you in advance for the magazine you told about in your letter. How I will look forward to that . . . with great anticipation! I have studied your literature for one year now and have learned so much! Although I wait eagerly, each month, for The Plain Truth, I always look through it to find the ‘more religious’ type articles. So I will be so happy to receive the magazine you spoke of in your letter.”

Dorothy J., Portland, Oregon

“I really hope that Co-Worker magazine starts soon. I really miss those articles that really give verse after verse, but I must admit that at first I resented them. So I now can understand why the change in The Plain Truth. Carnal nature doesn’t like being told the right way. It only wants human reasoning.”

Cecil H., Raleigh, N. C.

“Thank you for your letter letting me know that I am included in your new magazine list you are now putting out to go to the helpers in your wonderful Work. Yes, I agree with you. We do need more of the direct religious help than can be put in The Plain Truth. I think The Plain Truth is wonderful and it enables people to realize and to know many things that are not available to them from any other written book or magazine, and I can hardly wait to get mine. But, I miss that which I feel only Mr. Armstrong, his son, and his Co-Workers can give to us; those spiritual, religious, God-given messages we need — oh, so much. I can hardly wait for my new magazine to come, and to think it is being given to us absolutely free!”

Amey U., Beverly Hills, California

“I have just received your latest newsletter that you mail regularly to your Co-Workers, and am so proud to be classed as one. That new magazine you are intending to publish especially for your Co-Workers is just what we need. I miss those wonderful Bible studies you used to give on the radio. That magazine will take their place.”

Mrs. Charles H., Howard City, Michigan

“Less than a year ago a young friend, knowing how much I like to read, gave the current and two back issues of The Plain Truth to me. That started me off on quite a different tangent. I have read all the booklets that I have heard the title of. I am now on the sixth lesson of the Correspondence Course. I now have a purpose in life. I want to know about and live as close to God’s Word as I possibly can. I am beginning to understand and thrill at the magnificence of God’s purpose. Now when I read a few chapters in the Bible I get more out of them than I would formerly have gotten from reading the whole of it. Reading, with your direction, the Word of God gives me a satisfaction I have never had in life before. I can just say, ‘thank you.’”

W. K. S., Mobile, Alabama

“I teach in Sunday school a group of 14-year-olds that are very much informed on the theory of evolution and I have been challenged to prove God’s existence. This sounded a little nutty to me — a question or challenge of this kind coming from children of people I thought were Christians. However, I accepted the challenge with good faith, because with your help, I believe I can do it for all 23 of them.”

M. D., Raleigh, N. C.

Plain Truth Personal

“I have just read your ‘Personal from the Editor’ for January. I have been wanting to send my tithes for a long while but just did not know how to go about it. I do not have very much but it is enough to tithe. I thank you so very much for The Plain Truth and other literature.”

Garnet J., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

“A surge of joy hit me twice. First, when I read Malachi 3:8-10; and second, when I read your ‘Personal from The Editor’ in the January, 1969 issue of The Plain Truth. You see, the very next pay day after I began paying my tithes I received a 35 cent an hour raise. Prove me now herewith . . .! Indeed!”

Robert D. C., Buena Park, California

“Thank you for the wonderful ‘Personal From the Editor’ article in the January Plain Truth. As one of that small group of Co-Workers I really appreciated your tribute to us. We fully realize that without God’s help we would not be in that small group. God has blessed us beyond words to describe. Thank you for leading us in the Work of God. You have been a great source of encouragement and inspiration to all of us.”

Mrs. Charlene W., Akron, Ohio

Christian by Man’s Standards

“You have angered and confused me the past eighteen months. But, I keep seeking your material and booklets. What you teach is so foreign to what most people have been taught. In your defense, you make the Bible understandable to me. Your book, The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy simply stunned my imagination. I read and reread it and launched my personal search for the truth. Frankly, you have started to break down my resistance. Everything I have studied of yours leads me to believe I have been a Christian by ‘man’s standards’ for 38 years and not ‘God’s standards.’”

James H., El Dorado, Kansas
Coming:

★ What Do You Mean . . . SALVATION?

Why do some misrepresent, saying we teach “salvation by WORKS”? They know better! This surprising article will make the TRUTH not only plain, but tremendously INTERESTING! You’ll see how millions have been deceived into a FALSE salvation.

★ How to Be a Teen-ager

What spans the generation gap? Why are so many youths unhappy, frustrated, indifferent? What is the source of real teen-age happiness? These and other important questions are covered in this stimulating article, coming next month!

★ Who - What - was Jesus before His Human Birth?

Puzzled theologians give a variety of answers, each at cross purposes to the other. Here is the answer right from your Bible. Ignoring men’s traditions, avoiding constricting denominational prejudices, this article speaks with the authority of God’s Word — the only source from which the answers can come!

★ Twelve Rules for Bible Study

Despite the fact that it is consistently the number one best seller, the Bible is the most misunderstood book in print. It is misquoted, twisted, scorned, lied about, ignored. Read this stimulating article which will make the Bible come alive, make sense to YOU!

★ The Puff of Death

Can you really afford to smoke? This second in a three part series dealing with the subject answers this and much more about this modern health question.