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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1982

PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



America and Europe
STRAINS IN THE
ALLIANCE

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a magazine of understanding

Vol. 47, No. 9 Circ. 5,130,000 November-December 1982

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ABOUT OUR COVER

President Ronald Reagan of the United States visited four capital cities on his first official visit to Western Europe last June. His last stop was in Bonn, West Germany, where he was received by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Mr. Reagan's outspoken views on East-West relations served to accentuate the growing differences between America and its European allies on this vital issue.

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Personal from...

Valerius Ambrose

A New Leap Forward in Publishing

As Ambassador College, Pasadena, opened its doors for the 36th consecutive year, I was moved once again to recall the amazing growth of this Work.

Few realize the magnitude to which this worldwide Work of God has grown. It is now a major-scale educational program worldwide.

Actually, the Work started in 1934 with just me and my wife Loma.

The college, with an undergraduate curriculum and students in residence on campus, was founded later in 1947 with four students and a faculty of eight. Today there are two campuses and about 900 students.

The sun never sets on our offices, plants and operations around the world. Our full-time staff is nearly 2,000 and its expenditures into the multiple millions.

It is the intriguing story of making the *missing dimension* in education available to millions of people. It is the success story of something never done before—of a huge educational enterprise worldwide—seemingly incredible, yet an accomplished and living fact. And I didn't build or accomplish it. No man could!

Here, in brief condensation, is the story from its beginning.

I had experienced an uncommon early training in business, in the specific field of journalism and advertising. This led to catching the vision of the missing dimension in today's education. I had toured the United States as "idea man" for America's largest trade journal to search out ideas successfully used in business and in community development and social welfare. I had pioneered in surveys, by personal interview and by questionnaire, obtaining, tabulating, analyzing and classifying information on business and social conditions.

Through this intensive research covering many succeeding years in my own advertising business, I

was being tremendously impressed with the unhappy fact that even in the affluent United States there was a tragic dearth of peace, happiness and abundant well-being.

I was aware also, of course, of the sickening conditions of poverty, ignorance, filth and squalor, starvation, disease and death in the lives of more than half of all the earth's population—in many areas of Asia, Africa, South America—not to speak of some areas equally wretched in the United States and parts of Europe.

But WHY? To me it didn't make sense. For every effect there had to be a CAUSE. I didn't know the CAUSE. Nor was it revealed through education.

Then, at age 35, I was challenged and angered into an in-depth study of evolution and of the biblical account of special creation. I studied the writings of Darwin, Lyell, Huxley, Spencer, Haeckel and Vogt. I researched into scientific evidence for or against the existence of God. From all sources, I found absolute proof, to me, of the falsity of the theory of evolution. And I found, of all places, in the Bible the ANSWER to the question of all the world's evils.

I learned what it seemed neither science, education nor religion had discovered: there is in living, inexorable motion an invisible spiritual LAW that regulates all human relationships. I learned through this the *cause* of all world ills.

The living, but invisible, spiritual law is simply the one WAY OF LIFE that is diametrically contrary to the way humanity has been traveling. It is the way of love instead of lust, the way of giving, sharing, serving and helping, instead of the way of taking and accumulating in lust and greed. It is the way of outgoing concern instead of incoming selfish desire. The way of courtesy and consideration instead of envy, jealousy, resentment, bitterness, hatred. The way of cooperation instead of competition. The way of humility and exalting God, instead of vanity and exalting the self. The way of God-centeredness, constantly expanding (Continued on page 43)

WORLD LEADERS PREDICT A "Divorce" Between America and Europe!

by Gene H. Hogberg

For three decades, the U.S. and Western Europe have enjoyed unprecedented prosperity in a dynamic partnership. But disputes over trade and relations with the Soviet bloc now threaten to rip the Atlantic Alliance asunder.

TEMPERS are rising on both sides of the Atlantic. Political positions are hardening. Relations between the United States and its allies in Western Europe are at an all-time low.

"There is more mutual distrust of intentions," says one British journalist, "than any time since the end of the war against Hitler."

France's Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson summed up the situation most succinctly when he expressed the belief that a "gradual divorce" was taking place between America and Europe.

Mr. Cheysson's somber prediction should not be taken lightly. Should he be proved correct, many people will be hurt—as in divorces, on the individual level.

Trade Rift Widens

Despite the day-to-day smooth flow of trade still conducted across the Atlantic, disputes over export and fiscal policies are reaching the acrimonious stage. These rows would matter less were they not taking place in the midst of a world recession.

One issue is particularly explosive at the moment. The United States, faced with severe unemployment

and rising excess capacity in the steel industry, has decided to slap a penalty on those steel imports from Europe that the United States has determined to be underpriced because of subsidies to producers from European governments.

The various national steel industries in Europe, too, are fighting for their lives. Several governments have undeniably propped up their ailing industries.

For their part, European Common Market countries, staring at a record 10 million unemployed, have expressed concern for many months about U.S. policies that they believe help keep them in the economic doldrums. Europeans charge the conservative fiscal program of President Ronald Reagan keeps interest rates high in their countries, stifling job-producing investments.

The list of actual individual transatlantic trade quarrels is now so extensive that the regulations established by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) are in danger of being overwhelmed. Nation after nation is resorting to one devious means after another, such as complex bartering arrangements, to circumvent the GATT rules.

Experts in the field of international trade are fearful the entire post-World War II Free World

economic structure may soon collapse under the accumulating weight of complaints and countercharges.

The Pipeline Predicament

There is another issue, however, that threatens to drive the deepest wedge of all into the transatlantic partnership. It goes far beyond money and jobs, critical as these are, into the very substance of the relations between Europe and America.

This divisive dilemma surrounds the building of a natural gas pipeline from Siberia in the Soviet Union to connect with existing pipelines heading into Western Europe. The project—the largest in the history of East-West trade—was originally intended to deliver gas to Italy, West Germany, France, Switzerland and Austria by 1984.

Since the project was first mooted years ago, Washington has fretted that the pipeline would make West European nations too dependent on the Soviet Union for energy supplies and thus produce a dangerous security situation in the

VERSAILLES SUMMIT: Leaders of the Free World's seven industrial powers convened last June at Versailles Palace, near Paris, France, for their annual conference. Cooperation appeared to prevail, but soon afterward frictions developed again over trade matters, especially those dealing with Eastern Europe.



event of any future East-West crisis.

A recent European Community report, in fact, underscores the potential dependence impact. When the gas deal is completed, Italy could depend on the Soviets for 35 percent of gas consumption, West Germany 34 percent and France 26 percent. This dependence is compounded by the fact that by 1990 gas supplies from outside EC production areas, including the Soviet Union, are expected to play a much bigger role in Europe's overall energy picture than they do today.

United States officials have also complained about the substantial interest-rate subsidies European governments have granted to the U.S.S.R. for the pipeline's construction. (The pipeline is being financed by Western banks at less than 8 percent interest.)

Europeans have generally called the U.S. position an exaggeration, claiming that the Soviets have proven to be a reliable trade partner in the past. Moreover, according to their argument, the U.S.S.R. desperately needs the earnings that the sale of the gas will produce in order to buy grain from the United States (which the Americans have refused to embargo). Moreover, Europeans claim, the pipeline project should reduce Western Europe's dependence upon energy sources from the unstable Middle East.

America Embargoes Supplies

The pipeline dispute took a sudden downward turn toward the end of 1981. Sixteen days after Polish authorities declared martial law, Washington imposed economic sanctions against the Soviet Union, which the United States regarded as directly responsible for the Polish action.

Some of those sanctions were aimed at the projected gas pipeline. The giant General Electric firm was banned from supplying millions of dollars worth of parts for turbines to propel the gas along the pipeline. A license for Caterpillar Tractor Company to export pipe-laying equipment to the Soviet Union was canceled.

West European politicians, as well as trade union leaders, were alarmed.

Several European firms had signed pipeline contracts with Soviet authorities and were relying upon American products to fulfill them.

As the seven-nation Versailles economic summit approached last June, Western European leaders worked to maneuver the United States into a softer position on the pipeline issue. At the Versailles conference, attended by this writer, an unwritten compromise appeared to have been structured. There was talk of allowing Europeans to once again have access to the missing American equipment, in return for tighter credit restrictions on subsequent East-West trade.

Then, 10 days later, the Reagan administration dropped its bombshell on the entire project.

After learning that the French had rejected substantial credit reform, the United States extended its pipeline sanctions embargo to European subsidiaries of U.S. companies. Further, no company abroad could use licenses from U.S. companies to build vital pipeline equipment. Especially hard hit were companies in France, Italy and Britain constructing compressor turbines for the pipeline, using U.S. technology.

Europeans reacted with understandable outrage. Massive contracts were suddenly thrown into question, along with thousands of jobs. Even the future of some financially shaky companies in Europe was in doubt.

Over the next several weeks, one nation after another in Europe announced it would defy the Reagan ban. The governments of Britain, America's otherwise staunchest ally in Europe, and France announced that companies in their nations holding U.S. construction licenses would be required, under penalty of law, to honor Soviet contracts for the pipeline.

The Americans countered that it was the Europeans who were guilty of breaches of contract; that the terms of the licenses for General Electric designed products provided for changes in export regulations toward the East bloc that the U.S. government might wish to enact.

The West Germans, meanwhile, threatened to take the United

States before the International Court of Justice. And President Francois Mitterrand of France declared that the Versailles summit, for which he acted as host, had turned into a mockery. The value of future summits, he said, was nil.

Showdown Unavoidable

Some sort of political showdown over the pipeline row appears inevitable mainly because both sides view relations with the Communist eastern bloc in quite differing light.

Mr. Reagan, in European eyes, embodies the so-called hard-line view toward the Soviet Union. He certainly showed as much on his stopovers in European capitals earlier this year. In a speech delivered to the British Parliament June 8, the American president called for a global "march of freedom and democracy" that, he hoped, would "leave Marxism-Leninism on the ash heap of history."

It goes without saying that Moscow reacted very vigorously to Mr. Reagan's remarks. Not a few Western Europeans criticized him as well for embarking on a crusade to overturn the status quo in Europe and to "destabilize" the Soviet sphere of influence on the continent.

Others criticized the American leader for holding out too much hope for the use of sanctions to change the nature of affairs in Eastern Europe. Reduced trade, they argued, would only make the resilient and strongly patriotic Soviet population, accustomed to more austere living conditions than the West, only tighten their belts more, if convinced some sort of economic warfare had been declared against them.

It is foolish, they claim, to believe that the world's second largest economy, the U.S.S.R., could be forced by economic measures to compromise on its vital security interests in Eastern Europe, gained at much expenditure of human and material resources in the last war.

"Pull Back from the Brink"

Still other voices on both sides of the Atlantic have criticized the adminis-

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The TERRIBLE TRAGEDY of TERRORISM

by The Plain Truth staff

Terrorist bombs left eight dead and scores badly injured in London's two best-known parks. In less than 15 years, more than 2,500 civilians, soldiers and policemen have been killed by terrorist acts in the anguish over Northern Ireland. When will it end?

"MAKE A CHAIN," wrote the prophet Ezekiel, "for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence."

Those words—written more than 2,500 years ago—are truer today than they were then.

Conditions, the prophet saw, would get so bad that one brutal crime would follow another just like links in a chain.

The Latest Mayhem and Murder

At this writing the great city of London is seething with righteous anger. The gentility of British pageantry has been disrupted by a double atrocity in Hyde Park and Regent's Park. There was death and mutilation of the worst kind among both men and horses of the Queen's Household Cavalry.

If terrorism is anything, it is inherently cruel and utterly unmerciful. Terrorism—via bombing—is one of the ugliest forms of criminal behavior known to man. It is terribly impersonal and usually irreversible. More often than not it removes the human element altogether. More than one would-be murderer has refrained from squeezing the trigger at the last

possible second—suffering from pangs of conscience.

Not so with a deadly bombing device. It has been timed to blow up under certain stimuli with the responsible party probably miles away.

The bomb usually goes off! The natural restraints of human conscience have been removed.

Terrorism is also impersonal because it doesn't always just destroy its intended victim. Indeed who were the intended victims of this monstrous massacre? Surely soldiers on ceremonial and entertainment duties are innocent bystanders. Some of these musician soldiers were not even trained for fighting.

Not even the horses were spared. Stated *Daily Express* feature writer Peter McKay: "Somehow the sight of seven horses blasted so grievously that they had to be shot on the spot was almost as bad as seeing dead soldiers."

These are just two basic reasons why terrorism is unacceptable to the truly civilized mind as a means of making political statements. Yet historically there have always been individuals and groups who have used acts of terror for political objectives.

How do terrorists then justify

violence? Mainly through certain teachings of godless modern philosophers. Wrote Franz Fanon: "Violence is a cleansing force: it frees the oppressed from their despair." Thus violence is neatly rationalized by nihilistic philosophy. "One man's terrorist," say some, "is another man's freedom fighter."

The terrorist rejects morality. As Lord Chalfont said in an address to the European-Atlantic Group about one year ago, "You simply cannot do the things that terrorists do if you adhere to the normal moral principles of the human race."

Lord Chalfont went on to explain that the terrorist "rejects the political process" as well, being "totally divorced from, and hostile to the whole concept of the political process."

Politicians of every persuasion from all over the United Kingdom and Eire categorically condemned the cowardly killing of eight innocent people, not to mention those suffering horrible injuries. And it goes without saying that such terrorist acts are in complete contradiction to the Christian principles embodied in the Sermon on the Mount.

Terrorism in Ancient Days

The court history of King David of ancient Israel teems with political



infighting and palace intrigue. But the problem of terrorists began before David ever assumed office as king over *all* ancient Israel. First there was a long civil war between the House of Saul and the House of David. Joab was David's chief general and Abner filled that particular post with Saul's son, the puppet king Ishbosheth.

The tides of battle were increasingly running in David's favor. And it just so happened that Abner and his "head of state" had a falling out over the sexual favors of one of Saul's concubines. An angry Abner then decided to come to terms with David and deliver the balance of the kingdom into his hands. A peace parley soon ensued.

Being an astute statesman, David was host to a state dinner in Hebron for Abner and his men. A suitable accord was subsequently reached and Abner began his journey back to Mehanaim. A short time later Joab returned to Hebron from battle and heard "the good news."

Immediately Joab requested an audience with David and accused Abner of political treachery in order to gain a military advantage. Then without David's knowledge or consent, Joab dispatched a group of "embassies" after Abner who persuaded him to meet with Joab for further consultations.

The New English Bible graphically describes the cruel murder that followed. "On Abner's return to Hebron, Joab drew him aside in the gateway, as though to speak privately with him, and there, in revenge for his brother Asahel, he stabbed him in the belly, and he died" (II Sam. 3:27).

This was an act of terrorism. Abner, perhaps expecting to dis-

(Continued on page 40)

TWO BOMB EXPLOSIONS, claimed by the IRA, took place several minutes apart in Central London—July 20. In Hyde Park—scene of first attack—a rigged auto blew up as a detachment of Horse Guards passed by. Emergency treatment was given the wounded. Present at the scene was Nicola Daly, widow of the lieutenant leader of the Horse Guards who died in the explosion. With her sister, she cried and encouraged on the new guards, who replaced the dead and the wounded. The second bomb explosion occurred in Regent's Park.

The PLAIN TRUTH

SMOKING

A Habit You Can Overcome!

by Michael A. Snyder

Tobacco use is more than just a bad habit. Read here facts you may not have considered!

IF SMOKING is good for you, why do an estimated 90 percent of smokers try to quit their ever-popular habit?

What are these smokers telling us?

If you're presently a smoker, have you considered why you smoke?

NO Useful Function

Certainly if you live in the Western world, you've heard or seen the various arguments against smoking. And you know their validity.

Yet, every day, thousands light up their first cigarette, chew their first chaw of tobacco, or sample their first puff of the charred leaf.

Why?

The World Health Organization (WHO) declares smoking to be "a deplorably widespread instrument of death." A former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) characterized smoking as "slow-motion suicide."

Dr. C. Everett Koop, the U.S. Surgeon General, thundered this warning: "Cigarette smoking is clearly identified as the chief preventable cause of death in our society and the most important public health issue of our time."

He charged that smoking is accountable for 340,000 deaths in the United States annually.

Tobacco lobbyists weakly assert that there is no direct link between lung cancer and smoking. Dr. Koop's conclusive answer? "Ciga-

rette smoking is the major single cause of cancer mortality in the United States."



rette smoking is the major single cause of cancer mortality in the United States."

Official commissions and studies conducted in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden and the United Kingdom have further confirmed the smoking-cancer link!

Do you realize that if you devel-

op lung cancer and are male, you have less than a 9 percent chance of surviving? If you're a woman, you have only slightly better odds. There's "only" an 88 percent chance that you won't survive.

If you're a woman smoker, do you realize that death from lung cancer in women has bloated to nearly 1,000 percent over the 1930 rate?

There's a hollow ring to the woman's cigarette advertisement, "You've come a long way, baby" when authorities predict that the 1980s will see lung cancer eclipse breast cancer as the leading cause of women cancer deaths.

Further, women smokers who bear children have to face the facts that smoking mothers suffer more stillbirths than their nonsmoking counterparts. And that smoking mothers often bear children with lower birth weight. These babies are also often more vulnerable to disease and premature death.

These facts aren't pleasant to hear or read—but they're the result of humans demanding their right to personal choice. If you're a smoker—it's indeed your personal choice!

No Physical Benefits

The American Cancer Society pegs cigarette smoking as responsible for

120,000 unnecessary deaths from heart trouble in the United States every year!

If you're a smoker, you also face a risk of death four to 25 times greater than nonsmokers from chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

And finally, even if by some freak chance you don't develop cancer of some sort, you automatically shorten your life by nearly *nine years*—almost a full decade! And all this for a quarter century of wheezing daily through only two packs of cigarettes.

This evidence has resulted in the ban of cigarette advertising in Australia, the Soviet Union, Norway and several other countries. These governments realize the danger to their citizens from smoking.

If a smoker says he or she smokes because of enjoyment, that's the saddest form of self-deception there is.

Let's face the truth! If you're a smoker, do you really enjoy the thrill of waking up in the morning hacking and coughing? Or the bird-cage taste of accumulated tars thickly coating your tongue?

Or gasping for breath as you run for the morning bus while up to 12 percent of your red blood cells are rendered useless—tightly bound by carbon monoxide from cigarettes?

If you claim to enjoy smoking, then you must also enjoy being shackled and physically addicted to nicotine. Because those powerful urges you experience each morning are the mimicry of addiction!

No, any rational, honest person admits that habitual smoking is a perverted pleasure. We speak from experience. Editor-in-chief Herbert W. Armstrong, once a light smoker, squarely confronted the question almost 35 years before the 1964 U.S. antismoking report:

"I then asked myself: 'Why do I smoke? Is it to express outgoing love to God?' Most assuredly not! 'Am I smoking to express outgoing love and concern for the welfare of other humans?' I had to answer in the negative."

Mr. Armstrong rightly concluded that smoking is "a form of self-desire."

And this self-desire pulls millions of people into what many authorities call the number one drug addiction problem.

A Prosmoking Society

A smoker starts his (or her) habit chiefly through *conformity*. One cigarette advertisement unwittingly tapped the truth when it said: "This is your world. This is your [cigarette brand]. Taste it all."

Today's world is largely pro-smoking. Despite the aforementioned bans on cigarette advertising, nearly one in three in Australia remains a confirmed smoker. The number of smokers in the United States is slowly declining (but cigarette consumption is actually *up*). Prosperous Japanese are adding daily to their smoking number.

The reason? Because a hypocriti-

cal society portrays smoking as a mature, socially-acceptable trait.

Every year, in the absence of sound parental advice and guidance, young teenagers fall prey to this false concept. They want to look mature and grow up, so they endure the initial unpleasant physical reactions. They cough, endure raw throats, spray perfume to mask smoke residue—until finally their young bodies succumb.

Later, they find it nearly impossible to quit! After they become educated to the dangers of smoking, millions find themselves gripped in a classic addiction!

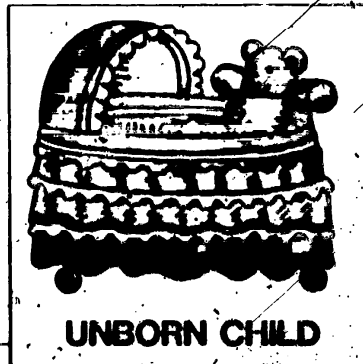
But the good news is that millions worldwide are waking up! More than 30 million have smashed the literal yoke of nicotine addiction. They understand that "a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him" (II Pet. 2:19, New International Version), and have quit!

How did editor-in-chief Armstrong rightly deduce smoking was wrong *decades* before scientific evidence confirmed it? Through the knowledge and application of broad spiritual principles!

Few realize the awesome purpose of the human body! "Do you not know that your [human] body is the temple of the Holy Spirit . . . and you are *not* your own? . . . therefore glorify God in your body" (I Cor. 6:19-20, New King James Version)

Ask yourself: can a smoker honestly fulfill this? Is risking lung cancer, throat and mouth disorders,

WARNING— SMOKING CAN BE DANGEROUS



premature heart disease and infant stillbirth glorifying God?

Make no mistake, smoking violates *both* of the great commandments of God's law as expressed by Jesus: that of loving God first above all things, and second, of loving your neighbor "as yourself" (Matt. 22:37-39, NKJV).

And if smoking violates either of these commandments, smoking is *sin*, because "sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4, NKJV).

But, some may object, this is a pro-smoking society. By smoking, people only follow accepted standards.

God's answer? "*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world*" (Rom. 12:2, NIV).

To continue smoking, a person must blind and deceive himself (or herself). Physically and spiritually, there is no tangible benefit from smoking. The cigarette manufacturers think they benefit—to the tune of \$85 billion annually. Governments pick up extra millions in tax revenue through various cigarette taxes.

You CAN Overcome

Here are some vital means to conquering the smoking habit.

• *Clearly define and write down your objectives for not smoking.* List health, family, financial, spiritual and other reasons. Keep your eyes on your objectives; never let your goal disappear or become hazy. Try to look beyond the initial difficult days of fighting the habit

to the time you will be happily unshackled from nicotine addiction.

• *Stop all smoking completely.* Tapering off on the amount you smoke doesn't work for most people. It's not easy to quit "cold turkey," but it's presently the most successful way. Find someone to help you and to be a positive support. Commit yourself—throw away and *destroy* all pipes and tobacco stock. As the Bible says, "make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires" (Rom. 13:14, Revised Standard Version).

• *Avoid compromising situations.* Don't let friends, relatives or stressful situations cause you to give in. Experience shows that many former smokers quickly relapse to their former habits after "just one little puff."

Avoid situations where you would previously have lit up, such as large parties or long trips in a car. If you must attend social occasions where many smoke, announce to people that you've quit. Put a little positive pressure on yourself to "toe the line" of your commitment.

• *Don't be discouraged or fearful of failure.* If you happen to slip, don't give up. The actual unpleasantness of nicotine withdrawal usually subsides within 72 hours of your last cigarette (depends on the person), but the psychological temptations remain much longer. You may initially experience tension, hunger, some constipation and symptoms of

restlessness, but, be assured—they will subside shortly.

• *Seek additional help from health agencies and/or clinics.* Detailed plans to help you stop smoking are available in virtually every country, many of them free.

• *Utilize the power available to you from God!* God promises to help those who humble themselves and seek him in prayer (Ps. 103:11-14; Isa. 55:7-8).

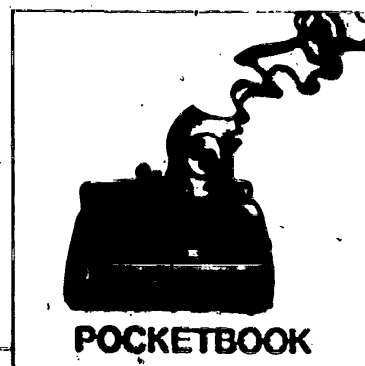
If you'd like to know how to fully utilize this awesome source of real power, write for our free reprint articles "How to Be an Overcomer," and "How You Can Be Imbued with the Power of God." (See inside cover for addresses.)

If you're a smoker, a life free from the taste of tar residue, a life of reduced cancer and coronary risk and improved physical vitality can lie before you. There's a price to pay but it's worth it.

To the nonsmoker, or newly initiated smoker, do yourself a favor and practice some *real* independent thinking for a change: don't smoke.

And if you're interested in seeing in greater depth what the Bible has to say about principles not revealed by science, write for your free copy of *The Incredible Human Potential*. This free book will help you see why it is such a tragedy when people degenerate to smoking. Humanity's purpose is far above inhaling the vapor of charred tobacco. You can know why, too.

DANGEROUS TO YOUR...



"THE WORLD TOMORROW" RADIO AND TV LOGS

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow*

TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, channel number and time when program is aired.

U.S.

ALABAMA

WBRC, Birmingham — 6, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WOWL, Florence — 15, 7:30 a.m. Sun
WAFF, Huntsville — 48, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WCOV, Montgomery — 20, 10:30 a.m. Sun

ALASKA

KTVA, Anchorage — 11, 6:30 a.m. Sun
KTVP, Fairbanks — 11, 6:30 a.m. Sun

ARIZONA

KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2, 9:30 a.m. Sun
KTVK, Phoenix — 3, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KVOA, Tucson — 4, 9:00 a.m. Sun

ARKANSAS

KARK, Little Rock — 4, 10:00 a.m. Sun

CALIFORNIA

KBAK, Bakersfield — 29, 11:15 p.m. Sun
KSEE, Fresno — 24, 6:30 a.m. Sun
KHJ, Los Angeles — 9, 8:30 p.m. Sun
KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 9:30 a.m. Sun
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 7:30 a.m. Sat
KQVR, Sacramento — 13, 7:30 a.m. Sun
KSSW, Salinas — 8, 9:30 a.m. Sun
KCBT, San Diego — 39, 7:30 a.m. Sun

COLORADO

KKTV, Colorado Spgs. — 11, 6:30 a.m. Sun
KOA, Denver — 4, 7:00 a.m. Sun

CONNECTICUT

WTTX, Hartford — 20, 7:30 a.m. Sun

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WTTG, Washington — 5, 6:30 a.m. Sun

FLORIDA

WBBH, Ft. Meyers — 20, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WAVS, Jacksonville — 30, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WCIX, Miami — 6, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WTVJ, Miami — 4, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WEAR, Pensacola — 3, 12:30 noon Sun
WFTS, Tampa — 28, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WESH, Winter Park — 2, 9:00 a.m. Sun

GEORGIA

WATL, Atlanta — 36, 10:00 a.m. Sun
WAGT, Augusta — 26, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WRBL, Columbus — 3, 8:30 a.m. Sun
WQXA, Macon — 24, 11:00 a.m. Sun
WTOG, Savannah — 11, 10:30 a.m. Sun

HAWAII

KIKU, Honolulu — 13, 9:30 a.m. Sun

IDaho

KBCI, Boise — 2, 10:00 a.m. Sun

ILLINOIS

WGN, Chicago — 26, 10:30 p.m. Sat
WFLD, Chicago — 32, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WGN, Chicago — 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat, Cable Ch 5, 8:30 a.m. Sat
WSH, Harrisburg — 3, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WEEK, Peoria — 25, 6:30 a.m. Sun
KHQA, Quincy — 7, 8:30 a.m. Sun
WQRF, Rockford — 39, 7:30 a.m. Sun
WICS, Springfield — 20, 6:30 a.m. Sun

INDIANA

WTVW, Evansville — 7, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WISN, Indianapolis — 8, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WSTB, South Bend — 22, 11:00 a.m. Sun

IOWA

WOI, Des Moines — 5, 6:30 a.m. Sun
KWVL, Waterloo — 7, 10:00 a.m. Sun

KANSAS

KCMO, Kansas City — 5, 9:30 a.m. Sun
KARB, Wichita — 3, 12:00 noon, Sun

KENTUCKY

WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WDRB, Louisville — 41, 10:00 a.m. Sun

LOUISIANA

WRBT, Baton Rouge — 33, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KATC, Lafayette — 3, 8:30 a.m. Sun
WWL, New Orleans — 4, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KTAL, Shreveport — 6, 10:00 a.m. Sun

MAINE

WVII, Bangor — 7, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WGAN, Portland — 13, 6:30 a.m. Sun

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WHAG, Hagerstown — 25, 7:00 a.m. Sat

MASSACHUSETTS

WGBS, Springfield — 40, 9:00 a.m. Sun
WSMW, Worcester — 27, 7:30 a.m. Sun

MICHIGAN

WJRT, Flint — 12, 8:00 a.m. Sun
WZZM, Grand Rapids — 13, 12:00 noon, Sun
WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WJBK, Southfield — 2, 7:00 a.m. Sun

MINNESOTA

KDLH, Duluth — 3, 7:30 a.m. Sun
KMSP, Minneapolis — 9, 7:00 a.m. Sat
KSTP, St. Paul — 5, 7:00 a.m. Sun

MISSISSIPPI

WAPT, Jackson — 16, 7:00 a.m. Sun

MISSOURI

KMTG, Springfield — 27, 7:30 a.m. Sun
KDNL, St. Louis — 30, 6:30 p.m. Sun

NEBRASKA

KHGI, Kearney — 13, 8:00 a.m. Sun
KMTV, Omaha — 3, 7:00 a.m. Sun

NEVADA

KVCB, Las Vegas — 3, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KCRL, Reno — 4, 7:30 a.m. Sun

NEW HAMPSHIRE

WMUR, Manchester — 9, 10:30 a.m. Sun

NEW JERSEY

WAAT, Linwood — 40, 11:30 a.m. Sun

NEW MEXICO

KGGM, Albuquerque — 13, 6:30 a.m. Sun

NEW YORK

WTEN, Albany — 10, 8:30 a.m. Sun
WBNG, Binghamton — 12, 11:00 a.m. Sun
WOR, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 a.m. Sun
WENY, Elmira — 36, 9:30 a.m. Sun
WNEW, New York — 5, 7:00 a.m. Sat
WOR, New York — 9, 9:30 p.m. Sun, Cable Ch 9, 9:30 p.m. Sun
WHEC, Rochester — 10, 8:00 a.m. Sun
WIXT, Syracuse — 9, 6:30 a.m. Sun

NORTH CAROLINA

WPCO, Charlotte — 36, 8:00 a.m. Sun
WRAL, Raleigh — 5, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WITN, Washington — 7, 11:30 a.m. Sun
WXII, Winston-Salem — 12, 10:30 a.m. Sun

NORTH DAKOTA

KTHI, Fargo — 11, 9:00 a.m. Sun

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:15 p.m. Sun
WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:00 a.m. Sun
WUAB, Cleveland — 43, 9:00 a.m. Sun
WTVN, Columbus — 6, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WKCF, Dayton — 22, 6:00 a.m. Sun
WBHO, Toledo — 24, 9:00 a.m. Sun
WTVT, Youngstown — 33, 11:00 a.m. Sun

OKLAHOMA

KOKH, Oklahoma City — 25, 9:00 a.m. Sun
KOKI, Tulsa — 23, 7:00 a.m. Sun

OREGON

KOIN, Portland — 6, 6:30 a.m. Sun

PENNSYLVANIA

WTAJ, Altoona — 10, 7:00 a.m. Sun
WSEE, Erie — 35, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WLYH, Lebanon — 15, 8:00 a.m. Sun
WPHL, Philadelphia — 17, 7:30 a.m. Sun

WPXI, Pittsburgh — 11, 8:00 a.m. Sun
WNEP, Wilkes Barre — 16, 8:30 a.m. Sun

RHODE ISLAND

WPRI, Providence — 12, 11:30 a.m. Sun

SOUTH CAROLINA

WIS, Columbia — 10, 7:30 a.m. Sun
WPDE, Florence — 15, 8:00 a.m. Sun
WFSC, Greenville — 4, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WCBD, Mt. Pleasant — 2, 10:00 a.m. Sun

SOUTH DAKOTA

KXON, Sioux Falls — 5, 9:00 a.m. Sun

TENNESSEE

WDEF, Chattanooga — 12, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 12:00 noon, Sun
WTVK, Knoxville — 26, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WPTY, Memphis — 24, 9:30 p.m. Sun
WNGE, Nashville — 2, 7:00 a.m. Sun

TEXAS

KTXA, Arlington — 21, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KTVU, Austin — 36, 9:30 a.m. Sun
KPRC, Houston — 2, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KJAC, Port Arthur — 4, 10:00 a.m. Sun
KENS, San Antonio — 5, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KLTU, Tyler — 7, 6:30 a.m. Sun

UTAH

KUTV, Salt Lake — 2, 9:00 a.m. Sun

VERMONT

WEZF, Burlington — 22, 10:00 a.m. Sun

VIRGINIA

WVIR, Charlottesville — 29, 10:00 a.m. Sun
WSET, Lynchburg — 13, 6:00 a.m. Sun
WVEC, Norfolk — 13, 10:00 a.m. Sun

WASHINGTON

KIRO, Seattle — 7, 7:00 a.m. Sun
KXLY, Spokane — 4, 11:00 a.m. Sun
KCPO, Tacoma — 13, 9:30 a.m. Sun
KNDO, Yakima — 23, 7:30 a.m. Sun

WEST VIRGINIA

WOWK, Huntington — 13, 9:00 a.m. Sun

WISCONSIN

WLUX, Green Bay — 11, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WKOW, Madison — 27, 6:30 a.m. Sun
WITI, Milwaukee — 6, 10:30 a.m. Sun
WTVT, Milwaukee — 18, 6:30 p.m. Sun

WYOMING

KCWY, Casper — 14, 10:30 p.m. Sun
KYCU, Cheyenne — 5, 10:00 a.m. Sun

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CJDC-TV, Dawson Creek — 5, 11:30 a.m. Sat
BCI-TV, Oksanaga/Kamloops — 9 a.m. Sat
CKPG, Prince George — 2, 10:00 a.m. Sat
CFTK, Terrace/Kimlat — 3, 10:00 a.m. Sat
BCTV, Vancouver — 8, 10:30 a.m. Sun
CHEK, Vancouver/Victoria — 6, 7:30 a.m. Sat

ALBERTA

CKSA, Lloydminster — 2, 9:30 a.m. Sun
CHAT, Medicine Hat — 6, 11:30 a.m. Sun
CKRD, Red Deer — 6, 10:00 a.m. Sun
KXLY, Spokane — 4, 11 a.m. Sun

SASKATCHEWAN

CKJY, Regina — 12, 9:30 a.m. Sun
CFQC, Saskatoon — 8, 10:00 a.m. Sun
CJFB, Swift Current — 5, 10:30 a.m. Sat
CKOS, Yorkton — 5, 11:30 a.m. Sun

MANITOBA

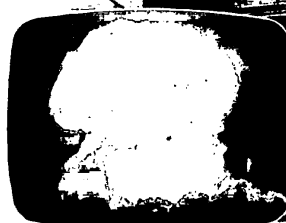
CKX, Brandon — 5, 12:00 noon Sun
CKND, Winnipeg — 9, 7:00 a.m. Sun

ONTARIO

CKVR, Barrie — 3, 11:30 a.m. Sun
WUTV, Buffalo — 29, 10:00 a.m. Sun
CJC, Sault Ste. Marie — 5, 11:30 a.m. Sat
GLOSAL, Southern Ontario — 8:30 a.m. Sat, 9:00 a.m. Sun
MCTV, Sudbury/Timmons/North Bay — 10:30 a.m. Sun
CKPR, Thunder Bay — 2, 10:30 a.m. Sun
CKNX, Wingham — 8, 12:00 noon, Sun

QUEBEC

CFCF, Montreal — 12, 7:00 a.m. Sun



Herbert W. Armstrong, from our Pasadena, California television studio, analyzes world conditions and announces incredibly good news about the world tomorrow!

ATLANTIC CANADA
 WVH, Bangor — 7:30 a.m. Sun
 CJCH, Halifax, N.S. — 5:30 a.m. Sun
 CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 2:30 a.m. Sun
 CHSJ, St. John, N.B. — 4:30 a.m. Sun
 CKLT, St. John, N.B. — 9:30 a.m. Sun
 CJON, St. John's, Nfld. — 6:30 a.m. Sun
 CJCB, Sydney, N.S. — 4:30 a.m. Sun

AUSTRALIA A.C.T.

CTC7, Canberra — 7:30 a.m., every 2nd Sun
NEW SOUTH WALES
 AMV4, Albury — 9:50 a.m. Sun
 TEN 10, Sydney — 6:30 a.m. Sun
 RVN2, Wagga Wagga — 11:30 a.m. Sun
NORTHERN TERRITORY
 NTDS, Darwin — 10:00 a.m. Sun
QUEENSLAND
 QTOS, Brisbane — 6:00 a.m. Wed
 DDO10, Darling Downs — 11:30 a.m. Sun
 DDO6, Toowoomba — 11:30 a.m. Sun
 SDO4, Warwick — 11:30 a.m. Sun
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
 SAS10, Adelaide — 8:00 a.m. Sun

TASMANIA
 TVT6, Hobart — 9:30 a.m. Sun
 TNT9, Launceston — 9:00 a.m. Sun

VICTORIA

STV6, Ballarat — 8:00 a.m. Sun
 GMY6, Shepparton — 8:00 a.m. Sun
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
 GSW9, Albany — 11:30 a.m. Sun
 BTW3, Bunbury — 11:30 a.m. Sun
 VEW6, Kalgoorlie — 5:00 p.m. Sun
 STW9, Perth — 6:30 a.m. Sun

PHILIPPINES

Antique — RPN Chan 6, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Bacolod — RPN Chan 8, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Baguio — RPN Chan 4, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Baguio — RPN Chan 12, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Bayombong — RPN Chan 7, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Butuan — RPN Chan 12, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Cebu — RPN Chan 5, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Cebu — GMA Chan 12, 9:00 a.m. Sat
 Cebu — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Cebu — GMA Chan 7, 8:30 a.m. Sat
 Cotabato — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Davao — RPN Chan 4, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Davao — GMA Chan 7, 8:00 a.m. Sat

Dumaguete — RPN Chan 5, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Gen. Santos — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Iligan — GMA Chan 2, 9:00 a.m. Sat
 Iriga — RPN Chan 10, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Jolo — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Legaspi — RPN Chan 2, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Marbel — GMA Chan 12, 9:00 a.m. Sat
 Marbel — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Metro-Manila — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Oroquieta — GMA Chan 7, 9:00 a.m. Sat
 Oroquieta — RPN Chan 13, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Ozamita — RPN Chan 13, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Pagadian — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Palawan — RPN Chan 5, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Surigao — RPN Chan 13, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Tacloban — RPN Chan 5, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 Zamboanga — RPN Chan 9, 7:30 a.m. Sat
 — GMA Chan 3, 7:30 a.m. Sat

OTHER AREAS

Bermuda, ZFB-TV (Eng) Hamilton — Chan 6, 7:30 p.m. Wed
 Luxembourg, RTL Radio/Television — 11:05 p.m. Fri
 Puerto Rico — San Juan Cable TV
 Sri Lanka Television — both channels, 9:00 p.m. Sun
 See next issue for radio log.

Why does God let little children die?



by Patrick A. Parnell

The U.S.A. (1982):

LITTLE KRISTEN was only 22 months old—just barely out of diapers and reaching that sweet, early talking stage.

While her parents were chatting with grandma and granddad—they'd just dropped Kristen by for the day—Kristen, unnoticed, slipped out the front door.

Within seconds tragedy struck!

By the time Kristen's parents or grandparents realized she was gone, it was too late. Little Kristen continued through the front yard into the street. Coincidentally her grandparents' neighbor across the street was backing his car out of his driveway. He didn't see little Kristen.

She was clinically dead before the ambulance reached the hospital. Vital signs ceased that night.

• **Merceuil, France ("Black Saturday" 1982):** In France's worst road disaster, 44 children in one bus perish in massive highway accident southeast of Paris. "Where was God during the night?" asked one woman upon learning that four of her grandchildren had perished. The 44 children were from a small farming village in the north and en route to summer camp.

• **Treblinka, Poland (1942):** Five-year-old Romacia Sztokman, a little Jewish girl, is singing: "We are going to bathe. We shall return clean and merry. . . ." She is really going to a gas chamber disguised as a bathhouse. Suffering and sweating in the summer heat, she and the other children begin their nightmarish march. Soon they are overcome by heat and a strange sense of terror. The sound of their singing begins to wane and lose its tune. Romacia and the other helpless children will soon cross the border between life and death. She is only one of more than two million Polish Jews who would perish.

Where Was God?

Why did little Kristen, these 44 French children and little Romacia have to die? Why, many ask, does

The PLAIN TRUTH

God let healthy little children die?

Overwhelmed and emotionally distraught, perhaps even on the verge of anger and bitterness because of a heartrending accident similar to Kristen's, some people lash out in harshness at God: "I can't believe in a God who would let that happen!" Or, "I can't worship a God who allows such accidents!"

One of the biggest barriers to people *really believing* in an eternal, everliving, all-wise, all-knowing God is the simple fact that painful suffering, death and other evils have been inflicted on innocent little children—not only now, but throughout recorded human history.

I was personally sickened inside when news of Kristen's accident, so near where we live, reached me. Such tragedies are never easy to take. But before we blame God for that accident or for any of the multitude of terrible tragedies afflicting people worldwide, we need to stop and understand. There are explanations for accidents. There are reasons why God allows sad events and suffering to occur.

Whose Fault?

We must admit any number of factors cause accidents. Faulty equipment, carelessness, human miscalculations, lack of training, drunkenness. How many fires occur because children play with matches? How many small children die, drinking caustic, deadly solutions negligently left within their little reach? Thousands.

Harmful toys, loaded guns, unguarded swimming pools and you can name others, claim children's lives almost daily. Parents, often, are either careless or fail to teach children proper precautions.

Sadly, almost every day, as in the case of little Kristen, we read about a small child killed or injured upon darting into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

If you have small children, by all means teach them and discipline them. Don't allow them to cross the street without permission and supervision. Especially teach them not to dart into the street. Impress the seriousness of your teaching on their developing little minds.

Teach and Discipline Your Children

Do teach your children. Be aware where they are and what they are doing. Instruction pays off even for older children. Learn to properly discipline your children for disobedience (Prov. 19:18): God expects parents to fulfill this responsibility. If you heed this sound biblical advice you'll not only help save your child's life, but save yourself unnecessary heartache.

But getting back to the basic point: Can we blame God for Kristen's tragic accident or for other similar heartrending occurrences? Shall we humans assume no responsibilities?

A Series of Wrong Choices

Since the beginning of human experience God has given humans freedom of choice—freedom to act rightly, act wrongly or not act at all.

Our problems began in the garden of Eden—and so it is there that we must go to find the fundamental answers to the basic dilemmas of humanity. The biblical narrative reveals that God created Adam and Eve in his very own image. He imparted mind power to our first parents—limited ability to think, plan, reason and create—and, most important, ability to exercise decision-making powers.

The first two humans were given a choice. Instead of choosing to do things God's way they chose to do things their way. God advised them to take of the tree of life, which represented God's way of doing things, obedience to his authority, an acceptance of his revealed knowledge, leading eventually to eternal life.

He warned them against choosing the other way, portrayed by the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—representing reasoning apart from God, acquiring knowledge by trial and error, and, in fact, living life in outright rejection of God's revealed way of life.

A wrong choice, God warned, would lead to unhappiness and death for the whole human family. "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the

tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17). They chose wrong! They rejected God and his way! They rejected his having any authority in their lives!

That's why all this suffering and hardships we see today. That's why mankind has suffered throughout history. Mankind as a whole has chosen to reject God and God's way of life! God did not force father Adam and mother Eve to choose correctly. He hasn't forced mankind since. And he doesn't force us today. We're not robots. God has always given humans freedom of choice.

And except for a very select few, whom God has called out and to whom he has revealed his truth, humanity has rejected right knowledge on how to live in harmony and peace—that right knowledge disseminated by God's law and spelled out in God's Ten Commandments. The first four show us how to love God and the last six teach us how to love each other. Instead humans have chosen to live contrary to God: cheating, lying, stealing, killing, coveting, fornicating and living selfishly for the most part.

Is it any wonder, then, why we have unhappiness, suffering and war, so many terrible heartrending personal and world ills?

God Can Intervene

It's not that God can't intervene in the world's affairs. And it's not that God can't save children, or adults for that matter, from death or injury in accidents. He can! God can intervene and God does intervene to help and protect those choosing to live life his way.

Jesus, the very personification of God, lived life on this earth exactly as God the Father would have, had the Father become human. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9). Jesus said. Jesus openly showed his love for children, God the Father loves children, too!

"Suffer [allow or let] little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me" (Matt. 19:14), said Jesus. He opened his arms to little children, put his hands on them and prayed for them, verse 13. Jesus, who is at the

right hand of God the Father this very minute, Acts 7:56, receives little children today! So does God the Father. Parents, choosing to live life God's way, according to his commandments and Bible instructions, can bring their children to God through his ministers today and, in prayer, ask him to protect them. And he will! He does!

But the world, as a whole, is cut off from God. The world does not practice God's way of life and teachings in the Bible. Therefore, God keeps hands off this world and stays out of the lives of those who reject him and his teachings, just as he's done for the nearly 6,000 years of human history.

Because of it, the world in general is having to learn a lesson—the painful lesson of what happens when the human race is cut off from God's protection, guidance and contact. That's why there are so many heart-rending personal and world ills! That's why there is so much suffering!

Even the Righteous Suffer

Our world is on a course of life, contrary to God's wholesome way of living. All humanity is suffering, including those who decide to choose correctly and live God's way. All of us affect each other. Others' mistakes and actions can and often do hurt. Others' selfishness and inconsideration, sometimes outright disrespect, persecution and hatred, cause pain. And often they are not another's actions, but our own.

The poet-musician Asaph mentioned how saddened and bewildered he became after noting those living contrary to God seemed to prosper and get ahead. They scoffed at the idea that God even took note of their self-centered conduct. Their money, they thought, could buy them anything (Ps. 73:1-15).

Said Asaph: "But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked" (Ps. 73:2-3). It was a trial for him. "When I thought to know this [understand it]," he said, "it was too painful for me" (verse 16).

But when Asaph considered the end of it all, he knew better than to

be envious of wrongdoers: "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end" (verse 17). Once Asaph got his mind back in gear and on God's truth, he remembered we humans eventually are responsible to God for what we do in this life—and we are eternally rewarded accordingly.

Says God in Scripture: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:7-8).

God has allowed even those who serve him to suffer the world's hatred and persecution since the very first murder of Abel by his brother Cain. Says the Creator God of those who chose to live the way of joy and giving that God set in motion:

"And others were tortured not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth" (Heb. 11:35-38).

Jesus Christ himself suffered. People of his day tried to kill him more than once. He was accused and maligned, spit upon, slapped in the face, beaten unmercifully and cruelly crucified.

And so God makes it plain to even those choosing right, not to think it strange when difficult trials strike, causing suffering: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy" (1 Pet. 4:12-13).

But he adds this to make sure that any suffering isn't from breaking his law but from seeking to do his will: "But let none of you suffer

as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf" (verses 15-16).

Why does God let the righteous suffer? Because it gives absolute proof where their loyalty is, and it allows those so tested to build godly character that will last for all eternity—character that continues on into eternal life when Christ returns to reward individuals who serve him. "And, behold," says Jesus, "I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. . . . Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life. . . ." (Rev. 22:12, 14).

God Is Fair and Just

And the beauty of God's way is that all who have ever lived or ever will live will have an opportunity to choose right and have "right to the tree of life."

Kristen's parents can take heart. All of you who have lost a loved one can take heart. Little Kristen will live again by a resurrection! All who have ever lived and died in ignorance of God's way of life, or ever will live will be given their opportunity to live a normal, right way of life.

God is righteous! God is just! He is merciful! These thousands of millions of people, including little Kristen and other small children who did not know God and did not have the opportunity to understand and choose his way of life, will have their opportunity in a resurrection described by John in Revelation 20:12:

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened [books of the Bible revealing the right way to live]; and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

How fair! They will live again! They will be taught Bible truth on how to live, and then be given an opportunity to live God's way.

What comforting words for all of us! □

SUICIDE

Its Causes And Cure

by Leslie L. McCullough

Suicide always comes with a jolt. Even when it occurs to the sick or elderly, there is the initial shock—then the awful emptiness.

Why are so many worldwide, choosing suicide as the solution to life's problems?

Why is it, with so much to live for, that so many in the prosperous nations are not willing to live out their lives?

We read of the plight of the poor Haitians or the Vietnamese boat people who risk life and limb in leaky, dilapidated old boats in a frantic attempt to flee the poverty or the oppression of their country for the abundance and freedom of the outside world. They do not choose death as an escape. But their despair is so great they risk death in attempting to find a better life.

Yet in the countries sought out by refugees, the lands of their dreams, people who have enjoyed the better life by the thousands choose death as an escape.

What a paradox! In countries in which it would seem there is little real cause for despair and worry, people destroy themselves as a final solution to their problems.

Suicide has become a major problem in the industrialized nations of the Free World. But some Eastern European countries face no better. Hungary has the dubious honor of having the highest suicide rate in the world with East Germany an immediate second. Fourteen other nations make the list before the United States. Those highest on the list are some of the technologically and industrially most advanced nations of the

world. They are the socialized nations where the people should have the least to worry about in life and future.

The lowest ratings in the world are among those nations that would be considered to have the least by way of physical riches, the nations of the Caribbean, South America, and the Philippines being at the bottom of the rankings!

They Are Sick

Why do people in free and prosperous countries hate themselves and their lives so much that they seek and all too often find in suicide the final solution? Those in the poorer nations of the earth risk their very beings in hope of obtaining freedom and the opportunity to live as most of us do.

Why? We ask again. Is there an answer?

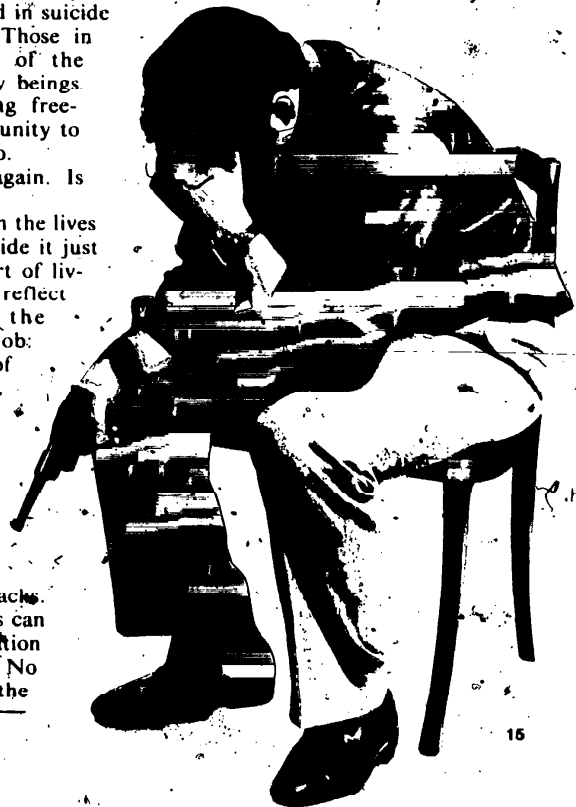
What is missing in the lives of so many who decide it just isn't worth the effort of living? They indeed reflect the attitude of the ancient patriarch Job: "I am sick, sick of life." (Job 10:1, Moffatt translation).

The whole world seems to be sick of life. On every hand we hear threats of war or fears of future missile attacks. Men in governments can threaten the desolation of whole continents. No one is ready to be the

first to give in to stop it. The world is indeed sick!

The leaders of this world are becoming exactly as God said the descendants of ancient Israel would become: "... the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment" (Isa. 1:5-6).

This is describing the state of mind of our people today and



the state of civilization were it to be engulfed in hydrogen war. We are mentally and spiritually sick and unable to face the tremendous strains of life.

Our Youth Are Dying, Too

Self-inflicted death strikes at the healthy as well as the infirm. It strikes at the established more than at the poor. Although attempted by more women, a higher toll is exacted from the men—mostly because of the methods used. Women prefer the slower-acting route of drugs or sleeping pills, while men usually choose the more violent and sure forms such as shooting or jumping.

The most pitiful of all statistics is the awesome toll exacted among our most intelligent, capable and valuable asset—the youth of the world. Self-destruction is the final solution to life's hopelessness for an increasing number of young people. In the United States, for example, death by suicide among young people has tripled in recent years. It is the THIRD LEADING CAUSE of death for young people of the United States following accidents and homicide. Recently, preliminary studies indicate it has now risen to the second leading cause of death.

The problem, again, isn't uniquely one of the United States. Austria, Denmark, Holland, Germany (East and West), Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan all suffer the horror of their young people choosing the final solution to their problems. The malady strikes most viciously among the highly socialized, technologically advanced nations of the world.

Why? What are the reasons these young people give up on life before they have lived it?

The answer reads like a litany written to the 20th century: too much money, too much alcohol, too many possessions, too many drugs, not enough love and concern by parents. Add boredom, depressions, stress, fear, frustration, hopelessness, low self-esteem and guilt—which all too often are connected to a recent family breakup.

Even more heartbreaking is the realization that for every success-

ful attempt, there are 50 to 60 unsuccessful attempts. In addition there are the scores of unreported, unlisted attempts made by those in their subteen level that are counted as accidents to protect the very young and their families. No parent wants to acknowledge that his or her child has given up on life. All too often that is exactly the case.

Who Are the Victims?

A profile of the typical victim makes no sense on the surface. Most are from the middle- to upper-income families. They generally are or have done well in school and are accepted or respected by their peers. As in all attempts at self-destruction, more females make the attempt while more males succeed. In most cases they have been crying out for help and the plea has gone unrecognized. Nearly 75 percent of those who succeed have talked of suicide in the past. Many have made previous attempts and failed only to repeat and succeed. Most seem to have planned their action and carefully carried out their plan.

Two groups appear to be more susceptible to the desire to find a final solution for their problems. They are those who are loners, who are more comfortable by themselves, and those who are substance abusers, who misuse alcohol or drugs. The misuse of these substances is an attempt to find relief from worries and frustrations. When the crutch fails and no relief is found, they turn in desperation to another solution. Hopelessness and despair are common denominators, found with most suicide victims, whether young or old.

What problems could young people possibly have that are so insurmountable as to require such a grisly solution?

The Problem of Competition

Adults speak of the pressures on the job and the many stresses they have to face in the competitive world of today. They escape for the weekend to the mountains or seashore. They have recreation vehicles, campers, boats—you name it. Nothing is too much to ease the

pressure. In addition to all this, they seek escape with alcohol or drugs and feel they deserve the respite. "But what kind of problems do kids have?" they ask.

In this modern day world of ours, youngsters have the same pressure to compete, the same pressures to be accepted, the worries about the future. And children have parental pressure, too. The demands by successful parents for their children to succeed and to uphold the family reputation are horrendous. Get better grades in school, be a doctor, be a lawyer, attain, achieve, succeed—these are some of the problems young people face. All too often they face the problems without the help, encouragement and understanding of a knowing and loving family.

Austria, Germany and many other European nations, Japan, Hong Kong—all are having to acknowledge the pressure to succeed in the highly competitive school systems of these countries is an important factor in the rising suicide-death rate. In a recent study conducted among students in a Hong Kong junior school, 14 percent of those interviewed are reported to have said they would choose suicide if the going proved too hard at school or the pressures from home became too great.

Job security and future well-being in many of these countries depend on how well the young have done in school. Higher education or university level education is only available to those who have passed the secondary level with high enough marks. Failure dooms most young people to a life of mediocrity, low-paying jobs and little future. The pressures are intense. A reflection on the parents is implied. Many young people simply cannot cope with the trauma.

The resulting attitude is an overwhelming sense of futility. No hope. Nothing left to live for. They are trapped—held captive by parental demands, habits, environment and personal problems. They seek escape.

They search desperately for answers and that elusive, intangible feeling called happiness. Promiscuity doesn't give it. Alcohol and

drugs can't provide it. The family doesn't seem to be interested or care. Desires once fulfilled have no lasting satisfaction. There is no peace of mind.

At the apex of life, there is no hope. They are blind to the scripture that says: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment" (Ecc. 11:9).

Youths should be without the pressures and stresses of adulthood. Youths should be responsible and dependable as youths. Youth should be a time of rejoicing and enjoying life, but life lived so it will not bring condemnation in the future.

A close, loving, understanding and interested family is one of the prime deterrents of futility in a young person's life. Money, cars, drugs can't substitute for a caring family. Lasting happiness for either the young or old does not come solely because of the physical goods possessed.

Success Not the Answer

Wealth and success are not the ultimate answers. Not having to be concerned about the needs of life doesn't guarantee happiness. Tiny Denmark, with one of the most advanced social welfare systems and the highest standard of living in the world, is cursed with the highest rate of self-destruction in the Western world. Nearly twice as many Danes take their own lives as die in automobile accidents. Close behind Denmark is another advanced social-welfare state, Sweden.

Having the needs of life and the worry about those needs taken care of does not automatically provide contentment, regardless of what the Haitians and Vietnamese refugees think.

In many of the more affluent areas of the United States, the death rate by suicide among young people is above the national average. Growing up with wealth or having needs guaranteed by the state means there is nothing left to

work for. This world's standard of success is not the panacea to end all woes and solve the problems of life for either young or old. All too often it destroys any real purpose in life. Without something to strive for, to aim for and to hope for, the meaning goes out of life. Not knowing the real purpose for humanity the reason to live vanishes.

God told the people of ancient Israel: "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 16:25). People daily are choosing the way that seems right to them. But the way that seems right ends only in empty, frustrated lives—and, for many, suicide.

Medicine the Answer?

Suicide is not a pathological problem. It is not a biological problem of the brain. It is not a genetic problem of the brain. It is a problem of the mind.

More than half of all physical ills are mentally or spiritually caused. One medical expert estimated that 70 to 90 percent of his patients fell within the category of those having nothing wrong with them physically and whose physical ills are due only to the vicissitudes, the problems of life.

All too often, then, the supposed answer to the patient's problem lies in self-destruction. Doctors can't seem to stem the tide of suicide. Studies in San Francisco, Philadelphia and other U.S. cities indicate that more than 70 percent of the persons who commit or attempt suicide are or recently have been under a physician's care.

Many times the drugs prescribed to help relieve the problem are the instrument used to end the problem. So apparently medical assistance isn't the final right solution either.

Medicine and medical treatment aren't the answer. Wealth isn't the answer. What, then, is the answer? We are able to make nuclear bombs, rockets, spaceships and send men to the moon. We put a space shuttle into orbit and bring it safely back to earth to be used again and again. We plot courses across millions of miles of space to

bring our technological instruments close to distant planets. In every way, we are advancing in technological skills and abilities.

Yet we are unable to chart the course of human life in the paths of happiness.

Reading the Warning Signs

There are warning signs of a pending attempt at self-destruction. They are often silent pleas for someone to hear. The indications are basically the same for either young or old. Suicide is a problem of all ages and it is increasing in all age groups.

A threat of suicide should be taken seriously. It is rarely done on a spur-of-the-moment impulse. There may be a preoccupation with death or the afterlife. Abrupt changes in behavior, moodiness, withdrawal, aggressiveness, insomnia, lethargy and lack of interest in personal appearance are also potential signs. Loneliness and lack of friends can be indicators as can the giving away of prized possessions.

A sudden burst of euphoria and an increase of activity following such talk or actions doesn't mean the worries are past. Often the arriving at a decision to take one's life is a momentary lift because the decision has been made. It helps if you can get the person to discuss what is on his or her mind. In many cities there are counseling centers to help with these problems. It helps to understand what the physical effects of life are. But the real cure is to find the cause.

What is needed is a genuine solution of a totally different kind. Present-day religion does not hold the key to this problem because it doesn't know the reason for man's existence. There is far too large a gap between the 20th century religion as it is preached in most churches and the first-century religion taught by Jesus Christ to his apostles.

The young person or the older adult who has to face the apparent futility of everyday life, who has been looking for answers and seeking to escape emptiness, sees no hope in the world's society. Every day there is the threat of nuclear war, economic chaos, unemployment—

ment and all the other ever-present problems of this hectic modern-day life—but no answers. No hope. With these pressures, some find it extremely difficult to recognize the presence of a real God who does have the answers and final solution to life's cares.

Source of Real Help

All these poor, unfortunate potential suicides don't know how to get real help. But there is a source of absolute power, a source of complete confidence and faith that would see them through every conceivable problem to the day of their natural death. That Personage is Jesus Christ.

When he was a human being walking this earth, he was the kind of person who knew how to deal with practical people problems. He knew just the right antidote for all the physical, mental, emotional and psychological problems plaguing the people of his time.

Jesus was strong and forceful when he had to be—but also meek, lowly, humble, gentle, the Lamb of God, a very real friend in time of need—not a trigger-happy, shoot-from-the-hip type who would jump down your throat at the slightest provocation.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30).

At the outset of his ministry in a small Jewish synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus Christ forcefully recited his commission of compassion—his absolute unwavering intention to relieve human suffering. He said: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to *heal the brokenhearted*, to preach deliverance to the captives... to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18).

This he did at every turn of his ministry. He once said: "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine" (John 10:14). Jesus Christ pictured him-

self as leaving the 99 dwelling safely in the sheepfold and going to search in a ravine or desert for that one poor lost lamb (Matt. 18:11-14).

Jesus Christ is our Redeemer. He is willing to buy back each one of us as his own purchased possession. One of the proverbs says, "The way of transgressors is hard" (Prov. 13:15). We have sinned and brought upon ourselves the wretched side effects that are the automatic products of transgressing God's laws (see I John 3:4, Rom. 6:23). Sin is the real source of suicidal thoughts.

“
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and prosperous
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that they seek and all
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solution?”
”

But Jesus Christ is God—not a mere, mistake-ridden, human go-between. He is perfect, eternal, living Spirit personality who is even now at the right hand of the Father to plead our cases before God. The apostle Paul wrote, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Heb. 4:15).

Jesus Christ talked to his disciples about daily problems. "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" (Matt. 6:25).

Christ wasn't telling them it was wrong to meet these needs. He was

telling them it was wrong to lust after these things and overly concern themselves with thoughts of physical welfare.

Christ said in another place, John 10:10, that the very reason he came to this earth was that we might have life, not death, and that we might have it more abundantly. Again he said, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (III John 2).

Jesus Christ meant what he said! He wants us to have an abundant life. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the wealth and prosperity with which many nations have been so bountifully blessed.

There is Hope

Can you imagine it? Life, the most precious, wonderful, exhilarating; thrilling possession of each human creature—life, with its marvelous opportunities, its challenges and adventures, its sorrows and joys, its successes and its failures—and, above all, its awesome potential for the future—life cast worthlessly to the ground by suicide!

How far we have departed from God! Many is the suicide victim who tried religion! He heard all the wonderful things about "salvation," "sanctification" and "deliverance." He heard all about Jesus Christ as his personal Savior, and about the happiness he was supposed to experience! But still he committed suicide!

Why!

Because he didn't hear the plain truth of Almighty God! What he heard was without the real power to change his life! He wasn't able to find that happiness he sought.

You either have the truth, or you do not. You are either in real contact with the real God—or you are not! It's time you knew where the only source of peace and happiness is to be found—knew where true security and safety are to be found for you and yours—knew where God is doing his work and how you can have a fulfilling part in it!

Jesus came preaching the message of the kingdom of God! He foretold our days—telling exactly how this pulsating time of history

would end! He is, at this moment, beginning to intervene in human affairs! He will soon return to this earth, to set up His own kingdom on it—and bring the world, forcibly, relief from its brain-chilling problems that lead to, among other things, self-murder!

God has the solution, not just a solution. He offers each person life! Life that is meaningful, interesting, joyous, happy, abundant—right here and now, and life for all eternity, in the kingdom of God!

Peter mentioned this life in I Peter 1:3, "a life of hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (Moffatt translation).

What is this life of hope Peter holds out to us? It is the life in the kingdom of God!—and under the government of God in the world tomorrow. It is good news (the word *gospel* means "good news"). "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. . . the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert" (Isa. 35:5-6). The blind, deaf, crippled shall all become normal and enjoy life to the full.

There will be no more warring among nations (Isa. 2:4). No more killing one another and taking one man's freedom away from him. No fear of nuclear bombs, or any other kind of bomb, for they won't be allowed.

There will be no more emptiness and uselessness.

•And there will be no more suicide! Everyone will want to live in the glorious world tomorrow! Everyone will know the real purpose in life and the reason for his existence.

If you don't as yet understand your real purpose for being here on this earth, write now for the amazing, breathtaking booklet that will show you the reason for your existence and the only real answer to the problem of suicide—the realization of what life is actually all about!

Write for the booklet *Why Were You Born?* It's absolutely free. No charge whatsoever.

Be sure to write now! □

Suicide Rates for Selected Countries

(per 100,000 population)

Country	Year	Rate
Romania	1978	66.5
Hungary	1978	43.1
East Germany	1970	30.5
Finland	1974	25.1
Austria	1978	24.8
Switzerland	1978	23.9
Denmark	1978	23.3
West Germany	1978	22.2
Czechoslovakia	1976	20.8
Sweden	1978	19.0
Luxembourg	1978	18.5
Japan	1978	17.7
Belgium	1976	16.6
France	1977	16.5
Cuba	1971	15.0
South Africa (white)	1971	14.5
Yugoslavia	1975	13.4
Poland	1978	13.3
Canada	1976	12.8
United States	1976	12.5
Iceland	1978	11.8
Norway	1977	11.4
Singapore	1978	11.4
Australia	1977	11.1
Uruguay	1978	10.5
Netherlands	1978	9.7
Puerto Rico	1977	9.5
New Zealand	1976	9.2
El Salvador	1971	8.7
Portugal	1975	8.5
Hong Kong	1978	8.3
U.K., Scotland	1977	8.1
U.K., England and Wales	1977	8.0
Argentina	1977	7.8
Italy	1972	6.8
Chile	1976	5.7
Israel	1978	5.6
South Africa (black)	1971	5.6
Ireland	1975	4.7
U.K., Northern Ireland	1977	4.6
Venezuela	1977	4.6
Costa Rica	1978	4.5
Spain	1975	3.9
Guatemala	1972	3.4
Greece	1978	2.9
Ecuador	1975	2.7
Panama	1975	2.6
Turkey	1971	1.9
Peru	1972	1.8
Mexico	1975	1.7
Barbados	1976	1.2
Philippines	1974	1.1
Jamaica	1971	1.0
Bahamas	1975	0.5
Kuwait	1977	0.4
Jordan	1975	0.2
Kenya	1970	0.2

INCREASE YOUR BIBLE IQ

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The War to End All War

Aggressive nations, not weapons, make wars," British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told a UN Special Session on Disarmament shortly after Britain's triumph in the Falkland Islands.

It is "an evasion of responsibility to suppose that we can prevent the horrors of war by focusing on its instruments," she said. "These are more often symptoms than causes. Wars are caused not by armaments but by the ambition of aggressors."

In another speech before the same session, U.S. President Ronald Reagan said, "The Bible tells us there will be a time for peace. But, so far this century, mankind has failed to find it." He told the delegates that more than a hundred armed conflicts have "disturbed the peace among nations since World War II and today the threat of nuclear disaster hangs over the lives of all our people."

As politicians talk, the East and West continue to build bigger stockpiles of nuclear bombs and more sophisticated means of delivering them. Already enough nuclear weapons exist on both sides to destroy all life on our planet *many times over*. "Overkill," it's called. *Once* would be enough!

Does War End War?

Earlier this century some thought World War I would finally bring real peace. In an attempt to arouse public emotional involvement in the war, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson held aloft the torch of idealism, proclaiming "a war to end wars."

But Mr. Wilson did not coin the phrase that became so well known. In 1914 the English author and historian, H.G. Wells, had published a book titled *The War That Will End War*. In retort, British politician, David Lloyd George said, "This war, like the next war, is a war to end war."

World War II proved his words prophetic. And now world statesmen speak ominously of World War III as the war to not only end all war, but to *end all humanity!*

"We have had our last chance," stated a sober General Douglas MacArthur before the assembled U.S. Congress after the close of World War II. "If we will not devise some greater and more equitable system," warned General MacArthur, "'Armageddon' will be at the door."

What is "Armageddon"?

World War III is predicted in the Bible. It will indeed be the "war to end wars" between nations. It will be the greatest battle of all human history. The victor will utterly vanquish the foe!

But will it be the "Battle of Armageddon" referred to so often by minister, statesman and scientist alike?

Let's understand how "Armageddon" fits into biblical prophecy—especially with regard to the dramatic return of Jesus Christ.

1. Will the nations be overjoyed that God has taken full authority to prevent nuclear mass suicide by sending Christ to bring *divine* world government to the world? Or will the nations be *angry* that their authority to wage war is being stripped from them? Rev. 11:18. Will nations actually attempt to FIGHT Christ, the Prince of Peace? Rev. 17:12-14. (The "Lamb" refers to Jesus Christ—John 1:36.)

2. Who will have incited the nations to fight against their Creator God? Rev. 16:13-14.

COMMENTS The word *devils* in the King James Version ought to be rendered *demons*. The Bible reveals there is one fallen archangel (Isa. 14:12-14, Ezek. 28:12-17) called Satan the devil, who deceives the nations, and there are many fallen angels (II Pet. 2:4, Rev. 12:7) of lesser rank called *demons* in the Bible.

Notice that these spirits directly influence certain world leaders. They will deceive them with miracles, stirring them to a fever pitch of hatred. They will seduce the nations to fight one whom they will claim is an *invader from outer space*, an Antichrist, but who is in fact the Christ, with his army of angels (Matt. 25:31; Rev. 19:11-16).

3. Are these invisible demons responsible for gathering the armies of all nations together? Rev. 16:14,

16. (The proper translation of the Greek in verse 16 should read: "And *they* gathered them together.")

COMMENT: Satan the devil—and his demons—will especially work through human leaders whom he has deceived; such as the "beast," the coming military superdictator of the prophesied 10 nation end-time revival of the Roman Empire, and the false prophet, a great religious leader who will have universal influence and appeal because of his charisma and power. These will all work together, believing they have found the way to peace through armed might. These leaders, who think it their duty to put down all insurrection, will influence the rest of the world's political and military leaders to *mobilize* their forces on a world-wide scale in support of *human* world government.

4. Exactly *where* do the devil's demons cause the armies of the nations to be *gathered together* in preparation for the great battle against Christ? Read Revelation 16:16 again for the answer.

COMMENT: The "way of the kings of the east" will have been made ready by the drying up of the River Euphrates (verse 12). This will enable the nations to the east to easily marshal their armies at a place called "Armageddon."

The word *Armageddon* is a Greek form of the Hebrew name *har Megiddo*. It means "hill (or mountain) of Megiddo." This is the site of the ancient city of Megiddo, which is about 55 miles north of Jerusalem, and about 15 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea. Anciently, Megiddo, and the valley of Megiddo (which is part of the larger Plain of Esdraelon) was an important military site that guarded the strategic passes of the Mt. Carmel area.

For ancient Israel, Megiddo and the Plain of Esdraelon became the battleground of the centuries. Time after time the blood of battle was shed there. Over and over again the 13-acre mound of Megiddo was refortified. Today the site is nothing more than an unoccupied, silent mound of historic rubble. Occasional tourists and archaeologists traverse its rocky face, but it is not a major military site at this time.

But Megiddo is a *symbol*!

It is a symbol of war and human conflict. It overlooks the Plain of Esdraelon and the Valley of Jezreel and stood at one of the great crossroads of the ancient world. And as the prophecy of Revelation 16 indicates, Megiddo and the Plain of Esdraelon will become the staging ground or mustering area for the greatest concentration of military might ever assembled!

Prophecy tells us that "ten kings" (Rev. 17:12-14) will comprise the modern and final end-time revival of the ancient Roman Empire. It will be a political, military and religious alliance of incredible power. A vast and mighty army will be formed and will find its way into the Middle East. The religious control of Jerusalem and oil will undoubtedly be major factors prompting the maneuver.

Thus the army of this religious "beast" power will confront the armies of the atheistic "east." But instead of fighting each other in a battle that would have ended in the nuclear extinction of all life (Matt. 24:22), they will, ironically, *UNITE* their forces and

march toward Jerusalem in an attempt to destroy their common "enemy."

5. What is the name of the ensuing great battle between God and man? Rev. 16:14, last part.

COMMENT: You will notice the battle is *not* called "the battle of Armageddon"—it is called the "battle of that great day of God Almighty!"

6. Exactly where does the Bible say this battle will take place? Joel 3:1-2, 9-14. Compare verse 13 with Revelation 14:18-20 and 19:15. Also Zechariah 14:1-4.

COMMENT: *Jehoshaphat* means "judgment of Yahweh" or "judgment of the Eternal." The focal point of the battle will be in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, also called the "valley of decision" in the Bible. This valley is a deep ravine having steep sides. It borders the city of Jerusalem on the east. The Valley of Jehoshaphat, which is situated between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, is known today as the Kidron Valley.

7. How is this great climactic battle pictured? Rev. 19:11-21. How does Zechariah describe the frightening manifestation of the righteous judgment of God in fighting against his enemies? Zech. 14:12. Will the nations wage war against each other anymore after Christ's overwhelming victory? Isa. 2:2-4.

COMMENT: Here you have a graphic description of "the war that will *end* war"! Jesus Christ will utterly destroy those who, in attempting to enforce *human* world government, would have destroyed the earth through nuclear war (Rev. 11:18).

The returning Christ will be forced to deal with rebellious nations in the only language they understand—*overwhelming force*! Only then will men be willing to try God's way of life and come under his government, which leads to genuine peace, happiness and prosperity! □

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WHAT IS MAN? and what makes him unique?

by Richard H. Sedliacik

MAN is the most complex, truly unique physical mechanism ever designed and made.

With such a marvelous mind and body, we might expect it was only natural that our Maker send along his "Instruction Book" — just as a manufacturer sends along with the instrument or device he manufactures an instruction book describing what his product is designed to do.

That Instruction Book God did send. It reveals the *missing dimension* in knowledge — the incredible human potential.

God's Instruction Book

This Instruction Book tells us *what* we are, *why* we are, *where* we are going, and the way to get there! We call it the Holy Bible.

It reveals that God first created angels — composed of spirit, though lesser than God and lacking in ultimate creative power. It reveals that the physical universe, including the earth, was next brought into existence. A third of the angels were then placed here on earth. They were put under the rule of the government of God, which was administered on earth by the great archangel called Lucifer.

Under the government of God — which is in reality the administration of God's way of outgoing love as spelled out in the Ten Commandments — the earth was initially filled with peace, happiness, joy and wonderful accomplishment. But ultimately, Lucifer led his angels into rebellion. The government of God was rejected, no longer enforced. As a result, the earth became waste and empty, in confusion and darkness (Gen. 1-2). Then

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What Do You Mean "IMMORTAL SOUL"?

by Keith W. Stump

Where did the idea of an "immortal soul" come from? The Bible?

FEW BELIEFS are more widely held than that of the "immortal soul."

Virtually everyone is familiar with the concept. The average religious person, if asked, would state it something like this:

A human person is both *body* and *soul*. The body is the physical flesh-and-blood "shell" temporarily housing the soul. The soul is the nonmaterial aspect, made of spirit. At death the soul leaves the body, and lives on consciously forever in heaven or in hell. (Some hold that liberated souls are reborn in new bodies in a series of "reincarnations" or "transmigrations.")

Some form of this concept is found among virtually all peoples and religions in the world today. The average religious person generally takes the idea for granted.

Science, which deals with the material universe, cannot verify or deny the existence of any such soul.

How, then, ~~do~~ one know whether or not man really has an "immortal soul"?

Few have stopped to ask *where* the concept came from. Many simply *assume* it is found in the Bible.

So prepare yourself for what could be one of the big surprises of your life!

Back to Egypt

The idea of an "immortal soul" long predates the founding of today's major religions. The ancient Greek historian Herodotus (5th century

(Continued on page 28)

WHAT IS MAN?

(Continued from page 22)

in six literal days God renewed the face of the earth (Ps. 104:30). He made physical life forms—the flora and then the fauna—that reproduce themselves. These life forms were created without the thinking, reasoning, decision-making processes, and without ethical or moral capabilities—except for man, God's masterpiece of creative workmanship.

What Man Is

In the FOUNDATION of knowledge, God's Instruction Book for man, the Creator God reveals much knowledge about man himself that is totally beyond man's ability to discover for himself—including the knowledge and understanding of what man *is*, why he was made that way, and what he is to *become*.

God created the first man. And he tells us how he made him so there would be no doubt as to what we really are. The first man was made from and therefore composed of earth—the dust of the ground! (Gen. 2:7.) It was the *whole man*—"thou"—that was composed of the dust of the ground (Gen. 3:19).

After God had formed the man—made all the cells in his body—God imparted to him *physical* life (Gen. 2:7). God blew into the man's lungs, through the nostrils, *air*—"the breath of life"—containing oxygen, and the man began to live! Notice that the verse does not say God breathed an immortal soul into the man.

The source of physical life in man and all animals is the same. Not once does the "breath of life" even remotely refer to an "immortal soul" or life apart from the physical body. Otherwise animals, birds and even insects—gnats, fleas, mosquitoes—have immortal souls, for they all have the same "breath of life" (Gen. 7:21-22).

When God breathed the breath of life into the nostrils of the first man, what did he become? "A living soul" (Gen. 2:7).

Man does not *have* a soul—man *is* a "soul"! (See the accompanying article in this issue "What Do You Mean... 'Immortal Soul'?" for an in-depth explanation.)

Since man is a soul, and the soul is mortal—then man is mortal, subject to death. That is why the Scriptures call human beings "mortal man" (Job 4:17).

When an animal dies, it is dead. When man dies, he is completely dead, too. All men and animals alike go to the same place at death! (Eccl. 3:20.) Why? Because they all have the same *temporary* source of life—air. All men and animals become dust once again.

Why Created Mortal

Past issues of *The Plain Truth* have revealed that the government of God ceased to be administered on this earth after the rebellion of a superarchangel, Lucifer (now Sa-

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Only man, of all God's
physical creatures, has
the seemingly
miraculous ability to
think, reason, plan and
design...
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tan), and one third of the angels. Later, God created the first human, Adam, with the potential of qualifying to replace Satan as ruler of the earth, thus restoring the government and way of God. But to qualify as successor to Satan, the human successor had to *reject* Satan's way and come under the government of God!

God's master plan for accomplishing this purpose in the human race took form and shape even before man was made. If mortal man sinned by rejecting God's government—as all but Jesus have—God would make it possible for him to *REPENT—to turn from sinning*, to be reconciled to God and to live God's way of life, finally to be born of God as members of his eternal family!

Repentance is turning *from* the way of Satan *to* the government of God. It is accepting God's rule over our lives through his law of love. It is

accepting Jesus Christ as Savior and coming King—the "second Adam" who finally qualified (where the first Adam failed) to reestablish the government of God on the earth by overcoming Satan. Those who are to reign with Christ must turn from or reject Satan's way, overcoming that way day by day, and actually live by God's law of love. If they continue in this way, they will be born of God—become immortal spirit at the first resurrection (1 Cor. 15:42-54; John 3:3-8).

But those who will not repent and accept Christ's sacrifice in payment for their sins—those who refuse to turn from Satan's way and voluntarily come under the government of God in their lives—will ultimately perish (Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14-15; Mal. 4:1-3).

God wants every human being who has ever lived to have the opportunity to repent and live forever (II Pet. 3:9; I Tim. 2:4). But God will not force anyone to choose life. For those who refuse to follow God's way to eternal life there will be the "second death"—the fate of all UNrepentant sinners. They will cease to exist forever. They will be as if they had never been!

We can now see that God chose to make man first out of physical matter instead of spirit for a great purpose. Before the creation of man, he had made angels out of immortal spirit—not mortal flesh and blood, subject to death. And one third of these angels sinned by rebelling against the government of God. But the punishment of sinning angels is not physical death.

Angels Were Created Different

Angels are composed of spirit and therefore cannot die. Since one third of the angels chose the way of sin, their punishment is eternal loss of the glorious opportunity God gave them to accomplish his purpose on earth. And their sins have resulted in hopelessness and frustration, their minds being filled with resentment, bitterness and rebellion. Happiness and joy have left them forever!

God planned in advance that if man, composed of matter, sinned and refused to repent, he would die—he would be as though he had not been. God will *not* allow any

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incorrigible human being to live forever in mental anguish and torment like the fallen angels. This plan reflects the great mercy of God toward mortal man!

When called by God and made to realize that he has sinned, man can REPENT—turn from his sin to God's way. And once his course is changed, with God's help he can pursue a life of obedience to God. He can grow in spiritual knowledge and develop the character of God—overcome wrong habits, weaknesses and faults. And this is all done through the free will and choice of each *human mind*.

Only man, of all God's physical creatures, has the seemingly miraculous ability to think, reason, plan and design, come to conclusions based on acquired knowledge. Animals cannot comprehend the concepts of good and evil. They don't repent.

Have you ever wondered why? Have you ever thought about the vast difference between animal brain and human mind, and what could possibly account for it?

Animal Brain vs. Human Mind

There is a great, *uncrossable* GULF between animal brain and human mind. The evolutionary theory assumes that humans are animals. But one thing evolution can never explain is the total difference between animal brain equipped with instinct, and the human mind with creative reasoning powers of intellect, and devoid of instinct in the strict sense that animals possess it.

Some animals have physical brains as large or larger than man's brain, and with similar cerebral cortex complexity—but none has the powers of intellect, logic, self-consciousness and creativity.

The physical brain of a dolphin, whale or elephant is larger than the human brain, while a chimp's is slightly smaller. Qualitatively the difference between them and the human brain is very little—not enough to remotely account for the vastly superior intelligence and output of the human brain. The gap between animal brain and human mind is incredibly vast!

When God molded Adam out of the dust of the ground, he was made in the "likeness"—the out-

ward form and shape—of God himself (Gen. 1:26). God didn't make any of the other creatures to be an exact clay replica of himself. This unique form and shape was *given to man alone*. This is because man was created with the potential to become God!

Each animal was created with a brain suited for its particular animal kind. But animals do not have the potential of MIND and CHARACTER that God gave only to man. No animal was ever given the gift of *mind power*—ability to think, to reason, to make choices and decisions as was man!

It is this very SPECIAL ATTRIBUTE OF MIND and CHARACTER that separates men from animals!

Animals possess what we call instinct. Their brains are programmed, so to speak, by God with particular instinctive aptitudes to live and perform in a certain way. They follow *instinctive* habit patterns in their feeding, nesting, migration and reproduction. Thus beavers build dams, birds build nests. These aptitudes are *inherited*—they are not the result of logical, cognitive or thinking processes.

For example, thousands of birds flock south each year as winter approaches in the northern hemisphere. They don't stop to reason why, they don't ask themselves whether they should, they don't plan ahead an itinerary for the trip. At a given internal signal—like the preset alarm of a clock—they leave their summer feeding grounds in the north and travel thousands of miles south. Scientists don't fully understand why—they merely observe the operation of this animal instinct.

Each species or kind of bird builds different types of nests, feeds on specific kinds of foods, and migrates at different times to various destinations. But none of these actions is *planned* in advance by the birds as humans would. Birds merely have the capability and proclivity to do that which Almighty God built into the instinct of each at creation.

But man's mind is vastly different from animal instinct. Man is able to devise various ways to do any one thing or to achieve a predetermined goal. Man can acquire

knowledge and reason from it. He can draw conclusions, make decisions, will to act according to a thought-out plan.

Man can design and build different types of houses, using different designs and different building materials. Some houses are built of wood, some of brick or stone, and some people living near the North Pole even live in ice houses called igloos. Men also eat different foods, prepared in many different ways. Men may live entirely different life-styles from one another. And if a man wants to change his way of life—he can! Man is not subject to instinct. He is not governed by a set of predetermined habit patterns as animals are.

Man can *choose*—he has free moral agency. He can devise codes of conduct and exercise self-discipline. Man can originate ideas and evaluate knowledge because he has a MIND that is *patterned after God's own mind*! Man can devise, plan and bring his plans to fruition because he has been given some of the very creative powers of God!

Man alone can wonder, "Why was I born? What is life? What is death? Is there a purpose in human existence?" Man, unlike the animals, not only "knows" how to do certain things, but he also knows that he knows—that is, he is *aware* that he has "knowledge." He is *conscious* of the fact. He is *self-conscious*, aware of his own existence as a unique being.

These attributes of mind and character make man God's *UNIQUE* physical creation. God has shared some of his own qualities with man. And God expects man to develop and become conformed to the *spiritual* "image" of God's perfect mind and holy character (Matt. 5:48)—just as man now is formed in the *physical* "image" of God.

"Human" Spirit Makes the Difference!

Man was created to have a special relationship with God that is utterly nonexistent with animals. Man was made in the similitude of the God kind! He was made in God's image so that he might one day be born into God's divine family!

God's purpose in making mortal man after his own likeness

demanding mind power in man patterned after *God's own mind*. That is why the most remarkable thing about man is his mind.

What is it then that separates humankind from the animal kingdom? What gives him this God-plane power of intellect?

It all boils down to a *nonphysical* component in the human brain that does not exist in animal brain. It is this nonphysical component that makes man so vastly different from animals. It is what makes man truly **UNIQUE!**

Man does not have an immortal soul within him that enables him to live on apart from his body after death (remember man is a *mortal* soul). But the Bible nevertheless does speak of a "spirit in man" (Job 32:8, 18; Zech. 12:1; I Cor. 2:11).

Many passages of Scripture show that there is a "spirit" in man! This spirit is *not the man*—it is something that is *IN* the man. Joined with the physical brain of the man, it forms human *MIND*. It imparts to man's brain his unique powers of intellect and personality—the ability to think rationally and make freewill decisions. It imparts the ability to learn mathematics, languages or other types of knowledge such as music, art, carpentry, flying.

But that's all. The spirit that is *IN* man has no consciousness of itself. It is *not* an "immortal soul." This spirit is *not the man*.

The spirit that is in man can be called "human" spirit, for it is in each human, even though it is *spirit essence* and not matter. It is not a "ghost," spirit being, or the Holy Spirit. It is *not the man*, but spirit essence *IN* the man. It is *NOT* a soul—the physical human *is* a soul.

The *human* spirit, added to every human being at birth, does not supply human life—the human life is in the physical blood, oxidized by the breath of life (Lev. 17:11). But the spirit in man does impart the power of intellect to the human brain. This nonphysical component in the human brain does not exist in the brains of animals.

The spirit in man is spirit essence, just as in the material world air is a gaseous essence. But this "human" spirit cannot see. The

physical brain sees through the eyes. The human spirit in a person cannot hear. The brain hears through the ears. This human spirit cannot think. The brain thinks—although the spirit imparts the power to think far above the level of brute animals' brain function. Without such spirit animals cannot do original thinking.

The "human" spirit acts as a computer. Whatever knowledge enters the brain through the five senses is instantly stored (memorized) in the spirit within the person. It enables the brain to have instant recall of stored-up knowledge in the spirit, and thus enables the brain to utilize bits of related knowledge in the process of **THINKING** and **REASONING**.

The human spirit imparts the power of intellect to the physical brain in two ways: 1) it gives the brain instant recall of whatever the brain calls for in the knowledge stored in this memory—or "human computer"; 2) it supplies the brain whatever energy is needed to cause it to think—that is, to put the pieces of information stored in the spirit together in the process we call "thinking," "reasoning" and "drawing conclusions." The human spirit also is the means God has instilled to make possible a personal relationship between human **MAN** and divine **GOD**.

The truth about the "spirit in man" is so important that Satan twisted and perverted it long ago. He clouded the minds of men and led them into believing his "big lie" as far back in time as the first human beings in the garden of Eden.

Here was the *origin* of the "immortality of the soul" teaching so prevalent today! Satan told the first woman she would "not surely die" (Gen. 3:4). In other words, she had an "immortal soul" that would live forever. Eve believed this lie. And most of the world today continues to believe some variation of that ancient "big lie!"

A Second Spirit Needed

Man has the intellectual capacity to design spaceships to take him to the moon and back, to invent the computer and to do other marvelous exploits in the physical, material

realm. Yet during man's nearly 6,000 years on earth, he has proved that he cannot solve his problems with fellowman.

Why has this been so? Because man's real problems are *spiritual* in nature and the natural man simply cannot solve spiritual problems. In producing the computer or in flying to the moon, he is dealing with physical matter that he can understand because of the human spirit within him. But he cannot solve problems with fellow humans because this involves knowledge and understanding of *spiritual principles*, which he cannot comprehend without the addition of *another spiritual element* to his mind!

Man was made to need *another* spirit—the Holy Spirit of God! Just as a human could not know the things of human knowledge except by the human spirit within him, so he cannot know the things of God—spiritual knowledge—except by the addition of the Spirit of God (I Cor. 2:9-11, 14).

Just as surely as no animal brain—such as that of a cow, for example—can comprehend or understand human affairs without the human spirit, so no human mind can have comprehension of spiritual truths on the divine plane *unless and until* it has received the Holy Spirit!

Even the greatest scientific and philosophical minds simply cannot come to know and understand **SPIRITUAL** truths with their natural minds. They are "foolishness" to them. The natural man with his human spirit is *limited* to material knowledge.

Spiritual things cannot be seen with the eye, heard with the ear, felt with the hands. The human mind, which can receive knowledge only through these physical channels, can never really comprehend spiritual concepts and principles without the Holy Spirit of God. Only when the Holy Spirit enters man's mind upon conversion, combining with the human spirit, can a man come to know that which is spiritual. Only then can the human mind receive and comprehend the knowledge of and attain God's **GREAT PURPOSE** for his existence!

Man was created incomplete. He

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was made to need another spirit—the Holy Spirit of God.

How can one receive the Holy Spirit? Through Christ the second Adam, we can receive God's gift of his Holy Spirit. Upon repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, whose death paid the penalty for sin in our stead, we may be reconciled to God and receive the Holy Spirit of God, which is *added* to our human spirit (Acts 2:38; John 7:38-39). Thus we become the *begotten* children of God (1 Pet. 1:3; Rom. 8:14-17).

The human spirit in man and the Holy Spirit of God *join* to make a begotten child of God, just as the male sperm cell and the female ovum or egg cell join to make a begotten human, but not yet developed or ready to be born as a human being.

God's Holy Spirit, when it combines with the human spirit in the human mind, does two things: 1) it begets the human with divine, eternal life to be later born into the God family as a divine being, then composed wholly of spirit; 2) it imparts to the mind the ability to comprehend *spiritual* knowledge—to understand the things of God.

The first human beings were freely offered this second and much-feeder Spirit. Of the two symbolic trees in the garden in Eden, the "tree of life" represented God's Holy Spirit. To have taken the fruit of that tree would have been to receive God's Holy Spirit, which would have joined with their human spirits, impregnating them as begotten (not yet born) children of God.

But by taking of the fruit of the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil," our first parents rejected God's Spirit, which would have begotten the very life of God in them and would have enabled them to understand revealed *spiritual* knowledge. Thus they cut themselves and their descendants off from access to God's Spirit and limited themselves and the human race to material knowledge and understanding (Gen. 3:22-24), except for those God specially calls (John 6:44).

The Spirit-begotten Christian now has, conditionally, the presence of eternal life within him (or

her) through a portion of the Spirit from the Father. But this does not mean he is an immortal spirit being. He is not yet wholly composed of God's Spirit. He is now an "heir" of God (Rom. 8:16-17)—not yet an inheritor or a possessor, not yet "born again." But, if the Holy Spirit dwells in us, God will, at Christ's return to earth as King of kings, give us immortality by his Spirit that dwells in us (Rom. 8:11).

Now just as in human reproduction the impregnated embryo, which later becomes a fetus, is not yet born, but must be nourished for a period of time through the human mother, so the begotten Christian is not yet born into the God family.

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Man, unlike the
animals... is
self-conscious, aware
of his own
existence as a unique
being.
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The divine life has merely been begotten. It must now *grow*!

Why We Must Grow Spiritually

Included in God's purpose for creating man is the development of *righteous, spiritual character within him*. Notice again what God said in Genesis 1:26: "Let us make man in our *image*..." The original Hebrew here indicates far more than merely the form and shape of God—his outward likeness. "Image" also refers to *mind* and *character*. God intended for man—to whom he gave the gift of a thinking, reasoning mind—to ultimately have the very mind and character of *GOD*.

God's purpose in creating man is to *reproduce himself* with the perfect spiritual character only God possesses. Man was therefore created in God's own image and likeness, his own form and shape

with a mind similar to his, so God could begin to *develop* the very character of God in him.

Just as in human reproduction, when the human body and brain gradually begin to form during the gestation period, so now the righteous and holy character of God must begin to take form and *grow* once one is begotten by God's Spirit (11 Pet. 3:18; 1 Pet. 2:1-2).

Obviously, we cannot become absolutely perfect in character until the resurrection when God will complete the process by giving each of us a new, perfect spirit body with its perfect—sinless (1 John 3:2, 9)—nature that will be like Christ's and the Father's. But meantime, God wants us to *grow* in his spiritual character daily by obeying his commandments and overcoming and rooting sin out of our lives—*growing toward* that spiritual perfection!

Such perfect, holy character cannot be created by fiat. It must be developed and that requires time and experience. God gives us time in which to learn that only his way of life brings real peace, happiness and a joyful, abundant life. We will have learned that sin causes only heartache, misery, suffering and death. We will have seen the results of Satan's way of life and rejected it, and will have been developing, with the help of God's Spirit, God's own holy, righteous character until our change to sinless immortal life!

We become a spiritual "embryo" when, upon receipt of the Holy Spirit, we are begotten of God. And to grow spiritually, we must take in *spiritual* nourishment. Just as the embryo in a mother's womb must be nourished with life-giving food through the placenta, so we must be nourished by the Word of God. "... The words that I speak unto you," said Jesus, "they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). Those words are recorded in the Bible—and Jesus said we are to live by every word of God (Matt. 4:4). We drink in these life-giving words from the Bible through reading, studying and meditating (thinking) on what we read.

Spiritual character development requires time and comes largely by experience—by putting the Word

(Continued on page 44)

IMMORTAL SOUL

(Continued from page 23)

B.C.) tells us in his *History* that the ancient Egyptians were the first to teach that the soul of man is separable from the body, and immortal. This Egyptian idea was centuries before Judaism, or Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam came onto the scene.

Nowhere in the ancient world was the afterlife of more concern than in Egypt. The countless tombs unearthed by archaeologists along the Nile provide eloquent testimony to the Egyptian belief that man possessed a spiritual aspect extending beyond his physical life.

To the east, the ancient Babylonians also held a belief in a future life of the soul in a "lower world." But Babylonian beliefs were nowhere so elaborate as the Egyptian.

A person, the Egyptians believed, consisted of a physical body and not one but two souls that lived on after his death: a *ka* soul and a *ba* soul.

The *ka* was said to be a spirit replica of a man, containing the "vital force" given to him at birth. At death, the *ka* was believed to take up residence in a statue or picture of the deceased.

The statue or picture was placed in the tomb for that very purpose. As the tomb was to be the eternal home of the *ka*, it was provided with everything the *ka* would need for a happy afterlife—food, furniture, games, reading material, grooming aids and the like.

The other soul, the *ba*, was held to be that part of man that enjoyed an eternal existence in heaven. It was believed to fly from the body with the last breath. The *ba* was often depicted on tomb paintings as a human-headed hawk hovering over the deceased's body. The ancient Egyptians believed the *ba* occasionally came back to "visit" the body in the tomb and to partake

of the food and drink offerings there.

The famous *Book of The Dead*—a collection of ancient Egyptian funerary and ritual texts—lays out in great detail the many Egyptian beliefs about the afterlife. In one version of the work, dating from the 15th century B.C., the *ba* of a deceased person is pictured as asking one of the Egyptian gods, "How long have I to live?" To which the god replied:

"Thou shalt exist for millions of millions of years, a period of millions

of the ancient Greeks of the idea of an "immortal soul" was the Athenian philosopher Plato (428-348 B.C.), the pupil of Socrates. Plato was the founder of the Academy, an institute for philosophical and scientific research just outside of Athens.

The pre-Socratic Greek philosophers had no real conception of any nonmaterial element in man. The philosophers Socrates and Pythagoras were among the first of the Greeks to adopt the Egyptian view. They subsequently had a great influence on the thought of Plato. It was Plato who popularized the immortal soul concept throughout the Greek world.

In the *Phaedo*—one of Plato's most famous works—Plato recounts Socrates' final conversation with his friends on the last day of Socrates' life. Socrates declared to them:

"Be of good cheer, and do not lament my passing. . . . When you lay me down in my grave, say that you are burying my body only, and not my soul."

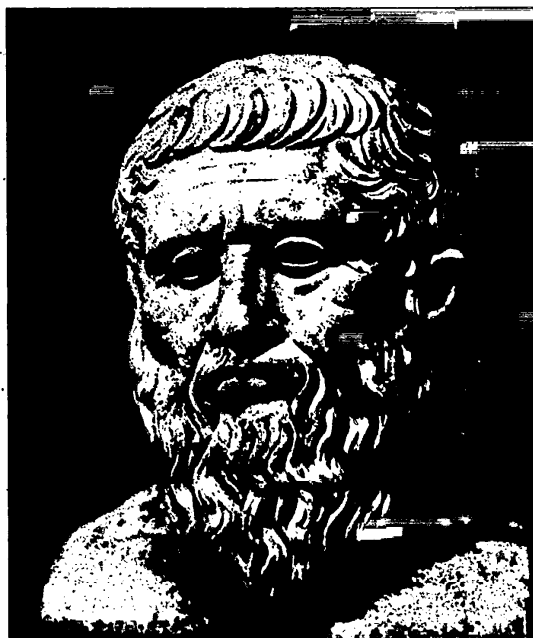
Socrates' statement is little different from the teaching of most churches today!

Notice also the following assertion from Plato, again taken from the *Phaedo*:

"The soul whose inseparable attitude is life will never admit of life's opposite, death. Thus the soul is shown to be immortal, and since immortal, indestructible. . . . Do we believe there is such a thing as death? To be sure. And is this anything but the separation of the soul and body? And being dead is the attainment of this separation, when the soul exists in herself and separate from the body, and the body is parted from the soul. That is death. . . . Death is merely the separation of the soul and body."

In Book X of *The Republic*—another of Plato's major works—he again wrote: "The soul of man is immortal and imperishable."

Statements by such ancient



of years." What better depiction of the concept of immortality?

Passed on to Greeks

The idea of the soul's immortality did not cease with ancient Egyptian civilization. Notice again the testimony of the historian Herodotus:

"The Egyptians were the first that asserted that the soul of man is immortal. . . . This opinion some among the Greeks have at different periods of time adopted as their own" (from *Euterpe*, the second book of Herodotus' *History*).

The pagan Greeks got the concept of an immortal soul from the Egyptians!

The foremost advocate among

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Greek and Roman writers as Polybius, Cicero, Seneca, Strabo—and even Plato himself—have led some modern historians to question whether Plato *really* personally believed the immortal soul doctrine. They suggest that he may have simply popularized what he knew to be a fiction as a means of keeping the citizenry in line through the fear of mysterious “unseen things” beyond this life.

The immortal soul concept, in other words, was a necessary companion doctrine to the doctrine of the terrible torments of parts of Hades or hell. Such fearsome teachings, some philosophers thought, were necessary to scare the masses into being good citizens.

Regardless of his motives and personal beliefs, Plato's teachings did have a wide impact. They spread throughout the known world and were accepted as truth by millions.

Plato and the Jews

The Jewish communities of antiquity were deeply influenced by Greek philosophical ideas. Many will suppose that the Platonic view of the soul imprisoned in the flesh would have been nothing new to the Jews. But notice the testimony of Jewish scholars themselves:

“The belief that the soul continues its existence after the dissolution of the body is . . . *nowhere expressly taught in Holy Scripture*. . . The belief in the immortality of the soul came to the Jews *from contact with Greek thought and chiefly through the philosophy of Plato*, its principal exponent, who was led to it through Orphic and Eleusinian mysteries in which Babylonian and Egyptian views were strangely blended” (*The Jewish Encyclopedia*, article, “Immortality of the Soul”).

Many of you will undoubtedly be surprised to discover that the idea of the immortality of the soul was not derived by the Jews from the

Old Testament scriptures, but rather taken *from Plato*!

As we shall see, the Old Testament takes a *completely different* view!

Another Surprise!

But what of the professing Christian world? Certainly here we should find the doctrine of an immortal soul independent of any Greek influence.

Now consider this fact:

Many of the early theologians and scholars of the professing

itual nature of the human soul. But notice the source of his teachings. *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* admits: “He [Augustine] fused the religion of the New Testament with the Platonic tradition of Greek philosophy.”

Why should those early professing Christian scholars have resorted to the opinions of a pagan Greek philosopher? Could it be that the immortal soul doctrine is not clearly supported in Christian Scripture?

Notice the much later view of Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany. More than a thousand years later, in 1522, he wrote:

“It is probable, in my opinion, that, with very few exceptions, indeed, the dead sleep in utter insensibility till the day of judgment. . . . *On what authority* can it be said that the souls of the dead may not sleep . . . in the same way that the living pass in profound slumber the interval between their downlying at night and their uprising in the morning?”

Luther himself encountered difficulty in finding support for the immortal soul doctrine in the pages of Scripture. Notice that he asked, “*On what authority . . . ?*”

But the deep-seated teachings of centuries were not to be easily dislodged, even by Protestant reformers. Theologians and churchgoers alike persisted, for the most part, in their unquestioning embrace of the ideas passed down from the ancient pagan philosophers. As the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* summarizes:

“Traditional Western philosophy, starting with the ancient Greeks . . . shaped the basic Western concepts of the soul.”

What the Bible REALLY Says!

Notice the warning of the apostle Paul, who once personally confronted Greek thinkers on Mars Hill in ancient Athens (Acts 17:15-

The foremost advocate
among the ancient Greeks of
the idea of an “immortal
soul” was the Athenian
philosopher Plato (428-348 B.C.),
the pupil of Socrates.
Plato was the founder of the
Academy, an institute
for philosophical
and scientific research.

Christian religion—including such men as Origen, Tertullian and Augustine—were closely associated with Platonism.

Tertullian (A.D. 155-220), for example, wrote: “For some things are known even by nature: the immortality of the soul, for instance, is held by many . . . I may use, therefore, *the opinion of a Plato*, when he declares: ‘Every soul is immortal’” (*The Ante-Nicene Fathers*, Vol. III).

Notice, it is the opinion of Plato that is cited!

Augustine of Hippo (A.D. 354-430)—held to be the greatest thinker of Christian antiquity—also taught the immaterial and spir-

34). To the Greeks in Colossae in Asia Minor he wrote:

"Beware lest any man spoil you through *philosophy* and vain deceit, after the *tradition of men*, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Col. 2:8).

Jesus Christ himself warned of "making the word of God of none effect through your *tradition*" (Mark 7:13). "In vain they do worship me," he lamented, "teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matt. 15:9).

So what *does* the Bible really say?

Consider first the teaching of the Old Testament. As we have seen, the Jews living in the Hellenistic world admit they took the immortal soul doctrine from Plato. Why? Because it is *nowhere found* in the Hebrew Scriptures!

Notice Genesis 2:7: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

Consider carefully: Man—formed of the dust of the ground, not out of spirit—"became" a living soul. A soul is what man *is*. It is not something a man *has*.

The Hebrew language further proves this point. The Hebrew word translated as "soul" in Genesis 2:7 in the widely used King James Version of the Bible is *nephesh*. *Nephesh* designates temporary physical life. It means a living, breathing creature. This is the *same word* used frequently in the first chapter of Genesis and elsewhere in reference to *animals*.

Notice, for example, Genesis 1:24: "And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature [*nephesh*] after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so."

Here the word *creature* is the identical Hebrew word that is used in Genesis 2:7 and throughout the Old Testament for "soul." In biblical usage, a brute beast is also a "soul"!

In Leviticus 21:11, Numbers 6:6, Haggai 2:13 and elsewhere, the word *nephesh* is even used with reference to a *dead body*!

Nephesh clearly has *nothing whatsoever* to do with any sort of spirit essence. The soul is not a sepa-

rate entity from the body. It *is* the body! Man *is* a *nephesh*. He *is* a soul!

Many additional Old Testament scriptures reveal clearly the *mortality*—not the *immortality*—of the soul. Ezekiel 18:4, 20, for example, declares that a soul can *die*! Read it for yourself: "The soul that sinneth, it shall *die*." If the soul were immortal, how could it die? It's a direct contradiction of terms!

No wonder Jewish scholars today have to point to Plato as the origin of the immortal soul doctrine!

The New Testament Speaks

What about the New Testament? Surely here we find biblical proof for an immortal soul. Or do we?

In the New Testament, "soul" is a translation of the Greek word *psuche*. *Psuche* is the equivalent of the Hebrew word *nephesh*. Like *nephesh*, *psuche* is frequently rendered "life" in addition to "soul."

Psuche is twice used in the New Testament for the lower animals, exactly in the same way as the Hebrew *nephesh* can refer to the life of animals. In these two scriptures (Rev. 8:9 and 16:3), *psuche* is rendered "life" and "soul" respectively, with reference to the life of sea creatures.

The word *psuche* has no connotation whatsoever of "spirit essence" or "immortal soul"!

Jesus Christ, in fact, declared that God is able to *destroy* one's soul (Greek *psuche*, or life) in gehenna fire (Matt. 10:28).

The words *immortal soul* are found nowhere in the Bible—Old Testament or New. The word *immortal* occurs *only once* in the entire Bible—in 1 Timothy 1:17, where it refers specifically to *Jesus Christ*!

The word *immortality* is found only in the New Testament, where it occurs fewer than half a dozen times. One of those places—1 Timothy 6:16—clearly states that, of all humans, Jesus Christ "ONLY hath immortality"! Romans 2:7 admonishes Christians to "SEEK FOR... immortality." If man already had immortality, he would not have to *seek* for it!

1 Corinthians 15—the "resurrection chapter" of the Bible—shows that a Christian "puts on"

immortality at a future resurrection of the dead (see verses 50-54).

As Jesus clearly stated: "That which is born of the flesh *is* flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit *is* spirit" (John 3:6). Man—born of the flesh—*is* flesh. He was not created with inherent immortality. He has only a temporary physiochemical existence. "For dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return," God told Adam (Gen. 3:19).

Only when mortal man is "born again" in a future resurrection will he finally put on immortality and *be* spirit! Why would a resurrection of the body be needed if the soul were already in heaven? The soul does not go to heaven! The mortal soul—man's physical life—dies and turns to *dust*! (Write for our free publications *Just What Do You Mean—Born Again?* and *The Three Resurrections* for more about this much-misunderstood subject.)

The New Testament, then, teaches the *resurrection*—a rising from the dead—in direct opposition to the pagan Greek idea of an immortal soul. The resurrection is our only hope of eternal life! Jesus Christ's resurrection was a type or forerunner of the resurrection God promises to all who obey him (John 5:28-29; 11:25; Rom. 8:11; Phil. 3:10-11).

Man has no hope of future life *inherent* within himself!

The "Spirit in Man"

Now understand an additional basic truth. Few have ever grasped it.

Since man's material "soul"—his body and its physical life processes—are corruptible and perish after death, *how* is it possible for God to ultimately resurrect an individual? If everything is physical and turns to dust, what is there that remains of a person to be "brought back"? *How* are his personality, his memory, and his character *preserved* by God until a day of resurrection?

The answer is simply that *not everything* about a man is physical! The Bible calls this nonphysical component the "spirit [Hebrew *ruach*, Greek *pneuma*] in man" (Job 32:8; Zech. 12:1; 1 Cor. 2:11). It is not *the* man. It is *in* man.

(Continued on page 44)

THE PLAIN TRUTH

GROWING HEALTHY BABIES

There's No Second Chance!

by Sheila Graham

Here is what every reader should know
about nutrition in pregnancy.



YOU'RE GOING to have a baby! You're proud, and so happy.

You congratulate each other on your mutual creative ingenuity. What a threesome you will make. The grandparents are ecstatic.

And suddenly, it begins to sink in. There's no turning back. You are committed to a responsibility that will affect you as an individual and as a family for the remainder of your life.

What parent hasn't asked: What if the baby doesn't turn out to be the beautiful, healthy child everyone expects? What if the baby is one of the thousands born each year with a birth defect? What can we do to prevent such a tragedy?

Going to the Doctor

You talk to friends and acquaintances and find who the best obstetrician in town is. After talking to your doctor, you begin to feel more reassured. Here's someone knowledgeable who will share, even carry, a major burden of responsibility for you. What a relief. All you have to do is follow his directions to the letter and you will have fulfilled your obligations. Who could blame you then if anything went wrong?

But, can you really shift your responsibilities so easily? No, it's not that simple. An obstetrician may be

NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR THE EXPECTANT MOTHER

Mary E. Hegvold, R.D.

The needs for most nutrients are increased during pregnancy. This means choosing a wide variety of foods high in nutritional value. On average, only 300 additional calories daily are needed for the pregnant woman. But if she is quite active more may be required for a desirable weight gain. The recommended total weight gain for the best outcome of the mother and fetus is about 24 to 28 pounds (11 to 13 kg). The average total weight gain for the first three months should be about 2 to 4 pounds (1 to 2 kg) and a pound (5 kg) a week thereafter.

To obtain the maximum nutritive value from cooked perishable foods they should be stored properly, prepared when at peak of freshness by steaming or cooking in the smallest amount of liquid possible and until just tender. They should be served immediately.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

LIQUIDS: This includes water, milk, fruit juice and soups. Six to eight 8 oz. (250 ml) glasses should be consumed daily.

EXTRAS: Foods low in nutritive value or whose main contribution to the diet is calories should be avoided or eaten sparingly. Some examples are sweets in general, including jams, jelly, sugar, honey; potato chips or crisps and similar snack food, soft drinks, alcohol, coffee and tea. These items are not included in the food recommended for optimum health of the pregnant woman. They should be considered as additions to and not instead of the basic food groups.

SUPPLEMENTS: Self-prescription and megadoses can prove dangerous. Massive doses of supplements may produce nutritional imbalance, adversely affect the fetus or result in a newborn infant with an abnormally high nutrient requirement. A low-level iron supplement may be recommended by a physician, since studies have shown most women enter pregnancy with low stores of iron. Folic acid supplements may also be needed. Your physician should be consulted regarding supplements and be made aware of any supplement or medication that is being taken.

DAILY FOOD INTAKE PLAN FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Include these foods in your daily menu planning. One food or one food group can supply part of the requirement.

MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS — 4 SERVINGS

One serving of milk, buttermilk, plain yogurt or baked custard is 8 ounces (250 ml). (Milk used to prepare food can supply part of the requirement.)

Foods with the approximate calcium equivalents of 8 ounces (250 ml) milk are 1½ ounces (45 g) cheddar cheese, 1½ cups (375 ml) cottage cheese or ice cream. Ice cream is quite high in calories as compared to milk and may suppress the appetite for other needed foods. Nondairy sources of calcium include canned (tinned) sardines or salmon with bones, deep green vegetables, corn tortillas made with lime, tofu and natto.

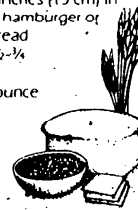


BREAD AND CEREALS — 4 OR MORE SERVINGS

Preferably whole grains should be used.

This group includes breads, cooked or ready-to-eat cereals, cornmeal, crackers, flour, macaroni, spaghetti, noodles, rice, oatmeal, bulgur and other grain products.

One serving is 1 slice of bread or 1 pancake, 5 inches (13 cm) in diameter, 1 average size plain roll, muffin, biscuit (scone) or tortilla, 6 inches (15 cm) in diameter, 1 waffle, hamburger or hot dog bun, pita bread or English muffin, ½-¾ cup (125-175 ml) cooked cereal or 1 ounce (30 g) ready-to-eat cereal, 2 graham or crisp flat bread type crackers, 4 whole wheat or whole wheat crackers.



FATS AND OILS — 1-2 TABLESPOONS

Includes butter, margarine, vegetable oils, mayonnaise, salad dressings or cream.

The following foods have the approximate fat content of 1 T. (15 ml) of butter, margarine or vegetable oil, 2 T. (25 ml) of mayonnaise, whipping cream or French dressing, ¼ cup (50 ml) sour cream.



TWO SAMPLE MENUS FOR PREGNANCY



BREAKFAST

Day One

Orange, 1
Cooked cereal — oatmeal,
cracked wheat or rice, ½ c. (125 ml)
Whole wheat biscuit (scone), 1
Butter, 1 pat or 1 t.
Milk, 8 oz. (250 ml)

Day Two

Tomato juice, 4-6 oz. (125-200 ml)
Poached or boiled egg, 1
Whole wheat toast, 2 slices Butter, 1 pat or 1 t.
Milk, 8 oz. (250 ml)

If desired, some of breakfast food may be used for midmorning snack.



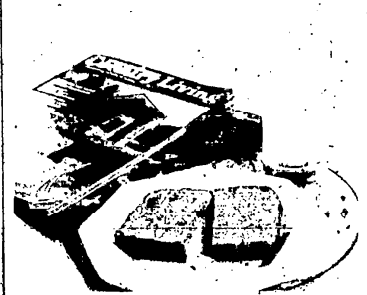
NOON

Day One

Split pea soup, 1-1½ c. (250-375 ml)
Cabbage & carrot slaw, ½ c. (125 ml)
Whole wheat bread, 1 slice
Butter, 1 pat or 1 t.
Milk, 4 oz. (125 ml)

Day Two

Ground beef patty, 3 oz. (90 g)
Baked potato, 1 medium
Broccoli, ½-1 c. (125-250 ml)
Cooked beets, ½ c. (125 ml)
Whole wheat roll, 1
Butter, 1 pat or 1 t.
Milk, 6 oz. (200 ml)



AFTERNOON SNACK

Day One

Peanut butter sandwich
1 slice whole wheat or rye bread,
1 T. peanut butter
Milk, 6-8 oz. (200-250 ml)

Day Two

Plain yogurt, 4 oz. (125 ml)

FOR PREGNANCY

One food group cannot supply all the essential nutrients!

PROTEIN-RICH FOODS — 2 SERVINGS

One serving of lean, boneless meat, fish or poultry is about 3 ounces (90 g).

Approximate protein equivalents are: 2 eggs, 1 cup (250 ml) cooked dried beans or peas, ¼ cup (50 ml) peanut butter, ¼ cup (125 ml) shelled nuts as peanuts and almonds, or shelled seed kernels as pumpkin, squash and sunflower. 7 ounces (200 g) tofu, 5 ounces (150 g) miso and 5 ounces (100 g) natto.

Protein is also present in milk and milk products and grain products.

When using plant protein foods they should be eaten along with eggs or milk or milk products or other animal protein for maximum nutritive value.



VEGETABLES AND FRUITS — 4 OR MORE SERVINGS

One serving is ½ cup (125 ml) cooked vegetable, fruit or juice, or 1 cup raw vegetable. Or portions as usually served such as 1 apple, orange or potato or ½ of a large item as grapefruit or papaya.

Group I vegetables and fruits: 2 servings daily, including the following: grapefruit or grapefruit juice, kiwi fruit, orange or orange juice, raw strawberries, guava, black currants, honeydew melon, kumquats, tangerines, watermelon, brussels sprouts, green pepper, sweet red pepper, asparagus tips, raw cabbage, cauliflower, tomato or tomato juice.

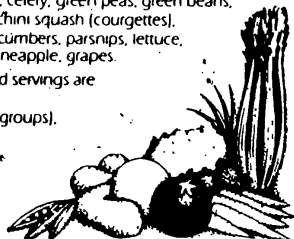
Group II vegetables and fruits: 1 serving daily, including the following: apricots, peaches, persimmons, beet greens, carrots, Swiss chard, bok choy, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, winter squash.

The following foods are good sources of the nutrients provided in both Groups I and II: cantaloupe, mango, papaya, broccoli, kale, hot chili peppers, collards, mustard greens, watercress, spinach and turnip greens. If one of these foods is selected as a Group I serving then one more serving from Group I is needed and no servings need be selected from Group II. The additional vegetables and fruits to make 4 servings (the recommended daily amount) may come from Group III (below) or II if desired.

Group III other vegetables and fruits: 1-2 or more servings from other fruits and vegetables not listed in the above groups. Included are such vegetables and fruits as: potatoes, celery, green peas, green beans, beets, egg plant (aubergine), zucchini squash (courgettes), summer squash, onions, corn, cucumbers, parsnips, lettuce, bean sprouts, apples, bananas, pineapple, grapes.

Provided minimum recommended servings are consumed from the fruit and vegetable group (and other food groups), more servings may be chosen from this group.

It is recommended that one or more servings of raw fruit or vegetables be eaten daily.



educated and trained to guide you through your pregnancy to the delivery of your child. He can check your progress and advise you, but no amount of sophisticated monitoring and testing can assure you a healthy baby. If complications do arise and you or your child is adversely affected, it is not the doctor who will suffer the emotional and physical trauma for years to come.

But again, what can you do? Many factors are involved in whether the outcome of your pregnancy is favorable or not—genetic, biological, social and psychological. You do not have control over all the elements necessary to ensure a successful pregnancy and an alert, healthy baby. But in one vitally important area the majority of you *do have control*. That area is nutrition.

Importance of Nutrition

You may respond, "Oh yes, my doctor did mention something about being careful to eat a balanced diet, but my mom has been nagging me about that for years. Besides, right now I don't feel like eating anything. And when I do regain my appetite, I'm certainly not going to gain a lot of extra weight and ruin my figure. My husband doesn't like me overweight."

There is overwhelming evidence that poorly nourished women with poor diets during pregnancy have more complications than do well-nourished women with good, well-balanced diets.

"Learning how to eat well to provide the best possible nutrition for your growing baby—as well as knowing what substances to avoid—is the single most important thing you can do.

"As your pregnancy progresses, your body adapts to supply nourishment to the fetus through increased blood volume and blood flow to your uterus and placenta. If your nutrition is poor, even for a few weeks, fewer nutrients will be available to your baby, and its growth rate in the womb will be slower. What this means, of course, is that the infant will be smaller at birth" ("Should You Really Be Eating for Two?" *Redbook*, January, 1982, excerpted from *Growing*).

(Continued on page 38)



EVENING

Day One

Baked, broiled or steamed chicken (1 thigh, breast or drumstick from a large chicken)
Rice, ½ c., or mashed potatoes, ½ c.
Baked banana squash or pumpkin, 2½ x 2 inch piece or ½ c. (6½cm x 5cm)
Lettuce, cucumber, tomato salad
Oil and vinegar dressing, 1-T.
Whole wheat roll, 1. Butter, 1 pat or 1 t.
Milk, 8 oz (250 ml)

Day Two

Dried beans, 1 c. (250 ml), cooked, with grated cheese
Mixed green salad 1 T Italian dressing
Cornbread, 1 piece 2 x 2 inches (5cm x 5cm)
Butter, 1 pat or 1 t. Milk, 6 oz (200 ml)



EVENING SNACK

Day One

Apple
Cheddar cheese, 1 oz (30 g)

Day Two

Banana or other fruit, 1
Milk, 8 oz (250 ml)

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

c = cup
t = teaspoon
T = tablespoon
cm = centimeter
g = gram
oz = ounce
ml = milliliter

PT CHART BY MONTE WOLFF. PHOTOS BY ROSE AND REES. SCOTT SMITH—PT



TROUBLE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

by Dan Taylor

SEPARATED from the oil-rich Arabian peninsula by the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden is the Horn of Africa. It is one of the world's vital sea-gates.

Few seem to realize today just how important this area of the world is to international commerce, much less its military significance. Through this region much of Western Europe's crucial oil supplies must pass on their way to the Suez Canal.

Military planners in both Washington and Moscow

understand that the Horn of Africa constitutes a choke point. They see it as a jugular vein, if you will, of Western Europe's oil lifeline to the Middle East. And both nations are trying to exert their influence in the area. Other nations before them have done the same. Just before the turn of





Wearing traditional headdress, Somali troops parade through the streets of Mogadishu, Somalia. Old tribal and religious hatreds dating back hundreds of years continue to plague this vital area of the world.

the century, Britain, France and Italy all secured footholds in the Horn of Africa to guard their strategic interests. Later, during World War I, Germany and its Turkish allies attempted to do the same but failed.

After a Century of Turmoil

Eventually, first Italy, then Britain, and finally France gave up their colonial outposts, creating the nations of Somalia, and Djibouti, in addition to Ethiopia, which was already an independent nation.

Because of the way the borders were drawn in this area (as in much of Africa), many Somalis wound up

living in Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti. The desire to unite all Somalis under one flag has been a major source of contention in the region. This was the excuse used by Italy under Mussolini to justify its invasion of Ethiopia in 1935.

Resurrecting old claims, in 1977 Somali troops attempted to wrest control of the largely Somali populated Ogaden desert region from Ethiopia. At that moment Ethiopia was troubled by Eritrean nationalists in its northeastern province and by governmental instability following the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974. In 1980, however, the Ethiopians, backed



One of the many refugee camps in arid Somalia. Renewed border clashes and drought have combined to swell already overcrowded refugee camps with nearly 700,000 Ethiopians and ethnic Somalis.

by 16,000 Cuban troops and Soviet advisers, drove the Somalis back across the border.

The results of this war and the continuing civil strife in Ethiopia have caused one of the most severe refugee problems in the world. Nearly 700,000 people have been displaced.

To make matters worse, in July, 1982, fighting again broke out as Ethiopians backing the revolutionary Somali Democratic Salvation Front (SSDF) crossed into Somalia.

The bitter infighting and hatreds dating back to the 1500s have now made the nations of the Horn of Africa especially vulnerable to outside political pressure.

Coming Intervention

Instability makes this region not only an inviting target for pressure by the two superpowers, but also a concern for those other nations whose vital interests are at stake. The Bible, in fact, prophesies a coming intervention in this region by a powerful military power to the north of Africa.

Mussolini's Italy nearly a half century ago avenged a military defeat handed to Italian forces by the "king of the south" (the emperor Menelik of Ethiopia) in 1897. Fascist armies overran the Ethiopian empire of Haile Selassie in 1935 as prophesied in Daniel 11:40.



*Gaunt face and emaciated arm with cup symbolize
the suffering of children in the Horn of Africa.
In tomorrow's world coming soon the
tears so many have cried will be wiped away (Isa. 25:7-8).*

Mussolini, however, never fulfilled all of verse 41. He never entered "the glorious land," that is, Palestine, nor did he fulfill the rest of the verse that says, "and many countries shall be overthrown. . . ."

Rather, this prophecy, terminated almost 40 years ago at the very middle of verse 41, awaits fulfillment in entirety in our lifetime, with the prophesied final restoration of the Roman Empire in Europe. This empire will see its vital interests threatened by instability and economic pressures from the Arab world and the region around the Horn of Africa (Dan. 11:40-45). It will, at that time, storm into this region and neighboring parts of northeast Africa to protect its

concerns. Be sure to request our free reprint article "The Middle East in Prophecy" for more specific details.

Unless the nations of the Horn of Africa, and the rest of the world for that matter, learn to love and respect each other, the prophesied near future holds great sorrow.

But the Creator God promises, in the end, a world of peace that can only be brought about by the establishment of God's kingdom over all nations. It will be a time of prosperity and abundant joy for all peoples of the world. And the inhabitants of the Horn of Africa, too, will finally live at peace (Isa. 2:3-4). □

HEALTHY BABIES

(Continued from page 33)

Up Healthy—A Parent's Guide to Good Nutrition, by Myron Winick, M.D., director of the U.S. Institute of Human Nutrition).

Pregnancy is not the time to worry about gaining weight. You and your husband must be more concerned about the health and well-being of that new addition to your family than about temporary weight gain.

Listen to the facts.

"Low birth weight is well established as an antecedent of excessive mortality in infants. Data from the United States and England indicate that infant death rates rise dramatically among newborns weighing 2,500 grams [about 5½ pounds] or less" (*Nutritional Impacts on Women Throughout Life with Emphasis on Reproduction*, page 143).

Low birth weight is the major cause of infant mortality in the world. Even the well-fed United States is ranked 13th in infant mortality rates, according to 1981 statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Living in some of the so-called developed countries does not automatically ensure that you are well-nourished. Yet maternal nutrition is the single most important factor influencing the baby's birth weight.

Tragically, it has also been demonstrated that mental deficiency in newborns is related to low birth weight and prematurity rates.

"Cell division is most rapid and, therefore, most vulnerable from one month before birth until five months after. Never again will the baby's brain experience such an incredible proliferation of new cells. All of the eleven billion neurons, the cells which process and analyze information, are formed before birth. Inadequate nutrition during gestation results in permanent, irreversible deficits in the number of cells which make up the baby's brain" (from page 95, *What Every Pregnant Woman Should Know/The Truth About Diets and Drugs in Pregnancy* by Gail Sforza Brewer, director of instructor train-

ing and certification for the Metropolitan New York Childbirth Education Association, and Tom Brewer, M.D., president of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn through Nutrition [SPUN]).

You are responsible for the good nutrition that will enable your child to reach his or her maximum genetic potential. You can give your baby a head start that no one else can. Your baby is what you eat.

Smoking and Drinking

Your baby is also what you drink, smoke and otherwise ingest into your system.

"The [U.S.] Surgeon General reports that smoking during pregnancy also results in a significantly greater number of spontaneous abortions, stillbirths, and neonatal deaths.

"As to long-term effects on the children of women who smoke during pregnancy, N.R. Butler, in his study of prenatal hazards concluded, . . . a follow-up at age seven of the babies studied in the British Perinatal Study of 1958 . . . found that the children of mothers who were 'heavy' smokers during pregnancy showed significantly decreased height, retardation of reading ability, and lower ratings on 'social adjustment' than the children of non-smoking mothers" (*Positively Pregnant* by Madeleine Kenefick, pages 128, 129).

As well as smoking, the decision by a pregnant mother to drink alcoholic beverages should be arrived at by taking into consideration metabolic and other factors such as weight, diet and drugs used, illicit or otherwise.

Alcohol flows easily from a mother's bloodstream through the placenta into her unborn child. The odds of damaging the fetus are even higher when drugs are combined with alcohol by the pregnant mother. Remember, it's your responsibility to protect the health of your unborn child.

What if your doctor recommends a low-salt, low-calorie diet sometime during your pregnancy? Weight or salt restriction in pregnancy is no longer routinely advised at the forefront of the obstetrics community, neither is routine use of diuretics (water pills). If your

doctor is out of step with the latest published medical findings, and will not cooperate with your desire to adequately nourish your unborn child, he may suggest you see another doctor. Take his advice.

Read what Ronald A. Chez, M.D., of the Chief Pregnancy Research Branch, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland, had to say about the level of the average physician's education in nutrition.

"For all intents and purposes, the physician's medical education is lacking. There is scant attention in our curricula to the aspects of nutrition. Clinical nutrition is not usually regarded to be a glamorous medical discipline. It is taught inadequately in most medical schools and poorly applied by most clinicians" (*Nutritional Impacts on Women*, pages 221, xv).

Some physicians are now referring their patients to registered dietitians whose training has prepared them to advise patients as to their nutritional needs.

A Normal, Natural Process

More and more we need to come to understand that pregnancy and childbirth are normal, natural processes and begin to treat them so, instead of like illnesses. God is the Master Designer of our bodies and bodily functions, including the reproductive processes. And he wrote an "Instruction Book"—the Bible—that tells us how to live and how to have health and vitality.

If you want to learn some of those basic commonsense precepts that are essential to achieving vibrant, radiant health, write for our free booklet *Principles of Healthful Living*.

Those of you who are pregnant or plan to be should also make note of the accompanying chart and read some of the books referred to in this article as well as other good books on the subject.

Those with special health problems, of course, if planning to become or already pregnant, should get the necessary dietary advice.

Be responsible, be informed, be prepared to give birth to a beautiful, alert, vigorously healthy baby. There's no second chance. □

The PLAIN TRUTH

And Now A New Trend THE CELEBRITY STALKER

by John Ross Schroeder

Recently Queen Elizabeth awoke from sleep to find a strange man sitting on the edge of her bed. Buckingham Palace had been penetrated by one of a new breed—the celebrity-stalker.

THE QUEEN of England is the Queen of Smiles! She goes out of her way to smile at her subjects. Few monarchs in history have made themselves so accessible to their people.

In addition to constant media exposure, the Queen has regular garden parties at Buckingham Palace for several thousand people at a time.

Also, the whole Royal Family is constantly on the move fulfilling various and sundry public functions over the whole of the British Isles. They hardly enjoy the private life that most of the public seem to prize so much.

Britain has a population of some 60 million people and, of course, it is simply impossible for every single individual person to have a private audience with the Queen. That should go without saying. Yet one misguided individual felt he just had to speak with the Queen in her private quarters.

But why is society producing so many disturbed persons who waste valuable time seeking out celebrities?

A New Western Phenomenon

Lesser celebrities than the Queen are being plagued by a plethora of psychotics demanding private and

personal attention. Especially is this true in the United States, traditional home of the movie stars, or as they used to be called, the "matinee idols."

John Hinckley was so obsessed with a young Hollywood actress that he wrote in an unmailed letter before the assassination attempt on President Reagan, "Jodie, I would abandon the idea of getting Reagan in a second if I could only win your heart and live out the rest of my life with you."

A jury found John Hinckley insane on all counts. Now one can read of "the tortured mind of Michael Fagan" (*Daily Express*), the intruder at Buckingham Palace. Obviously celebrity-stalkers are people with deeply ingrained mental aberrations.

Who Is to Blame?

The obligatory resignations and transfers of duty occurred in the wake of the Buckingham Palace security scandal. Predictably national newspapers and magazines called for "heads to roll." Clearly the intrusion into the Queen's bedroom was a failure of human vigilance. Those responsible for the safety of the sovereign had let her down.

But the problem goes far beyond blaming police personnel and faulty electronics. The media never seems to ask: Why is our Western society producing so

many celebrity-stalkers? Why do movie stars have to build barbed wire fences around their houses to protect themselves from their own fans? Why do the grounds have to be patrolled by trained dogs and security men? Why do they have to constantly change their home phone numbers in order to screen out a steady stream of sick callers?

We live in a sick society! That's not a popular view of social conditions in our Western world, but it's all too true! Far too many people are feeding their minds mental garbage. Just take a look at the books and magazines on the market today!

The Fan Magazine

The advent of motion pictures in the early part of this century produced a whole array of glittering fan magazines. Who was your favorite movie star currently dating? What leading actor was about to walk out on his wife? What was his favorite color of socks? The answer to all these questions and other juicy tidbits of information could be had in a wide ranging selection of fan magazines.

Later their contents were expanded to include television stars, sports heroes, rock and roll performers, and even charismatic political figures.

Movie actors and actresses will

tell you that the sensational things written in these magazines are a rubbishy collection of fiction and half-truths. Yet the public buys them by the millions.

Why are human beings so fascinated by the private lives of famous people? What help is it to know the private foibles of one's favorite cinema star? Do they not have any right to a modicum of privacy?

One evening several years ago a friend of mine took a group of acquaintances to a fine restaurant in the Los Angeles, California, area. In walked Charlton Heston and his wife. Some of my friend's acquaintances immediately wanted an autograph. My friend restrained them, explaining that tonight was probably a rare evening out for the Hestons and that they had a right to a little privacy once in a while.

The Grand Illusion!

Earlier we mentioned that movie stars were once called "matinee idols"—perhaps the crux of the whole problem. The movie public made famous entertainers into virtual "gods."

What a total illusion! Celebrities are usually average human beings in their private lives. Said an essay in *Time* magazine: "The truth is that the events of an actor's offstage life are usually just as banal and repetitious as the events of ordinary lives" (July 12, 1982).

No matter, nothing seems to stem this craving for personal snippets of information about various celebrities. The bohemian lifestyles of some public figures ought to make clear that with certain of them we should go in the exact opposite direction—not imitate their sometimes bizarre behavior. The less we know, perhaps the better.

The Need to Identify

Society itself is at least partially responsible for the problem. This world is intensely competitive. People who don't measure up are made to feel failures.

Their only apparent avenue to success is to somehow identify with a celebrity—someone with above-

average gifts in a particular field. Such people attempt to live successful lives vicariously through their favorite heroes and heroines. Hence the desire for every possible scrap of information about famous celebrities.

In some cases this identification need with leading screen luminaries grows into an obsession. A love-crazed fan begins to stalk the object of his affections. Paranoia sets in.

A fan actually goes to the star's residence. He or she is then thwarted by high walls or other security paraphernalia. The fan finally realizes that his favorite simply doesn't want to see him. "Love" turns to hatred. He gets on the phone and utters a death threat. This is not just a scenario. It happens!

A Better Way to Recognition

Every human being is unique. No two humans have the same fingerprints or even the same voice prints. Each is *one* of a kind.

A few years ago somebody sang a little ditty on an American television commercial. It went something like this: "There's nobody else in the whole human race with your kind of gifts and your kind of grace." This is true!

We all have at least one talent. Sometimes that talent is hidden and it simply needs to be discovered, developed and brought into the light of day. Sometimes we need that little help from others in reaching our full human potential.

The Proverb says: "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings." We may not be able to have an audience with royalty, but we can receive our due in recognition and appreciation from others if we will only develop our natural, God-given talents.

You were born to be a success—a "celebrity," if you like, in your own right. You can be an integral part of a grand master plan of success. If you'd like to know how, write for our two attractively printed booklets *The Seven Laws of Success*, and *Why Were You Born?* Both are gratis. No charge whatsoever. Request them today by return mail. □

TERRORISM

(Continued from page 6)

cuss the implementation of the peace terms, was completely caught off guard. Years later David aptly described this treacherous act as "*shedding the blood of war in peace*."

Abner's murder was more than an act of revenge. There were distinct political overtones. Who is to say that David would not have appointed Abner as captain of the host in place of Joab? Clearly David thought far more highly of the former than the latter.

And even the revenge itself was not carried out in a straightforward manner. Abner had once warned Asahel, Joab's brother, twice before he killed him in battle. Abner received no warning from Joab; he was both betrayed and murdered in the guise of peace.

Notice David's personal account in conversation with his son and successor King Solomon (NEB, throughout): "You know how Joab son of Zeruiah treated me and what he did to two commanders-in-chief in Israel, Abner son of Ner and Amasa son of Jether. He killed them both, *breaking the peace by bloody acts of war*; and with that blood he stained the belt above my waist and the sandals on my feet" (1 Kings 2:5).

Joab was a terrorist at heart even though he did occupy an important position in David's government. And although David quickly disassociated himself and his government from these abominable acts, he was politically powerless to remove Joab from office.

The story of Abner's death is filled with pathos and irony. "When David heard the news he said, 'I and my realm are for ever innocent in the sight of the Lord of the blood of Abner son of Ner. . . . Then David ordered Joab and all the people with him to rend their clothes, put on sackcloth and beat their breasts for Abner, and the king himself walked behind the bier. They buried Abner in Hebron and the king wept aloud at the tomb. . . . [Then] the king made this lament for Abner:

"Must Abner die so base a

death? Your hands were not bound, your feet not thrust into fetters; you fell as one who falls at a ruffian's hands" (II Sam. 3:28-34, excerpts).

Here David describes the ignominy of terrorist methods, and adroitly forces his guilty general to mourn for Abner. Yet he could not depose Joab and his brother Abishai, the sons of David's sister Zeruiah. There were political as well as family connections to consider.

Follow the account further. "Everyone throughout Israel knew on that day that the king had had no hand in the murder of Abner son of Ner. The king said to his servants, 'Do you not know that a warrior, a great man, has fallen this day in Israel? King though I am, I feel weak and powerless in the face of these ruthless sons of Zeruiah; they are too much for me' (verses 37-39).

David was not able to divest himself of Joab to the day of his death. His one serious attempt to replace him with Amasa only resulted in the latter's tragic demise. It remained for Solomon to execute Joab after David's decease.

Another Outbreak of Terrorism

Another outbreak of terrorism marred the story before David's ascendancy to the kingship of all Israel at Jerusalem. After Abner's murder, David's lament had made it abundantly clear that he hated terrorist methods.

But some of his own men still didn't get the message. They didn't perceive the mind of their own chief. The grisly account follows. "Rechab and Baanah... came to the house of Ishbosheth [puppet king] in the heat of the day and went in, while he was taking his midday rest. Now the door-keeper had been sifting wheat, but she had grown drowsy and fallen asleep, so Rechab and his brother Baanah crept in, found their way to the room where he was asleep on the bed, and struck him dead. They cut off his head and took it with them... to Hebron" (II Sam. 4:5-7, excerpts).

Now notice David's reaction to this act of terrorism—even when ostensibly done to further the fortunes of his own government. "They

brought Ishbosheth's head to David at Hebron and said to the king, 'Here is the head of Ishbosheth son of Saul, your enemy who sought your life...' David answered... 'I seized the man who brought me word that Saul was dead and thought it good news; I killed him in Ziklag... How much more when ruffians have killed an innocent man on his bed in his own house? Am I not to take vengeance on you now for the blood you have shed, and rid the earth of you?' David gave the word, and the young men killed them...' (verses 8-12, excerpts).

The Frightening Parallels

The vagaries of human nature have not changed. The anarchists of antiquity used violence to obtain political and personal ends. The only differences today lie in mass communications, advances in science and technology, newfangled weaponry and the level and style of such violence. Joab had no ticking time bombs or sophisticated two-stage weapons to carry out his evil aims.

But terrorism was roundly condemned by those who were even half-civilized in the pre-Christian world just as it is today. By divine standards David's own credentials were nothing to shout about. Listen to his own testimony: "I had intended to build a house in honour of the name of the Lord my God; but the Lord forbade me and said, 'You have shed much blood in my sight and waged great wars'..." (I Chron. 22:8).

Yet all of his life David consistently and zealously resisted terrorist activities. David despised "shedding the blood of war in peace." He always punished the perpetrators of terrorist acts no matter how long it took.

Many statesmen today are expressing that same determination. Said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher: "These callous and cowardly crimes have been committed by brutal and evil men who know nothing of democracy. We shall not rest until they are brought to justice." And Shadow Home Secretary Roy Hattersley stated: "We are absolutely determined

that such murderous mayhem shall not succeed."

The Ulster question has plagued the British government and the peoples of Ireland for more than a decade. And Westminster undoubtedly has not been without many faults and mistakes in dealing with the Irish dimension. But the editors of *The Plain Truth* take no political position on the questions surrounding Northern Ireland. That is for the parties themselves to work out.

We do take a strong moral stand against grievous crimes perpetrated by terrorists anywhere. Terrorism can never be a valid means for righting human wrongs. It has no place in any civilization and that goes double for Christian-professing nations.

Sure End of Terrorism

"Terrorism," said Paul Johnson, "is the greatest evil of our age, a more serious threat to our culture and survival than the possibility of nuclear war, or even the rapid depletion of the planet's natural resources. Civilization not only has a right, but a positive and imperative duty to defend itself."

A terrorist always knows when and where he will strike next. The authorities don't always know this. How, then, can society rid itself of terrorism?

Not until the time that the kingdom of God finally arrives to rescue this troubled world from its self-inflicted woes. Not until the time when "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isa. 2:4, KJV).

That time is near! A New Age is soon to visit this earth. Terrorism will pass into history because the present ineffective governments will all be replaced by the government of God. You can understand by requesting two free booklets: *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like and Just What Do You Mean Kingdom of God?*

Only the kingdom of God can rescue this world from the violence and terror that have beset this world from the beginning of history. □

WORLD LEADERS

(Continued from page 4)

tration in Washington for making such a principled stand so late in the game, when only harm to the Western alliance can result.

For example, Josef Joffe, the senior editor of *Die Zeit*, a Hamburg weekly, writes in the July 28, 1982, *Wall Street Journal*:

"Today, the issue is the wisdom of American policy, not the merit of its arguments. Today, America's friends in Europe ask in bewilderment: Why did the Reagan administration go for a high-cost, low-payoff policy which would only come to grief? The deal, having been signed and sealed, there was only the faintest of chances that the Europeans would meekly renege on their contracts. In the affairs of nations, there comes a point where the cost of victory tends to dwarf the value of the original objective.

"Was the attempt to punish the Russians worth the damage to the alliance which will take years to heal? ... Why not pull back from the brink before disaster really settles in?"

NATO Breakup Feared

The disaster that many fear is the disruption of the interlocking national defense policies upon which the security of the Western world has relied since shortly after the Second World War.

NATO embodies the Western half of the taut East-West power balance in Europe and has helped secure the longest period of peace in European history.

Without harmony on trade issues and likemindedness toward the East bloc, the focal point of NATO's orientation, it is unlikely that the alliance can last.

It will be more difficult than ever for Western European leaders, for example, to vigorously pursue the plan to update the alliance's nuclear arsenal next year as scheduled. This in turn will intensify agitation on the western side of the Atlantic for the United States to cut its ties to its "ungrateful" NATO partners.

Calls for an American military



FOCUS OF CONTROVERSY: Workmen assemble pipeline in Siberia. Decision to purchase Soviet natural gas by Western Europe has angered American officials.

withdrawal from Europe are indeed coming more frequently than ever. For example, a leading U.S. figure in the field of strategic thinking, Irving Kristol, called for the reconstruction of NATO along with a new and independent role for a nuclear-armed Europe, in the August 12, 1982, issue of *The Wall Street Journal*.

American troops, said Mr. Kristol, should be withdrawn from Europe. NATO then should be reshaped as a European organization. Furthermore, maintained Mr. Kristol, "a European NATO would have its own tactical nuclear weapons—all 6,000 now there could simply be left behind. *It could also have, if it wished, a much larger complement of long-range nuclear missiles than it now possesses.* It would predictably place those missiles on submarines or on ships at sea—far from European centers of population. . . . This European NATO could then form an alliance with the U.S. if it so desired (as it presumably would)." (Italics ours.)

But that's the big question! Would a future independent, nuclear-armed Europe, comprising nations that have been at odds with the United States over fundamental economic and political issues, choose to remain allied with and friendly toward the United States?

Europe in Transition

According to James Oliver Goldsborough, author of the book *Rebel*

Europe, Western Europe is obviously in a transition period—"the historical stage at which Europe now finds itself, namely halfway between a much weakened Atlantic system and a still embryonic European framework."

Readers of *The Plain Truth* have been told in many articles down through the years that Bible prophecy foretells that there is yet to come the final end-time restoration of the Roman Empire. This will occur just before the divine ushering in of the peaceful world tomorrow, brought about by the restoration of the kingdom of God on earth. The prophesied European combine will be composed of "ten horns"—meaning 10 nations or ruling entities (Rev. 17:12).

This resurrected Roman Empire, controlling its own destiny and defense, will be powerful enough to stand up to both the United States and the Soviet Union—perhaps even to demand a release of some Soviet satellite European nations in return for a promise of trade and nonaggression with Moscow.

The United States—and Britain—will be left on the outside looking in!

The prophetic outline of Europe's near future is becoming clearer as a result of the widening rift with the United States. *The Plain Truth* will continue to keep its readers abreast of the onrush of critically important events and trends in Europe. □

The PLAIN TRUTH

Personal from...

(Continued from page 1)

one's horizons, instead of self-centeredness, shrinking one's horizons constantly inward...

I found revealed what neither science, education nor religion had seemed to find, there or to know—the PURPOSE being worked out here below—the REASON why human life was placed here. I learned WHAT man is, WHY he is, WHERE he is going, and the WAY to this transcendent potential, of which educators, scientists and theologians seem wholly unaware.

I found revealed the fact that the very foundation of education to fit one for happy and successful living is being totally ignored. That foundation is awareness of the purpose of life, knowledge of what man is, recognition of the true values as opposed to the false, and knowledge of the WAY which is the CAUSE of every desired effect. That knowledge is the dimension that is missing in today's education.

This new knowledge resulted in a series of lectures in and near Eugene, Oregon, in the summer and autumn of 1933. Response was spontaneous. Later, an invitation followed to speak on radio station KORE. Frank Hill, the owner, suggested a weekly program expounding this MISSING DIMENSION on his station. Thus, the first week in 1934, the *World Tomorrow* program was born.

The *World Tomorrow* was designed to assist and educate those seeking positive answers to the "unaskable" questions presented by today's tumultuous world conditions. It presents timely and challenging commentary on chaotic international relations and insight into world affairs. The analyses and answers to today's world conditions offer a message of hope for those who desperately seek a better tomorrow.

In keeping our listeners abreast of important world events, the *World Tomorrow* television staff members have, over the years, traveled far and wide to achieve on-the-scene coverage. Firsthand information and opinions are gained through personal, in-depth inter-

views with world leaders and those making tomorrow's headlines.

One month after the *World Tomorrow* broadcast was born, *The Plain Truth*, on February 1, 1934, made its most humble bow—an 8 page, mimeographed "magazine" printed by use of a borrowed typewriter on a mimeograph, the use of which was donated by the local mimeograph sales agent. I was the compositor, Loma D. Armstrong ran the press—by hand—and she kept the mailing list by pen and ink.

That first edition consisted of approximately 175 copies. The total cost of the stencils, ink and paper was probably less than \$2.

From that almost infinitesimal beginning the publishing operations have greatly expanded. We are now taking a new leap forward with this issue. All English-language newsstand and subscription editions that have been 32 pages will expand to the full 48-page subscription editions regularly received in the United States, Canada, Australia and elsewhere. And beginning January, 1983, those international editions of *The Plain Truth* that have appeared one month later than the

U.S. and Canadian editions will now appear the same month worldwide. To make possible this publishing of the magazine the same month worldwide, we have combined in some countries the November and December issues. Our next step, hopefully by the middle of 1983, will be the appearance of full 48-page editions in Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

Meanwhile, our reader response is continuing to grow. On our Pasadena campus alone, 3,300,000 letters were received in the past 12 months and personally cared for by our staff. In one single day more than 50,000 letters were received. In the last 12 months our postal center employees sent out 48,000,000 pieces of literature in the United States alone. The scope of our work makes us one of the largest mailing operations on earth.

If the reader has opportunity to visit in person one of our campuses or foreign offices, he will experience this activity in its true dimensions.

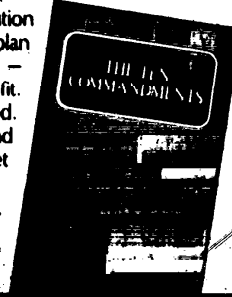
So remember, if you have an opportunity to visit one of our campuses or offices, you are welcome. □

The ORIGINAL ANSWER to age-old problems...

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

Long ago, man was given a workable solution to these mounting global problems. The plan was called "The Ten Commandments"—intended for man's own happiness and benefit. And they work beautifully when applied. Recapture these universal laws of peace and harmony in your life. Send for the free booklet *The Ten Commandments Today!*

Fill out and mail the handy literature reply card in this issue. Or write to the Plain Truth office nearest you (see inside front cover for address).



WHAT IS MAN?

(Continued from page 27)

of God into practice in our daily lives. One builds the righteous character of God as he comes to discern, through God's revelation in the Holy Bible, right from wrong—the true values from the false—truth from error, then chooses the right and rejects the wrong and, with the help of God's Holy Spirit, *resists* the wrong and does the right!

Actually, in many this divine character may form so slowly that it seems hardly in evidence at first, except that in some there may radiate a "first love" of spiritual conversion. But, so far as growing in spiritual knowledge and spiritual character goes, that is a gradual process that continues the rest of one's life.

In addition to Bible study, earnest prayer is absolutely necessary.

IMMORTAL SOUL

(Continued from page 30)

This spirit in man, however, has no consciousness apart from the physical human brain. It is not to be confused in any way with the fictional concept of a conscious "immortal soul." "The dead know not any thing," the Bible declares (Eccl. 9:5, 10). In the day of a man's death, "his thoughts perish" (Ps. 146:4). The Bible clearly pictures death as a *sleep*—a state of *unconsciousness* (Dan. 12:2).

At death, this spirit in man "shall return unto God who gave it" (Eccl. 12:7). It is then "filed away," so to speak, like a tape recording for God's future use at a resurrection.

On it is indelibly recorded one's character and the many experiences accumulated during one's lifetime. (See the accompanying article "What Is Man?" in this issue for a further explanation.)

It is also this "spirit in man"—as often explained in the pages of this magazine—that sets man apart from the animals. It is what makes man *unique*. It imparts to the living human brain the power of intellect to comprehend materialistic knowl-

We also absorb spiritual nourishment through personal, daily contact with God. When you study the Bible, God is talking to you. When you pray, you are talking to him. You get to really know God in this manner, just as you become better acquainted with people by conversation.

God's Church is the spiritual "mother" of all who have been begotten by God's Holy Spirit. God has set his called and chosen ministers in his Church to "feed the flock" so the individual members may *grow spiritually* (Acts 20:28). Christ has given his ministers the responsibility to instruct, teach and counsel the members of the Church (Eph. 4:11-13). So just as a human mother feeds her begotten child within her womb through the placenta and umbilical cord, God's children are nourished with spiritual food *within the true Church*.

And as the human mother carries her unborn baby in that part of

her body where she can best protect it from physical harm, the function of God's Church is to also protect the begotten children of God from spiritual harm—the false doctrines of false ministers who appear as Christ's representatives, but who actually represent Satan and his way (11 Cor. 11:13-15).

Finally, when resurrected from the dead or changed from mortal flesh to immortal spirit at Christ's return, the incredible human potential will have blossomed into reality. We will have been born into the divine family of God possessing the *fullness* of the very character of God.

Now we see clearly the great purpose the Creator God had in making man *unique* among all his physical creations. Mortal man has within his reach the glorious reality of attaining to the resurrection of the dead, and receiving immortality—forever being a part of the universe-ruling family of God.

edge. It is the source of human intelligence. It is *not* present in animal brain. (For a further examination of the spirit in man concept, write for editor-in-chief Herbert W. Armstrong's book *The Incredible Human Potential*. It is free upon request.)

Whole World Deceived

There is no scriptural basis whatever for belief in an "immortal soul" surviving consciously after death.

Throughout the centuries of professing Christianity, innumerable sermons have been preached and countless pamphlets written supposedly "proving" the soul's immortality. Upon careful and open-minded examination, they are all found riddled with gross error and misrepresentation!

The doctrine of the immortal soul is built on a foundation of biblical mistranslations, false premises, sloppy scholarship and even outright dishonesty. Few ministers and laymen have had the spiritual courage to take a fresh, unprejudiced look at the question and accept the *true* Bible teaching.

For when the false doctrine of the immortal soul is toppled, along with it falls the equally pagan and

false concept of Heaven and Hell—one of the cornerstones of traditional Christianity!

Satan the devil has succeeded for the time being—in deceiving the whole world (Rev. 12:9). It was he who first introduced the idea that man does not really die, but is inherently immortal. "Ye shall not surely die," Satan lied to Eve in the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:4).

God's future for mankind is far more transcendent than the common picture of immortal souls floating on clouds and strumming harps for eternity. For those who choose it and qualify, there is life after death by a resurrection. But that life will come through a *new birth* as an immortal spirit being into the very family of God by means of a future *resurrection* from the dead!

Write for our booklets *What Will You Be Doing in the Next Life?*, *What Is the Reward of the Saved?* and *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like?*

It is time to cast off the fables and traditions of men and understand the great meaning and purpose of human life as revealed in the Bible!

Will you have the courage to look into it for yourself?

L E T T E R S

What Our Readers Say

Where In the World?

Your article entitled "Where In The World?" deserves the hearty congratulations of every geography teacher in America. As a state legislator who also instructs geography as a part of a college political science and social studies curriculum, I say "hear, hear" to your call for a greater commitment to teaching students more about the world around us. It is vital to providing a well-rounded, basic education and equipping our students to face that world.

Dennis Dollar
State Representative
Gulfport, Mississippi

Correspondence Course

I would like to express my appreciation for the six lessons I have received so far of your Correspondence Course. Your magazines and many booklets have benefited me tremendously.

Mervyn Ojoe
Tunapuna, Trinidad

Pro and Con

My copy of *The Plain Truth* will undergo quick circulation amongst one hundred people of my neighborhood. Wishing you continued success.

R.L.N. Sastri
Golconda Chowrasta,
Hyderabad

I agree very much with your concern about the terrible situation of the world affairs at present. Please, I don't want to know anymore. I would prefer to die quickly and unexpectedly, like an animal caught unawares in a snare, than to worry away

what short time I have left.

Nerida Bolton
Wynyard, Tasmania

I have been intending for some time to write to ask to be included in the mailing list for *The Plain Truth*. I was shopping at Indooroopilly Shopping Centre on Friday and was surprised to see a stand clearly marked "Free Copy" and that it was *The Plain Truth*. However, I would still like to be on the mailing list, and also my son who is in Adelaide.

Mrs. M. Dickson
Chapel Hill, Queensland

I would like to thank you for sending me *The Plain Truth* magazine which I find very fascinating. To tell you the truth, I've never really read much of the Bible. But since I received this magazine I've really learnt something of life. It's made me a very happy and different person.

G. Mathias Daniel
Godowa, Finschhafen,
P.N.G.

Getting Out of Debt

One of your subscribers in Tacoma, Washington, who is also a member of our Association, forwarded us the abbreviated newsstand version of your magazine. An excellent article written by Ronald Kelly, "Will You Ever Get Out of Debt?" was also illustrated on the cover of your issue.

The article is very well written to the consumer concerning this ever present situation dealing with debt. I would like to point out some facts regarding collection agencies and their dealings with people who for one reason or another have over-extended themselves and have not paid their bills.

First, a collection agency receives an account because communication has broken down between the person or company who originally granted the credit, and the debtor. Of course, there are extenuating circumstances why bills have not been paid; however, it is the collection agency's job to work for the credit grantor to try to collect what is due.

Second, if someone does not pay bills the credit rating may be affected if the credit grantor chooses to report it to the credit bureau. Third, the credit grantor has an option of filing suit against the debtor to receive the monies due. The collection agency in its communication with the debtor may inform them of these two facts which is perfectly proper and important.

Last year, more than 51.5 million accounts representing over 6.5 billion dollars were turned over to the members of our Association. This is a tremendous amount of money that is owed to credit grantors by millions of people. This amount of money owed, if paid back by the American public, would be similar to each American receiving a bill for \$50.00 for those who could not pay their bills. This is an awesome sum and should be recognized.

Collection agencies may deal with debtors on a counseling basis to help them on the road to recovery from being over-extended. If they are successful then all parties are satisfied. The debtor is out of debt, the credit grantor has received money due and the collection agency has earned a fee for his services.

We hope that these comments further explain the collection

agencies' role in today's society and how they deal with people who have not fulfilled their credit obligations. These facts added to an article of this type would make it much more complete.

David J. Peterson
Director of Public Relations,
American Collectors
Assoc., Inc.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

The enclosed is my first tithe payment; and this is due to an article "Will You Ever Get Out of Debt?" written by Ronald Kelly. The only thing I'm sad about is it took me almost 65 years to wake up.

E.W. Hepp
East Rockaway, New York

We have enjoyed the *Plain Truth* magazine for years at no cost to us. We thoroughly enjoyed your article "Will You Ever Get Out of Debt?" I've asked myself this question so many times and yet so many times we've robbed God in tithes and offerings. I'm ready to put God to the test. We want him to be our #1 partner in everything we do.

Mrs. Gerald D. Furlow
Dry Prong, Louisiana

Pessimist Becomes Optimist

I have just read your free booklet entitled *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*. It is extremely exciting. I don't mind telling you that I used to be negative about the future of mankind (who wouldn't be?) but I now feel that your booklet just might have turned my negative, pessimistic view of the future right around 180°.

Peter A. Sweetman,
Mississauga, Ontario

HO, HO, HOAX

Where did we get Christmas? Does it really celebrate the birthday of Jesus? How much do you know about the origin of Santa Claus — of the Christmas tree — of mistletoe — of exchanging gifts? Very few know why they believe what they do. If you want to know the facts, write for our free booklet *The Plain Truth About Christmas*. For your copy, just mail the literature request card inside this issue, or write to our office nearest you.



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