Seven Proofs God EXISTS!

This is the most vital decade of all history! NEVER has it been more urgently necessary to answer the question, "Does God Exist?" Atheists, scientists and historical geologists assume He does not! Churchgoers, some Christians assume He does! It's time to QUIT ASSUMING! It's time you saw the PROOF!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

THERE is a delusion gripping the minds of more people today than Communism! It holds them in its sway, deluding and deceiving them, making them veritable *slaves!* It is the concept of "no God."

Recently, Sir Julian Huxley, grandson of the famed evolutionist, stated: "There is no longer either need or room for supernatural beings capable of affecting the course of events in the evolutionary pattern of thought. The earth was not created, it evolved. So did all the animals and plants that inhabit it, including our human selves, mind and soul as well as brain and body."

Is there "no longer any need for a concept of God"? Is the *Bible* merely a collection of Hebrew fables, or the dynamic living word of an intelligent, allwise Creator Being?

These questions domand an answer! Your very life, the lives of your loved ones, and the future of this world hangs in the balance!

Proof Number One

Need "Christians" be afraid or apprehensive of science textbooks? Is the Bible totally out of harmony with all science? Do modern-day discoveries in the sciences render the Christian helpless to reconcile his belief with the "enlightened age" in which he lives?

This first POSITIVE PROOF of the existence of God is so broad, so all-encompassing, so diverse in its many ramifications that it is possible only to barely scratch the surface in this brief article. However, there can be no clearer way to substantiate this proof than to quote from a typical college textbook which discards the Bible record. In the foreword material, the authors offer various explanations as to the origin of the earth:

"Our own galaxy, which we remember is but a tiny part of the universe, has probably existed a million, million years.

"But some progress has been made in

attempting to explain how and when the sun and its nine planets came into being. The study of the solar system gives us at least a clue to the origin of that part of the universe most important to us—the earth.

"The explanation commonly accepted today is called the Hypothesis of Dynamic Encounter, formulated about 1900 by T. C. Chamberlain and F. R. Moulton of the University of Chicago. In brief it suggests that our solar system had its birth when the sun was approached by another huge star. The latter, through the operation of the law of gravitation, detached from the sun great masses of flaming gas. The orphan masses from the parent sun gradually cooled and crystallized to become the nuclei of planets. These continued to revolve around the sun, held in their orbits by the gravitational pull of the parent body.

"The evolution of the earth to its present state was very gradual." (*Civilization Past and Present*, Vol. I, Page 31, Wallbank and Taylor.)

I quote this statement in full for a very special reason!

Let's go back and carefully ANALYZE what we have just read!

Notice carefully the *italicized* words in the quotation you have just read. We have such words in the opening phrases as "probably; some progress has been made; attempting to explain; at least a clue; explanation commonly accepted; Hypothesis; and it suggests."

What a collection! Here are numerous "attempts" to explain, "some progress" being made, at least a "clue," and the "suggestion" of an "hypothesis"—the very word itself meaning "WE GUESS"!

Then, in very careful wording, having begun with a number of "possibles" and "perhapses" the book begins to tell of definite PAST OCCURRENCES which are said to have taken place!

But let's analyze further. Let's get to the very trunk of the tree of this very vital FIRST PROOF of the existence of God!

Notice it!

In the very BEGINNING the writers, even though beginning with many attempts to explain, clues and guesses, admit the existence of our solar system, a "sun," another "huge star," the "operation of the law of gravitation," great "masses of flaming gas," and admit that these gases "gradually cooled!"

They also mention how these gases "crystallized" and then continued to "revolve around the sun, held in their orbits by the gravitational pull of the parent body!"

What a fantastic array! Here is a tremendous, limitless, imagination-defying expanse—an entire universe! Here is a whole solar system, a huge sun, the operation of certain, definite, immutable, unchangeable LAWS! Here is a supposed collision between gigantic, breathtakingly huge astral bodies, resulting in the supposed formulation of our present solar system!

Think of it! All of these myriad laws, of heat, light, energy, motion, the rotation of astral bodies, the laws of gravity, the principle of isostasy, which demands that every orbital body must gradually assume and maintain a near-round shape, and myriad other laws are admitted to exist which are entirely too numerous to mention!

Yes, THINK!

Get back to the real TRUNK of the tree! Where is the place to begin? Is it an attempt to explain the existence of our present solar system? Decidedly not! Scientists and astronomers tell us that our solar system is only one of many such systems in our great galaxy called the "Milky Way." However, even our galaxy is only one of myriad galaxies, which form only a part of the vast, limitless expanse of the universe. Our planet, astronomers assure us, is merely a thirdrate planet in a second-rate solar system,

lost in the expanses of seemingly limitless space!

Do you begin to comprehend? By what LAW did one star approach another? By what LAW did heat gradually cool? By what LAW was there a "gravitational pull"? By what LAW was there the existence of the "operation of the law of gravitation"?

Yes, there it is. In dissecting and looking carefully into the statements of some of the preposterous hypotheses which have been advanced, you begin to see that in every case the writers have begun with an orderly LAW-ABIDING universe, governed by irrefutable LAWS!

The existence of LAW, unchangeable, immutable, irrevocable, unseen and yet active, absolutely DEMANDS the existence of a GREAT LAWGIVER!

"There is one LAWGIVER who is able to save and to destroy..." (James 4:12). That LAWGIVER is GOD!

Proof Number Two

Before seeing this next amazing, irrefutable proof, it is first necessary to state, in simple terms, the meaning of the word "evolution." Of course, there are many processes called "evolution."

The process of development of music from simple to complex is, in a sense, an "evolutionary" process. This, as is true in all technological inventions, has perhaps led many to assume such a development is also true in organic living material!

"Evolution is the gradual development from the simple unorganized condition of primal matter to the complex structure of the physical universe; and in like manner, from the beginning of organic life on the habitable planet, a gradual unfolding and branching out into all the various forms of beings which constitute the animal and plant kingdoms." (Organic Evolution, p. 6, Lull.)

Notice it! Evolution theorizes from the beginning of organic life—already having LIFE with which to begin! It does not now show, nor has it ever shown, nor will it ever be able to show how life CAME into existence!

The theory of evolution (the word "theory" means "we think") states simply, that all life forms that we know today, including humankind, all plant and animal life in all of its myriad

species, have gradually evolved from the most simple life forms to the complex, intricate, interdependent species we see about us today, each having its own peculiar cyclical life character, each producing according to its own kind.

Evolution states that this life evolved in a "gradual process," by "resident forces" into the complexity of life today.

And herein, at the very basic trunk of the tree of all evolutionary thought, lies one of the greatest proofs of God!

Evolutionists, geneticists, biologists, scientists in any field whatsoever have never been able to demonstrate, nor to offer the slightest evidence that the LIV-ING can come into existence from the not living!

It is true that certain laboratory experiments have taken place in which supposed "dead cells" are said to have been "revived" and brought back to life by the means of certain chemical compounds! This, however, is a far cry from "spontaneous generation."

There is a broad, gaping, yawning chasm of separation between life and death. The great gap between the not-living and the living is so broad, so insurmountable, so unfathomable by man, that evolutionists can only "suppose" and guess, offering vague, etherial, nebulous "theories" as to how life "might have" begun!

However, on the other hand, there is an absolute demonstrable *law* of science which comprises the second major proof of the existence of a life-giving God!

That is the Law of Biogenesis!

"Bio" means life! "Genesis" means beginning. This law, then, is a law concerning the BEGINNING of life! This law, simply stated, is the absolute law that life comes only from life. That the not-living can never give rise to, give birth to or produce the living.

There is perhaps no law known to science that can be any more firmly and easily demonstrated than the law of Biogenesis.

The very existence of LIFE demands a LIFEGIVER!

God states dogmatically, "And the Eternal God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the *breath of life*, and man *became* a living soul" (Gen. 2:7).

Almighty God, the Life Self-Existent,

the One who has life, who IS Life, who was before all things, IMPARTED life to the first man, and set within man, the animals, and all plants, the cyclical character of life which enables them to reproduce according to certain set laws! GOD IS THE GREAT LIFEGIVER!

Proof Number Three

Many of these amazing proofs of the existence of an Almighty God "overlap."

That is, each is, to a degree, interrelated with the other. The third major proof of God can be stated quite simply from the quotation you saw under Proof Number One.

You will notice that evolutionists, in trying to substantiate their theory, always BEGIN with an orderly universe, and the existence of *matter*. Notice the so-called Theory of Evolution BEGINS with matter, laws, and "simple" life!

What is matter? Matter occupies space and has weight. It is not always necessarily seen, since certain gases, and even the air which you breathe, are also classified as "matter."

Until recently, scientists talked of the law of the "conservation of matter." However, with the discoveries in nuclear physics, and following Madame Curie's experiments with radium, scientists have now found there is a certain amount of "disintegration" in matter!

This deserioration of matter is a scientific fact! Uranium (U 238) gradually disintegrates through many intermediate stages into lead (Pb 206). Uranium, as you may well know, is radioactive and gives off energy in the form of radiation.

Gradually, over a period of seemingly limitless years, this radioactive material disintegrates into lead! There is no new uranium coming into existence today!

This means, simply stated, that science has proved that this earth is gradually running down! The earth, and the whole universe, is like a great, giant clock, which at one time was wound up! It has been gradually "running down" ever since, and is not now by any process known or observed or measured being "wound up" again!

It is as if man has arrived on the scene in the midst of an orderly universe which is gradually "running down"! Ob-

(Please continue on page 22)

a personal way because He first loved us and gave His Son to be the propitiation for our sins (I John 4:10). One of the very persons in the Godhead was willing to empty Himself of His divinity and come down into this world of sin and suffering to DIE one of the most torturous deaths a God-rejecting age could devise!

Doesn't that command your respect, your worship, your LOVE?

You should love God because of His perfect and righteous and wonderful LAW—which teaches us the way to peace and happiness. That law reveals God's nature and character—is based on giving and serving, not on the selfish principle of getting, competition or greed. As Jesus—the personification of that law—stated: "It is more blessed to GIVE than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Whenever you think or speak or hear of anything good or beautiful or wonderful, you should think of GoD! Remember James' inspired statement: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17).

Because you love Him, because you know His way is RIGHT, because you truly worship Him, you should MEDITATE on God's law and on His word daily as David did. You should study your Bible regularly to live by EVERY word of God. You should PRAY to God regularly, with sincerity and with all your heart, as Jesus did—setting us an example.

Whenever you find that God commands you in His word to do something, you should immediately say: "Yes, Lord," and not argue, "reason" or evade the issue as so many falsely professing Christians do today.

Knowing that He made you and that your life really belongs to Him, you should present your body a LIVING SACRIFICE as God tells you to do (Rom. 12:1). You should serve and OBEY God with all your being—with a willing heart—and do all in your power to prepare yourself for and to further the work of reaching others with the message of the soon-coming government of God to bring real PEACE finally to this earth.

Your attitude should always be that

of Jesus Christ, your example, when He was called upon to give His very life: "Not my will, but THINE, be done" (Luke 22:42).

This is what true worship really means! This is how to keep the first commandment, the GREAT commandment!

Next month, we will continue this vital series with an exposition of the second commandment. Be sure to save this series of articles, to study them with your Bible, and to worship the Eternal God in Spirit and in truth. Your happiness, your peace of mind, your very life depend upon it.

Seven Proofs God EXISTS!

(continued from page 4)

serve even the fields, mountains, valleys, and various topographical features about you! Years ago, a man named John Powell, an early American explorer and geologist, observed the process of erosion from various streams and rivers, and was led to the conclusion that, given enough time, streams would wear down any land surface, no matter how high it had been originally, to what he called the grand base level fixed by the level of the ocean surface.

This process of erosion is seen about you constantly. That is, that the higher and the steeper the mountains, the more rapid is the erosion, and gradually all high areas of the earth are being lowered. The sea bottoms, river valleys and low areas are gradually becoming higher, so that eventually, given enough time, the earth would, should this process continue, become smoother and smoother.

This, while a totally different consideration from the disintegration of uranium, nevertheless serves to show the gradual "running down" of the earth.

Science has firmly established, then, there has been no past eternity of matter!

Matter must have at one time COME INTO EXISTENCE! Since matter by its very nature has had no past eternity, it had to have been, at one time, brought into existence!

Creation, then, the very existence of things, absolutely demands and requires a Creator! That which is made requires a Maker! That which is produced requires a Producer!

Matter, it has been firmly established, has been made—it did not just "happen" and has had no past eternity! Therefore, the third great proof is that the creation requires a great Creator!

Now for the next proof.

Proof Number Four

The One who is quoted in the first person as being God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind, and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and God saw that it was good" (Gen. 1:24-25).

Scientists have attempted to show the evolutionary pattern by "comparative embryology"; by a study of selective breeding, genetics, and various other aspects of biology.

However, without taking the tremendous amount of space necessary to even faintly scratch the surface of such a broad subject, suffice it to say there is an absolute irrefutable, immutable, unchangeable LAW, which absolutely prohibits a jump from one kind to another kind! (See "After His Kind" by Nclson.)

There are hundreds of different varieties within a certain species, and while there may be small, tiny dogs, such as the Mexican Chihuahua, and also great huge dogs such as the St. Bernard or the Great Dane, they are still dogs! They are not cats, nor horses, nor are they even beginning to show a gradual trend toward developing into another species! They are all of the same kind.

Comparative Embryology tries to point out that the beginning embryos of fish, polywogs, and humans look very much alike. This is absolutely true! But it proves absolutely nothing for the case of evolution, but does offer a STRONGER proof of the existence of

God! Scientists are defied to attempt to make the embryo of a fish turn out to be a polliwog, a man, or anything other than a fish from the exact same kind of fish which lay the egg in the first place!

Scientists have attempted to prove their evolutionary theories by "selective breeding" and studies in "mutations."

These do not prove evolution! They prove, rather, the existence of absolute unchangeable LAWS governing the reproduction of all animal and plant life, and that those laws function within certain limited bounds that cannot be transcended or broken!

While we are able to breed and cultivate today new varieties within a great kind, they are still of the same KIND and not a new species of life!

Any farmer who labors in his fields, raising corn, wheat or other crops, knows some of the basic proofs of selective breeding.

Scientists working with guinea pigs or other animals in laboratories can arrange an absolute *pattern* of just how the genes and chromosomes are going to react in the interbreeding of certain animals according to their coloring and various characteristics.

They are able to tell in advance just exactly what the offspring are going to look like! Again, this does not prove anything except demonstrate the existence of an all-wise, all-powerful God who made these laws, and who also sustains them! The fact God said let the earth bring forth "after his kind," and has been enforcing and sustaining that law ever since is the fourth major proof of the existence of God!

In attempting to array the skeletons of an orangutan, chimpanzee, ape, gorilla, and a man, evolutionists assure us there is a definite pattern showing all of these have come from one common ancestor!

This is an absolute fallacy! And again, this merely serves to show another clear proof of God! It does not prove an evolutionary process, but it does prove, rather, if men were willing to look at the FACTS, similarity of DESIGN! It shows that the same "Architect" had the same general plan and design in mind! It shows functional similarity, NOT the evolution of one to the other.

This absolutely proves, not only the

existence of a Lawgiver, but that there is, alive, acting RIGHT NOW, a Great Sustainer of all that is!

These laws are uphold, sustained, KEPT in action! How? By the Sustainer, who is GOD!

Proof Number Five

Look about you! You live in a highly complex, intricate and interdependent world!

It is a world of GREAT DESIGN.

You have never seen an ugly sunser! You have never seen an ugly scene in the desert, in the mountains, at sea, or anywhere on the surface of this entire earth, unless it was a scene made ugly by man! All is in harmony.

Life, as we know it, is entirely interdependent upon other forms of life. Nothing lives or dies to itself.

The question to the evolutionist is: Which "evolved" first, the corn or the bee? Did the bee evolve slowly for thousands, millions or billions of years independent of the corn stalks, the flowers and the pollens from growing things which are his life source?

Did the flowers, grasses, trees, and grains all "evolve" slowly and gradually over a period of millions or billions of years independent of the little bee, upon whom they must rely for their very continuation of life?

These are totally insurmountable, and unanswerable questions to the evolutionists! The old question, "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" is a question which the evolutionist feels worthy only of disdain. Why? Simply because he cannot answer it!

It is *better* from his point of view, to merely scoff, make fun of and attempt to *dismiss* such a question when he cannot answer it!

This total interdependency of all life forms—the tremendous design within this universe shows a common Beginner, one main Architect, one great Designer with an overall framework of a plan of creation into which all life forms fit.

Nothing lives or dies to itself. Each living thing, whether plant or animal, when it dies, supplies further life for other living things. Observe a forest. A tree grows, finally dies and falls, only to become part of the fallow forest floor, supplying life-giving elements for the

young trees around which it had sown in its lifetime!

This great universe, and the complex, intricate earth on which you live and draw breath, is a world of great design. It is a world of such complex and intricate design so as to take the very breath in beginning to investigate even the minutest part.

The cleavage properties of minerals, the wings of a bird or a fly, the beauty of a sunset, the facets of a quartz crystal, and above all, the marvelous, tremendous masterpiece of all design, the human body, all point out that for such intricate design, THERE HAD TO BE AN ETERNAL DESIGNER!

DESIGN in the universe proves the existence of a DESIGNER!

Proof Number Six

This sixth proof of the existence of an Almighty God is perhaps the most astounding of all!

It is fulfilled prophecy!

About one full third of your Bible is prophecy—and while most of that one-third pertains to our present day, there are many, many prophecies which have already been fulfilled, and which are presently BEING fulfilled!

God sent His prophets hundreds of years ago to such major cities as Babylon, Ekron, Ashdod, Askelon, Tyre and Sidon. These prophets—simple human beings who had been commissioned with a message—foretold the decay, fall and particular type of fate which was to befall each of these ancient cities!

And without fail, in every single instance, exactly at the time prescribed, all these things HAPPENED!

Since we have the technical details of the fulfillment of many of these prophecies in booklet form and in order to save space, I invite you to write for Mr. Armstrong's free booklet, "The PROOF of the Bible!"

This attractively printed booklet will give you the particular fulfillments of these many prophecies. It will show you by pictures exactly how these prophecies were fulfilled.

You will see with your own eyes, how the prophecies of God have come to pass exactly as He said!

The very fact that God is able to foretell the future, and bring it to pass,

is a great proof of His existence!

Proof Number Seven

This last proof is perhaps the greatest proof of all to Christians. It is the proof of answered prayer!

However, since the skeptics, atheists and doubters have never prayed, and hence have never had prayers answered, they continue to DOUBT!

In my father's autobiography running serially in The PLAIN TRUTH magazine, he has shown many instances of the *miraculous* answer to prayer!

Or take George Mueller's example.

George Mueller is dead now, but he probably was the greatest modern apostle of FAITH. He founded five great orphanages and other charitable institutions in Bristol, England. He started out, as FAITH always does, with a very small work, without any financial backing, and absolutely no means of support, except to get down on knees and send up a believing prayer to God.

For nearly seventy years George Mueller continued that great work, and it grew into a tremendous institution until it housed THOUSANDS. Every dime for feeding, clothing, sheltering, and schooling those thousands of orphans came in only one way—as a result of believing prayer.

Altogether he received more than a million four hundred thousand POUNDS—that was about SEVEN MILLIONS DOLLARS—that was sent to him in answer to his prayers!

Real answered prayer is NOT the mere "working out of events" as a result of "concentration." Many people today seem to assume prayer is merely an accomplishment as a result of "positive thinking" or a psychological adjustment!

This is a gross error!

Real answered prayer is a direct, divine, supernatural INTERVENTION, a completely MIRACULOUS intervention and direct answer from Almighty God! It is the result of being obedient to God's laws, asking according to His will, and then BELIEVING, in faith until the answer comes!

These seven, irrefutable, unchallengeable PROOFS of the existence of Almighty God represent only the minutest beginning of the subject! They are, nev-

ertheless, proofs! It's about time people quit assuming—it's about time they begin to really PROVE all things!

It's about time YOU should say, with

Job, "For I KNOW that MY REDEEM-ER LIVETH, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth" (Job 19:25).

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Zuestions

FROM OUR READERS

"I was baptized at age 11 by a minister of a large denomination, but I didn't understand the true meaning of repentance until I began studying my Bible and hearing your broadcasts. Should I be baptized again?"

This is a vital question to many of you. Baptism is an important step in your spiritual life and it must be done properly—at the right time and in the right way—after true repentance! Unfortunately, many people have not been properly immersed. Here's how you can know if you have been properly baptized.

The key to this whole problem was given by the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost when he said, "REPENT, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

Notice that repentance COMES FIRST! Baptism is second—AFTER repentance!

You repent of SIN. And what is the Bible definition of sin? "... Sin is the transgression of the law" (I John 3:4). That is the Bible definition of sin—breaking God's Law! To be really converted, you must REPENT of breaking God's Law and believe that Jesus Christ paid the penalty of sin in your stead and is your personal Saviour.

Jesus said: "... Man shall not live by bread alone, but by EVERY word of God" (Luke 4:4). You must repent of disobeying God's Law—His Word—His RULE over your life. This must come first. Then you need to be baptized by a complete immersion as an outward sign of your willingness to completely BURY your old self—and literally give your very life to God and to Jesus Christ

as your personal Saviour, High Priest, and Master.

But frankly, most people attending the churches of this world and having been "baptized" by them never really knew WHAT to repent of! This is especially true of young teen-agers. They didn't know WHAT sin really is.

At the time of early youth, most young people sincerely intend to "do better" or to "follow their church." But since they have not been taught what sin actually is they completely fail to realize how ROTTEN and SINFUL they have really been in God's sight. They are usually only sorry for having disobeyed their conscience or their church.

They don't really REPENT! They aren't broken up about the wretched state of their lives and their own human VANITY and selfishness which expresses itself constantly in all of us.

If you are wondering about your baptism, ask yourself WHY you were baptized in the first place. Were you baptized simply because many of the members of your family were baptized, and you felt looked down upon, or had that "left out" feeling? Did you stand in the water and go through the ordinance of baptism simply to "join" the group with whom you had been fellowshipping? Were you baptized because you temporarily thought it was the "right thing to do?"

Such people don't immediately begin to study and UNDERSTAND the Bible. They just continue to go along with the customs, the ways and the traditions of their friends and of this world. Their lives are not actually CHANGED. They

(Please continue on page 28)