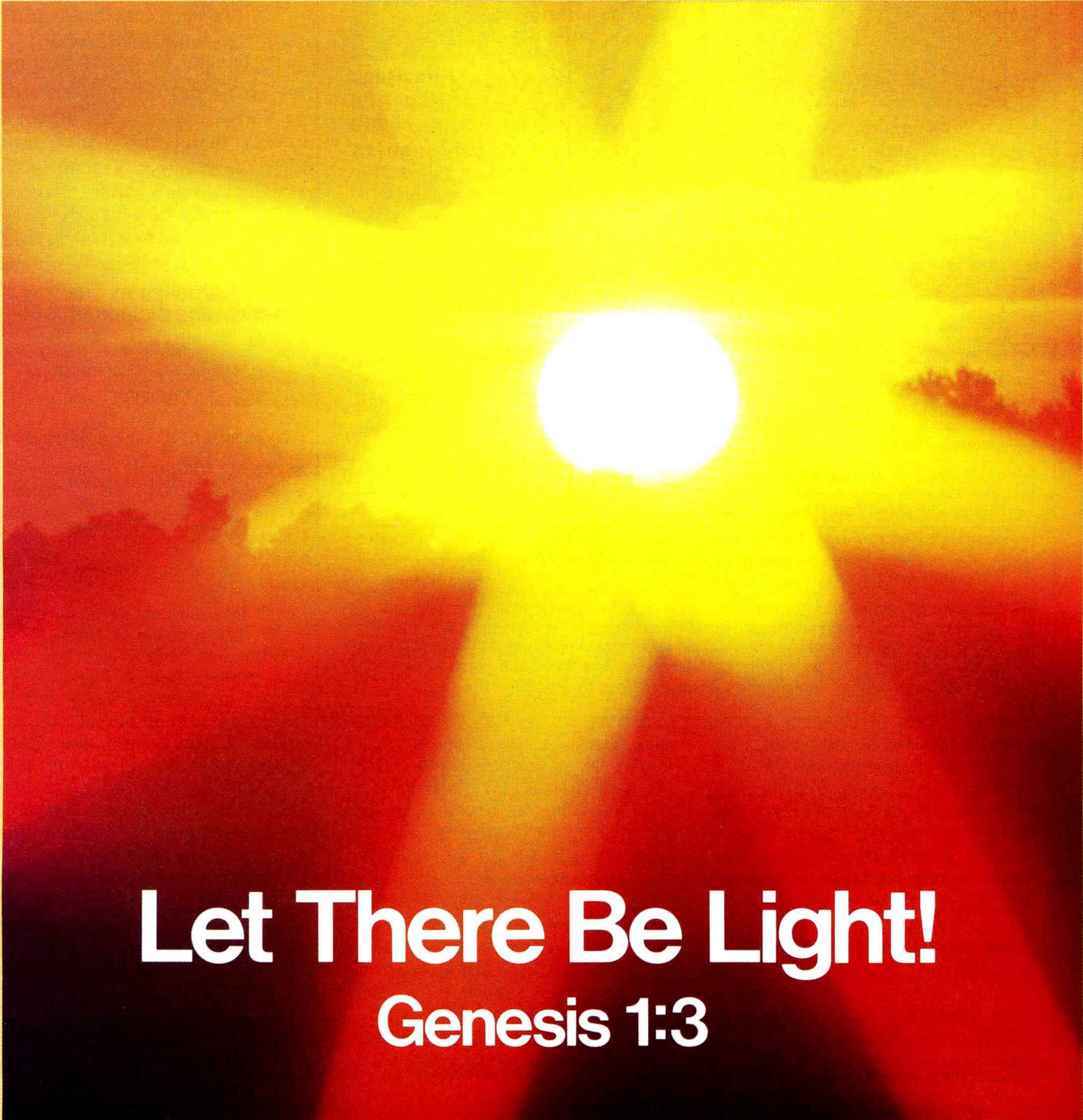


APRIL 1984

# The Good News

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OF THE WORLD TOMORROW



**Let There Be Light!**  
**Genesis 1:3**



## PERSONAL FROM



**A** woman in London, England, a subscriber, writes, "We do not agree with a lot of your teaching." Now there's nothing unusual about that.

I would estimate that about 99.99 percent of you who read this column did not agree with a lot of our teaching when you first heard the *World Tomorrow* program or first began reading *The Plain Truth* or *The Good News*.

THAT'S the *very reason* you should listen and read! If we tell you only what you already know and believe, we've wasted your time — we have failed to give what will profit YOU!

No two people believe alike in all things. Nobody agrees with EVERYBODY else.

Our purpose is to inform, to challenge, to stimulate THINKING, checking and PROVING what you believe. We always say, do not believe what we — or anyone else — say BECAUSE we say it. But listen without prejudice, check, verify, PROVE — and then believe what you find PROVED true. If you do, we think you'll come to believe what you read here.

But this lady wrote more.

"At the end of your second letter," she continued, "I noticed you said the Gospel message is an educational message. If this is so, it is not for us and for millions and millions of other people. And this statement is not biblical. . . . The Bible was not written to inform man's mind, but to change man's heart."

WHAT'S THAT? This statement of mine is not biblical? The Bible was not written to inform the MIND?!

It is VERY IMPORTANT that our

readers UNDERSTAND whether the Bible was written to inform the MIND! And whether the only TRUE Gospel is an educational message.

Entirely too many have been DECEIVED into the false idea that the GOSPEL is an irrational, sentimental, ethereal superstition. THAT IS THE REASON, more than any other single reason, that modern education and educated people today have utterly REJECTED the Bible, the true Gospel and belief in God!

And my statement is NOT BIBLICAL? I will now show you — if your mind is open — precisely how COMPLETELY biblical it is!

This woman in London put her finger on the very CRUX of *all* this world's tragedies, its sorrows, pains and sufferings, its heartaches, its poverty, illiteracy, filth and squalor, its crime, broken marriages, violence and wars!

The CAUSE of all unhappiness and wretchedness is WRONG type of education, and LACK of the knowledge that can be received *only* from the revelation of the Creator — in His Word.

And WHY?

Simply because the world has thrown away the BASIC TEXTBOOK of true education — the Holy Bible!

The world has gotten all mixed up. The world, like this woman in London, has not realized just WHAT the Bible IS!

The Bible IS the FOUNDATION of ALL KNOWLEDGE — and it reveals the true APPROACH to the acquisition of all discoverable knowledge. It is our Maker's INSTRUCTION BOOK of needed knowledge acquirable from no other source.

What is the very TRUNK of the tree of knowledge?

It is the PURPOSE for the very existence of human life here upon

the earth! It is to know the MEANING of life. It is to discern the TRUE values from the false. It is to know THE WAY to peace, happiness, abundant well-being and eternal life — THE WAY to what fundamentalists call "salvation." To know just what IS "salvation." Is it a PLACE — a geographical location? Is it a changed *condition*? Is it a change of *composition* — or WHAT? And HOW do we obtain it? Is that KNOWLEDGE important? Does the Bible teach it?

Is it rational? Does it make sense?

Nowhere but in the Bible can one obtain THIS BASIC, NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE! Of course, there seems to be an almost endless amount of knowledge that MAN can learn, discover or acquire by himself. God gave man eyes that see, ears that hear, hands that feel. God gave man a MIND that can reason, feet to carry him about, hands that can design and make instruments. He can make telescopes and microscopes. He can build and equip laboratories, conduct experiments. He can travel and explore.

But he cannot discover, by himself, WHAT he himself IS or WHY he is. Did he just *happen*, without intelligent design, by a purposeless process called "evolution"? Or was he CREATED and put here FOR A PURPOSE? And *what* is that purpose?

True education must teach us the art of peaceful, happy, successful living. Yet our schools DO NOT teach our oncoming generations HOW to live happily! None of the rulers, the scientists, the educators knows THE WAY TO PEACE — whether in the home, between neighbors or between NATIONS!

True education must teach how  
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# PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

to become physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually MATURE. Yet NO school, college or university on earth save Ambassador College, so far as I know, offers young people this FULL and COMPLETE and BALANCED type of education.

But the letter from this woman in London says "the Bible was not written to inform man's mind" and it is "not biblical" to say that the Gospel is an EDUCATIONAL message!

THAT false supposition is a MAJOR CAUSE of all the world's unhappy ills!

WHY? How could that be?

Simply because that has been the common conception since the so-called "old-fashioned gospel" of the evangelical, fundamentalist Protestant denominations was first introduced as the "newfangled" religion some 250 to 350 years ago.

This so-called "old-fashioned gospel" is NOT the true Gospel brought to mankind by Jesus Christ! It is NOT "the faith once delivered to the saints." Yet millions have SUPPOSED IT IS! THEY HAVE SUPPOSED that the Gospel is a sentimental, nebulous, ethereal sort of EMOTION, irrational and UNRELATED to the MIND. They SUPPOSE that THIS false "gospel" came out of the Bible! Therefore they ASSUME that the Bible is an impractical book of maudlin sentimentality, utterly unrelated to rational KNOWLEDGE.

Thus the Bible has come to be regarded as outmoded superstition — a book of fables — or, in the Old Testament, the writings of an ancient race of Jews ignorantly searching for a national concept of a god.

So THINKERS, *without* thinking, and *without* checking to SEE what the Bible is, or what it says, have relegated it to the scrap heap of outworn superstition. The "EDUCATED" have thrown it out the window, without searching to PROVE their biased assumption.

And the followers of evangelical

Protestantism — many of them, at least — have SUPPOSED that "the Bible was not written to inform man's mind, but to change man's heart." They have accepted a sanctimonious sentimentalism in which they get to "feel" that they are spiritual and that they are "saved," largely shutting up their minds against the rational teaching of the Bible.

A very "religious" woman who fell into this category once exclaimed, in surprised amazement, "Why, you surely don't read the Bible to try to UNDERSTAND it, do you?"

"Why, *of course!*" I replied emphatically. "Don't you ever read the Bible?"

"Oh yes! I read it every day,"

fallen asleep" (I Thessalonians 4:13).

Was *this* written to inform man's MIND — prevent IGNORANCE? But of course MOST people today, *because* they embrace a sanctimonious superstition INSTEAD OF THE BIBLE'S MESSAGE, do not understand this!

The woman in London says, "The Bible was not written to inform man's mind, but to change man's heart." If the Bible was written to *change* man's heart (AND IT WAS INDEED!) pray tell me HOW it can change man's HEART, if it is never understood by the MIND?

Just what does the Bible *mean* when it speaks of man's "heart"? The word *heart* is used, in this

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Millions, in vanity regarding themselves as *thinkers*, throw away the Bible without so much as examining its contents. Yet the Bible is the very SOURCE of basic TRUTH.

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she said, putting on a sanctimonious tone.

"Well then, do you mean you read it, but you don't let it SPEAK to you — you don't get any meaning from what you read?"

"But we're not *supposed* to understand the Bible," she persisted.

Like the woman in London, she thought it was not written to inform man's MIND.

"Then WHY do you read it?" I asked.

"Why, just for INSPIRATION," she replied.

Entirely too many people are DECEIVED by this false idea. NO WONDER the men of science and the educators of this world have ASSUMED that the Bible contains nothing RATIONAL — but only senseless, sentimental superstition, entirely irrational! Well, let's just *read* a few words of it! It won't poison your mind!

To the gentile-born Thessalonians, Paul wrote: "But I do not want you to be IGNORANT, brethren, concerning those who have

sense, to imply the ATTITUDE of MIND!

The BIBLE says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9). It is not referring to the organ that pumps blood under man's chest.

It is referring to man's NATURE — his attitude or spirit or tendency of MIND. It is referring to his natural CHARACTER!

But HOW does God go about *changing* this deceitful, wicked NATURE — this "heart" — this attitude of MIND?

Only the Holy Spirit of God can do this. So *how* does one receive God's Spirit?

Jesus began His Gospel ministry and teaching saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: REPENT ye, and BELIEVE the GOSPEL" (Mark 1:1, 14-15, Authorized Version). Two conditions He said WE must perform: REPENT and BELIEVE!

On the great day of Pentecost when Peter had received God's Holy Spirit, he explained the



# LETTERS

## "What Lies Ahead Now?"

It is indeed a great pleasure to receive *The Plain Truth* and *The Good News* as well as the published booklets. I thank God continually for choosing you to be His apostle in this exciting and highly dangerous time of the end. And I thank you for choosing such diligent, willing and knowledgeable people to work for you.

Thank you for the most excellent, timely and informative article in the January issue, titled "What Lies Ahead Now?" It brings new light to that part of the book of Revelation for me and makes me realize how close we really are getting to the end. We must band together in strong and steady support for the work of God until it is finished! I for one am with you 100 percent. Please keep up your wonderful work.

Kenneth H. Wadsworth  
Pierson, Mich.

Thank you so much for the article, "What Lies Ahead Now?" Of course, I realize that God is the true author of it, but I just wanted you to know how much it enlightened me and encouraged me to hold fast to the trunk of the tree of God's work.

Thank you for the great work you do as the human head of God's government on earth at this time!

Reader  
Kansas City, Mo.

## A gold mine

The January *Good News* is a spiritual gold mine on every page. The cover pic-

ture is quite appropriate. I don't know if you can appreciate how much it has given me a lift just when I needed it most. Again, thank you for everything and keep up the good work!

Tom O'Leary  
Great Falls, Mont.

## Bible study and toddlers

"Study the Bible — Daily!" in the December issue of *The Good News* piqued my interest. The article mentioned the trouble that a mother with toddlers might encounter.

I have found, since my first child was born, one good time to study. Every day, about the same time as Sabbath services in our area, we all (three of us now) sit down and practice. While I read or study, they play quietly with things they would use in church services.

I get some study in, and they learn to be quiet for 30 minutes to an hour. Even if I can only do this two or three times a week, I have far fewer discipline problems at services with my 3-year-old and a baby.

The articles in *The Good News* and *The Plain Truth* always give me a great boost each month.

Reader  
Fort Worth, Tex.

## Index

I enjoy all the literature I receive from you. I'm keeping all my copies for future reference. They're so well written, easily understood, and the photography is excellent!

The 1983 index of *The Good News* and *The Plain Truth* is going to be so

helpful in finding the various topics in the magazines to be reviewed.

Edna Perkins  
Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

Fantastic! I just had to let those responsible for the *Good News* and *Plain Truth* index for 1983 know what a great idea it is. It surely will facilitate personal Bible study.

Norma Burgess  
Sylvania, Ohio

## Far-reaching principles

Please accept my sincere gratitude for sending me *The Plain Truth* and *The Good News*. They both have contained many meaningful and far-reaching principles that I had not even considered. It makes me realize how we humans do, indeed, delude ourselves! And that takes a lot of courage to write with such authority.

I hope you continue to publish such eye-opening — and uplifting — articles. Thank you for all the wonderful contents; they have really made me stop and think.

Deborah A. Jones  
Richmond, Va.

We hope you will be around for a long time telling us the good news, making the Bible seem like a primer book, it's so easy to understand. Keep on telling us the way God intended His saints and teachers to tell or explain, so we could grasp His truths. Thank you so much, Mr. Armstrong.

Henrietta Curry  
Cincinnati, Ohio

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

Again, same teaching: two conditions — REPENT and BELIEVE. To "be baptized" is the outward ceremony of the inward BELIEVING.

Example: The eunuch said to Philip: "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" And Philip said, "If you BELIEVE with all your heart, you may" (Acts 8:36-37).

Yes, TWO conditions. That, we must do. Then GOD does the

"saving" — the converting. God GIVES His Holy Spirit.

But now HOW does one REPENT? What does the word *repent* MEAN?

The dictionary definition is "to change one's MIND." "Godly sorrow produces repentance" (II Corinthians 7:10). This is done in and by the MIND!

Paul was concerned about the MIND. He said, "Let this MIND be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).

How does one BELIEVE, in order to be "saved"? One must BELIEVE with the MIND.

The very last words of the apostle Peter's letter were: "But

grow in the grace and KNOWLEDGE of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (II Peter 3:18).

What is the FOUNDATION of knowledge — the *starting approach* to wisdom? The Bible tells us: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good UNDERSTANDING have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever" (Psalm 111:10).

Speaking of the spiritual GIFTS — which God gives to His begotten children — to the heirs of salvation — we read this INSTRUCTION to the MIND:

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have



you ignorant." Through Paul, GOD says He does not want us to be IGNORANT — but UNDERSTANDING and KNOWLEDGEABLE of MIND!

Continue: "Wherefore I give you to UNDERSTAND . . . Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. . . For to one is given by the Spirit the word of WISDOM; to another the word of KNOWLEDGE by the same Spirit; to another FAITH by the same Spirit" (I Corinthians 12:1, 3-4, 8-9, AV).

The MOST IMPORTANT of all the spiritual gifts that God gives His people are, first of all, WISDOM; second in importance, KNOWLEDGE; third, FAITH. These all are imparted to the MIND!

Jesus Christ said that we should actually LIVE BY "every word of God" — that is, every word in the Bible (Luke 4:4). How may we do that, unless we allow God's Word to speak to and instruct our MINDS?

What does *study* mean? Do we "STUDY" with our MINDS — or our hearts? We find this INSTRUCTION and TEACHING: "STUDY to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15, AV).

That is a COMMAND! One can STUDY and *rightly* divide the Word of God *only with* his MIND!

God teaches — yes, COMMANDS! — that the Scriptures are to be STUDIED — with the MIND. Otherwise, how could we know God's WILL for us? So we find *this* command: "Therefore do not be unwise, but UNDERSTAND what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:17).

What a tragedy that so much of this world is DECEIVED.

MILLIONS have been deceived into a FALSE "salvation," inoculated with the spiritual poison that salvation and the Gospel are concerned only with a sanctimonious mental anesthetic, shutting up the MIND to God's real TRUTH, accepting the counterfeit of a sentimental feeling of piety.

And other MILLIONS have been

conversely deceived into supposing that this ethereal, impractical, irrational superstition of these professing but deceived "Christians" constitutes the teaching of the Bible.

So *these* millions, in their vanity wanting to be considered rational and educated — wanting to regard themselves as *thinkers* — throw away the Bible without so much as an examination of its contents.

BOTH these pious sentimentalists and these intellectuals are DECEIVED!

Going off in opposite directions, to the opposite extremes from the TRUTH, these groups are both headed for the same ultimate destination, unless there can be a mind-opening!

The Bible is the very SOURCE of TRUE RATIONALISM, of basic TRUTH.

Also the Bible is the very SOURCE of the only TRUE Gospel and genuine SALVATION.

Surely it is the Book almost NOBODY knows!

What, then, *IS* the Holy BIBLE?

It is the FOUNDATION of *all* knowledge — knowledge that is otherwise utterly inaccessible to the mind of man — the knowledge of WHAT man is — of WHY man is — of the true values — of THE WAY to peace, happiness, abundant well-being, success — of ETERNAL life.

It is the FOUNDATION of *all* knowledge — scientific, physical and spiritual. *Not* the sum total of knowledge — far, far from it! It is the *starting point* — the BASIS, providing the proper *approach* toward the acquisition of knowledge that *is* discoverable by man.

It contains history, prophecy, wisdom, spiritual knowledge, TRUTH.

No one can be properly EDUCATED except by and through it. No one can know the way to eternal life, except by what it contains.

Yes, I REPEAT! The Gospel message *IS* an educational message! It is RATIONAL! It MAKES SENSE! And it is REAL! □

## Health

(Continued from page 13)

desk for eight hours a day. Then we sit down again to travel home, where after sitting for dinner, we sit in front of the TV set for several hours. On weekends, for recreation, we sit in front of stages or movie screens to be entertained, or pay for the pleasure of sitting in the bleachers to watch paid professionals get the exercise we so desperately need ourselves.

### A matter of the heart

When questioned on the subject, 49 percent of all American men and women admit that they do not engage in physical activities for the purpose of exercise. That leaves 51 percent who do — a slim majority.

But Dr. Laurence E. Morehouse, founding director of the Human Performance Laboratory, University of California, Los Angeles, thinks the picture is actually gloomier than statistics indicate. In his best-selling book *Total Fitness in 30 Minutes a Week*, he states:

"Newspapers and magazines make much of statistics indicating that millions of Americans are on a fitness kick. That isn't really true. . . .

"When the activities themselves are analyzed, it's apparent that at least eighty percent of the adult population isn't exercising sufficiently or properly to arrest physiological decay."

To understand why Dr. Morehouse came to this conclusion, we need to examine the words "physical fitness" and "exercise."

Health and longevity don't depend exclusively on rippling muscles and slender contours. Rather, physical fitness is determined by the condition of the heart, the size and elasticity of the arteries that feed blood to the heart and the elasticity of the lungs.

The key, then, to a well-conditioned body is the circulatory system. No part of the body can survive, let alone thrive, without the