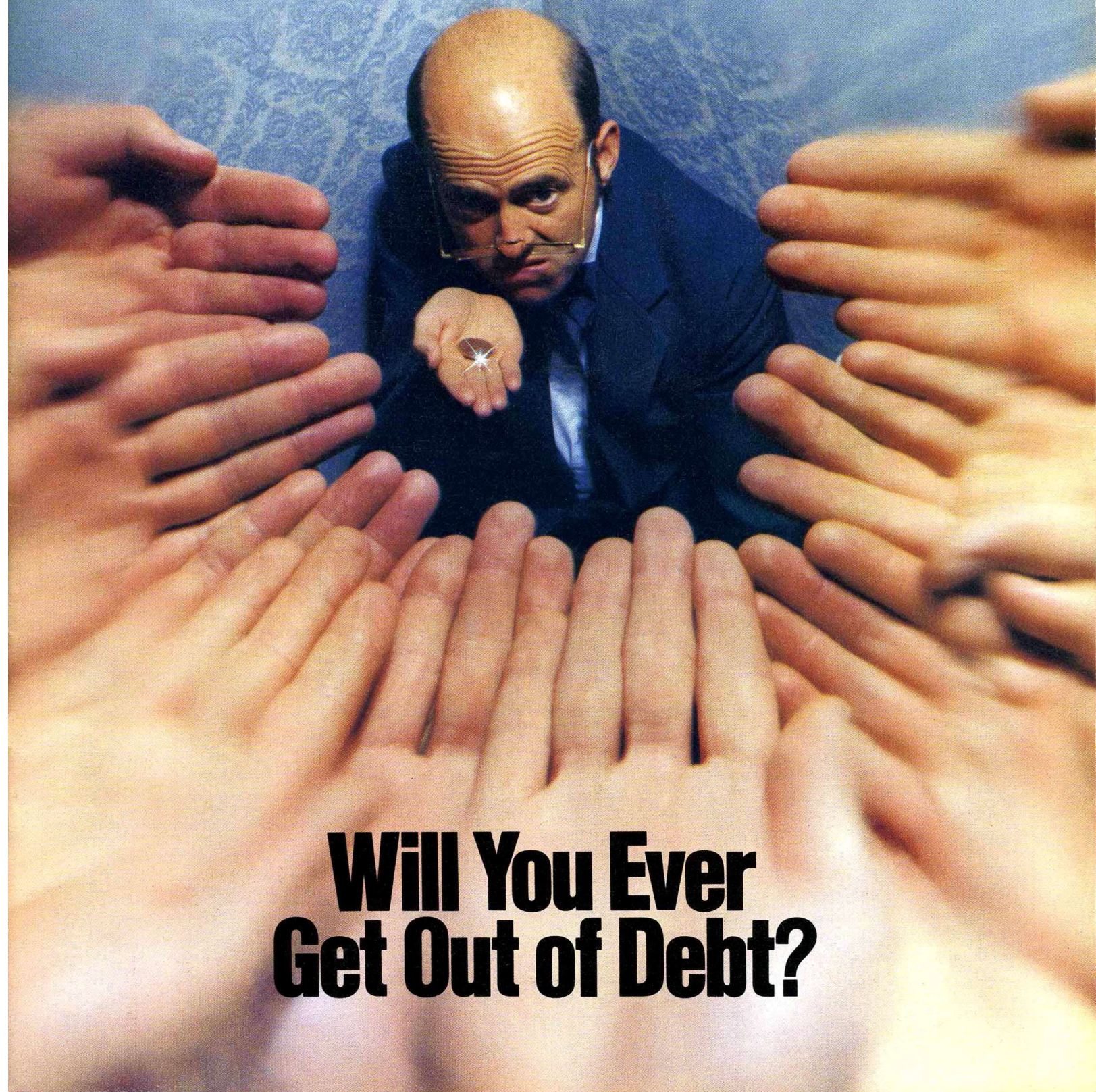


APRIL 1982

the

PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



Will You Ever Get Out of Debt?



Personal from...

Utopia—Nearer Than You Think!

Back in 1934, when the *Plain Truth* magazine was born and the *World Tomorrow* program first started on the air, I predicted the future union of the nations of Europe, resurrecting the ancient Roman Empire. That momentous event is near.

When this political, military and religious union in Europe is accomplished, it will completely alter the entire world scene. It will provide a *third* GIANT power, equal to or even superior to either the United States or Russia! And, to the surprise of most, the world will be startled to learn that it will have been provided with military NUCLEAR power!

Nations never in history have produced new and more destructive weapons without using them. It is possible that the nuclear World War III, more frightful than anything in human history, *may* explode on an unsuspecting world *during this decade!*

But THERE IS ALSO UNBELIEVABLE *GOOD NEWS!*

If what I have said looks depressing, there is the brighter side! If this happens, it will be merely the storm before the dawn of a beautiful, happy WORLD OF PEACE.

The future indeed looks bleak and hopeless . . . UNLESS there shall appear AN UNSEEN HAND FROM SOMEPLACE to change it. That possibility is not as ridiculous as many will think. I would even go so far as to say it is *more than possible* such an unexpected turn in events shall occur during *this decade!*

Why *shouldn't* we have UTOPIA *here* on earth? *WHY?*

The Los Angeles *Times* some time ago ran a story on a UTOPIAN college campus. The word *utopia* was used in its headline. It was a story the *Times* did on a unique and different college campus, where there are no riots, but where

everybody is smiling and seems to be really happy!

It is a college campus associated with *The Plain Truth!* It is the campus of Ambassador College, Pasadena, California.

There is a CAUSE for every effect. There is a CAUSE for all the world's troubles. There is also a CAUSE for the enjoyable happiness that radiates all over this campus.

Although there is a saying about it being darkest just before dawn, and we are now rapidly being whisked into that very short period of darkness in world history, it is the most SURE sign of the DAWN immediately beyond. And it is entirely possible that the 1980s may be the decade that brings that very UTOPIA to the world.

And WHY NOT? The dictionary describes Utopia as an imaginary state of PERFECTION. But WHY should it be imaginary or impossible? Why shouldn't we have PEACE on earth, with universal prosperity, good health, right education, abundant well-being for EVERYBODY?

You may call Ambassador College an experiment in UTOPIA if you like—but students and faculty on the Ambassador campus in Pasadena and the two-year sister campus in Big Sandy, Texas, will tell you we surely are approaching utopia—these campuses are happy, joyful places to be. We advocate this WAY in *The Plain Truth*. We practice what we preach. And we certainly ENJOY the result!

True, we do say it actually *will* require this “strong hand from someplace” to solve the world's troubles and bring us PEACE. Then the critic will ask, “Aren't you saying it is IMPOSSIBLE for humanity to solve our problems?” NO! We *don't* say it is impossible—we say HUMANITY IS NOT WILLING—humanity REFUSES. It is impossible ONLY because humanity rejects THE WAY to peace, prosperity and all the GOOD THINGS only because humanity REFUSES.

It is not impossible. We are PROVING that at Ambassador College. □

the **REAL** HISTORY of the **TRUE** CHURCH

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Few indeed know the Bible reveals a great false church, deceiving millions, and a *true* Church of God, persecuted, yet enduring. Few know the real PURPOSE of the Church, who built it and why. Now we are warned of a forthcoming effort to deceive even this generation concerning who really built the present era of the true Church. Here is the plain truth.

Editor's note: We are printing here, serially, a new book by Herbert W. Armstrong with the same title as this article.

FIRST of all, let the true FACT be stated that Jesus Christ built the true Church of God.

It was founded by the resurrected *living* Christ, after his ascension to heaven. He has remained permanently the HEAD of it.

The questions, then, are WHY

was it built—what is its PURPOSE—by whom did Christ build it—and through whom has he built up the present era of the Church?

What is the Church? WHY does it exist? What is its PURPOSE? People in the Western world take the church as an institution for granted—they know not why! A large segment of millions flock to services Sunday mornings.

But WHY the Church?

But WHY? Just *what is* the Church? Is it a building with a sharply sloping roof, with a steeple atop pointing heavenward, a cross

on its facade? Do the members go to the church? Or does the local church assemble in a building or place?

Winston Churchill said before the United States Congress during World War II, "There is a PURPOSE being worked out here below." Does the Church have anything to do with that PURPOSE?

To understand what the world does not understand, we need to consider the world into which Jesus came when he said, "I will build my church."

He came into the same world in

which you and I live today. It's the same world, though it has undergone significant changes in two directions. Its technology, its materialistic science and production have awesomely increased, while conversely the complexity of its social, regulatory, governmental, judiciary and educational systems has tremendously expanded. It has produced appalling evils, unsolvable problems, human discontent, unhappiness and suffering. But all that is merely the expansion of human systems already functioning.

We cannot therefore understand the PURPOSE of the Church until we first understand the origin of civilization—the world into which Jesus came to build his Church. For indeed the Church *is* the Master Plan of the Eternal GOD for working out his PURPOSE here below. What was wrong that needed such a PURPOSE to be worked out?

Not God's Civilization

This world has been blinded from the truth about its very civilization and how it started. Many people assume this is GOD's civilization.

Actually it all started in the dim recesses of prehistory. A super archangel, the cherub Lucifer (Isa. 14:12-15), invisible but immortal and extremely intelligent, was very high in rank in the government of the universe. He was one of two majestic cherubs whose wings overspread the very throne of the supreme Creator God in heaven (Ezek. 28:14-15). At the creation of the earth, Lucifer was set on earth's throne to administer the government of God, in which he was adequately trained and experienced. Lucifer reigned over angels whose abode was then the newly created earth.

But, while still on the *inside* of God's universe-government, perfect in all his ways from his creation, Lucifer allowed vanity to corrupt him into covetousness, envy and rebellion. A spirit of competition entered him. He attempted to *take over* the government of the entire universe. He and his invading army of angels (II Pet. 2:4) swooped up to heaven in violent conquest to overthrow the Creator

God from his throne over the universe.

But they were cast back down to earth. Lucifer became Satan the devil, still on the throne of the earth, but no longer administering God's government. His angels became demons.

This angelic rebellion brought confusion, decay and darkness to the earth (Gen. 1:2). Then God (Ps. 104:30) in six days renewed the face of the earth (Gen. 1:3-25) for MAN (verse 26), created in God's own image, after the GOD-kind—with God's grand PURPOSE to be worked out here below of reproducing himself through MAN! That supreme PURPOSE provides that man shall be born, finally, into the very GOD Family! Yet the world seems never to have grasped that PURPOSE, or the incredible human potential!

Man was created with human spirit (Job 32:8, I Cor. 2:11, Rom. 8:16), which imparts the power of intellect to the human brain. Except for this, human brain is like animal brain. Man was created with power of mind, in the form and shape of God, yet, even as dumb vertebrates, of matter from the ground with only temporary existence.

Man, since rebellion entered his world, has been blinded as to what, and why he is—except for those to whom God has revealed this truth.

Civilization Is Founded

God is composed of Spirit. God is immortal, possessing life inherent—self-containing life. Man's life is animal life—temporary physiochemical existence. But immortal, self-containing life was freely offered the first created man!

That man was named Adam. But he was first made incomplete in two ways: he was of one gender only and to reproduce he needed another gender with him, so God made for him a wife, named Eve. Also his mind was incomplete, with the one human spirit. This gave him capability to acquire material knowledge—to deal with things.

But God's ultimate PURPOSE for him required a close relationship with his Maker, God, and also a workable, peaceful and happy rela-

tionship with fellowman. His mind therefore was incomplete as first created. For completion, another Spirit was needed—the Holy Spirit of God.

All this wonderful truth seems to have been missing from humanly taught knowledge. It is revealed in the incident of the forbidden fruit, explained in the second and third chapters of Genesis. WHY has this been ignored—misunderstood—misrepresented?

The entire founding of man's civilization has lain hidden in this incident of the forbidden fruit. What if—yes, *what if* Adam had eaten of the tree of LIFE? The theologians and religionists seem never to have asked—or answered—that question.

Before the first created man and woman were two symbolic trees. One was the tree of the "knowledge of good and evil." This tree produced the forbidden fruit. That tree (Adam did not eat an apple) represented *knowledge*. To take *to himself* this knowledge production (of good and evil—of right or wrong)—would result in death. The other tree was the tree of LIFE—immortal, inherent life. But it, too, represented KNOWLEDGE. How do we know?

Because immortal LIFE is today offered to the called Christian. And how does he obtain it? Not all at once, instantaneously, but by first receiving the very Spirit Adam lacked—the Holy Spirit of God. When one receives the GIFT of God's Holy Spirit, he becomes merely a begotten child of God. And the Spirit of God *opens the mind* to UNDERSTAND the spiritual Word of God—the Bible!

Man needed *spiritual knowledge* for fellowship with his Maker, as well as for contact with fellowman. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of a sound mind—the Spirit by which the mind is enabled to comprehend—to UNDERSTAND—spiritual knowledge as revealed through God's Word (I Cor. 2:9-14).

Placed before the first created man, father of the human family, were two very special trees in the garden of Eden, symbolic of tremendous meaning. The man was required to make a choice. One symbolic tree represented LIFE—

self-containing life inherent—immortality. The other, DEATH!

The tree of LIFE symbolized the gift of God's Holy Spirit, the begetting of eternal LIFE. The forbidden tree was called the tree of "the KNOWLEDGE of good and evil." When Adam disobeyed God and ate the fruit from that tree, he TOOK TO HIMSELF "the knowledge of good and evil"—that is, potential SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE!

Understand at this point. God had created man with a mind capable of acquiring and utilizing material knowledge—the knowledge to work with matter—with things! This knowledge he could acquire on his own. But he had not been created with a mind that could discern, by itself, right from wrong—that is, SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE!

The one human spirit created in man—and born in all humans since—can acquire physical, material knowledge. But it is unable of itself to discern spiritual knowledge. And spiritual knowledge can be imparted to the mind ONLY BY GOD!

Adam, in *taking to himself* the "knowledge of good and evil"—that is, potential SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE—limited himself to material knowledge only. WHY? Because the one human spirit in man is not the faculty that sees, hears, smells, tastes or feels. The physical brain sees through the eye, hears through the ear, smells through the nose. And human man is LIMITED IN KNOWLEDGE to that which may enter his brain through these five physical senses!

Adam, father and progenitor of the human family, had chosen self-produced humanly acquired knowledge and death. He lived 930 years and he died. All his children subsequently died after a temporary physiochemical existence! And so, at that time, "the foundation of the world," Christ, the Lamb of God was slain (Rev. 13:8). That is, it was set by God at the foundation of the world that in due time Christ should come and die to pay the penalty for human sin.

It was also decreed that "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27).

It was then that God shut up the "tree of LIFE"—that is, the Holy Spirit, from mankind until after Jesus Christ, the second Adam, had come and paid the penalty of human sin in man's stead.

How Civilization Was Built

God did not shut himself off from man, however. God even appeared to or communicated with Cain, Adam's first son and the first murderer. God called out the Hebrew slaves from Egypt and communicated with them en masse at Mt. Sinai. He gave them his spiritual law—but, not having the Holy Spirit they neither comprehended it nor obeyed it. Lacking the Holy Spirit of God, they neither understood spiritual truths nor obeyed them.

However, God did make one necessary exception, for the ultimate foundation of his Church! He did reveal truths to his prophets, for the writing of the Holy Scriptures, the very written Word of God!

Much of the Church of God is based on the writings of the prophets, and they, with the apostles, became the foundation of the Church, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20).

Now consider the building of this world's civilization, and the world into which Christ came to build his Church.

With the Holy Spirit shut off from man, the human family started building its own world, influenced and swayed and deceived by Satan. ALL have been deceived by Satan (Rev. 12:9). Perhaps man did not realize it. Satan is a spirit being, invisible to humans.

Without the spiritual perception of God's Spirit, man does not recognize spirit beings or truths as existent. Yet Satan has been the "prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2) working *in* and deceiving humans in a manner not realized.

Ideas are transmitted through the air by radio and television waves and ultimately appear in the form of audible words and visible pictures. Does it, then, seem strange or impossible that Satan has transmitted attitudes, impres-

sions, motives and impulses inaudibly and invisibly into human minds whose human spirits are tuned automatically to Satan's wavelength?

It is thus that even infants under one year old, when the teaching of whom is neglected by human parents, are being instilled subconsciously, by satanic broadcast, with selfishness and resentment of authority. Satan doesn't neglect them.

So, as man began to expand in numbers on the earth, *taking to himself* the knowledge of relationships with others, man, swayed by Satan, began building his own system of society. He built his own concepts of human GOVERNMENTS, utterly contrary to the government of God.

Through human-devised and Satan-swayed GOVERNMENT, humans began regulating human lives. Humans began and developed a system of EDUCATION by which an adult generation seeks to brainwash, instill, inject into the minds of coming generations their concepts, ideas, opinions and supposed knowledge.

Humans developed their own system of economics, business, industry, commerce. They developed their own systems of RELIGION, created their own concepts of God—and to this day *not one* organized religion except God's true Church knows WHO and WHAT God really is! Humans developed their own social customs and systems.

Thus CIVILIZATION was produced actually by Satan, using humans as his pawns!

God's way of life is based on LOVE—outgoing concern for the good and welfare of others, and love above all toward God who IS LOVE! The world's civilization was built on the contrary way of GET—of vanity, covetousness, envy, jealousy, competition, strife, violence, rebellion against authority.

And *that* is the world into which Jesus Christ was born.

Remember God's ultimate PURPOSE is to reproduce himself in and through MAN—to create in MAN God's own holy, righteous spiritual and perfect CHARACTER! But all

(Continued on page 41)

What's Wrong With the YOUNGER GENERATION?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Here's an article written for the first issue of *The Plain Truth*, seven years *before* the magazine was finally born in the depths of the Great Depression. Now, in 1982, we think our vast audience of new readers would find this article highly informative.

LONGTIME readers of *The Plain Truth* will remember that in 1965, among old files, Mrs. Armstrong ran across the manuscript of an article written for the very first issue of *The Plain Truth*.

But it did not appear in that first issue. It was published for the first time in 1965.

But our readership has grown so immensely that only a few will remember this article published 17 years ago.

How It Began

Almost immediately after my conversion in the spring of 1927, the vision came to mind of a new kind of magazine I hoped would attain a very large circulation. For 16 years I had been in the advertising and magazine field. I was experienced in the writing of magazine articles—but in the field of business and merchandising—not in the religious category.

The name that came to mind for



the magazine was *The Plain Truth*. I had printers make up a 32-page “dummy” with glossy heavy cover—almost exactly the kind and size of paper you are holding in your hands right now. Only, of course, all the pages were blank white paper. Next, I employed a professional letter artist to design and letter in a front cover, in two colors.

The cover of that first “dummy” *Plain Truth* contained the captions of five or six feature articles I hoped to write for the first issue. Three of those articles were then written.

One contained the headline you see above. Another was captioned: “Putting the Evolutionary Concept into Your Child’s Mind.” We did finally publish that one in July, 1964. A third one, never published in the form then written, was titled “The Foundation for Sunday Sacredness CRUMBLES!” The material in *that* original manuscript, rewritten, is available in the booklet titled *The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday*.

But those were the days of financial reverses, trial, test and actual hunger. The way did not open, then, to fulfill the dream of publishing a big-circulation magazine called *The Plain Truth*. What I then had in mind was a magazine to sell on the newsstands.

It was a long and trying seven years before the way opened actually to produce *The Plain Truth*. And when it did at last come, it had

Illustration by Stan Gorman

to be the smallest, least-costly homemade type of magazine conceivable—mimeographed on a borrowed mimeograph—headlines cut by hand without a stylus or scope—type cut on stencils with a borrowed typewriter.

By that time I had made a considerable advancement in biblical knowledge. I realized, then, that *The Plain Truth* could never be sold. The newsstand idea was gone. Besides, who ever saw a *mimeographed* “magazine” sold on newsstands? Don’t laugh. It wasn’t funny—*then!* Also, by February, 1934, the situation demanded other subjects than the article on flaming youth. Probably this article already had become misplaced in that old file—I do not remember.

Anyway, after being “out of sight—out of mind” for 38 long years, this article turned up in an old, almost yellowed manuscript. When it was discovered, I was intrigued. I began to read it. I had completely forgotten it. I found it interesting. Perhaps that was only because I had written it myself—and the facts involved in its sudden resurrection after a 38-year burial. You may not find it a bit interesting—but I simply can’t resist putting it before you to find out.

THINK OF IT! The “Sheik-Flapper” generation about which I then wrote is the 65-75-year-old generation TODAY!

You 65- and 70-year-old people! Were YOU those hell-bent sheiks and flappers of 1927? IMPOSSIBLE! *Yet, it’s TRUE!* I can hardly believe it—and I doubt if *you* can!

The thought, however, intrigues me! You middle-age readers, now at least *approaching* old age, are going to read, below, what I wrote about *YOU*, when you were the hell-bent teenagers shocking the older generation sitting then in such stern judgment of *YOU!*

And you teenagers among our readers! I wonder if *you* won’t get a kick out of reading how “wild” and “sinful” were your parents—yes, and even perhaps your GRANDparents—when *they* were *your* age.

You teenagers, with your modern teenage slang. Are you going to

get a bang out of the kid slang your parents and grandparents were using? And I wonder if any of you 65- to 75-year-olds will even *remember* how some teenagers talked then. Perhaps *you* actually *didn’t*—but many others *did!*

But you of the older generation who were the teenagers when I wrote this article—do you remember that the oldsters were out-of-date old fogies then? I remember reading a discourse Abraham Lincoln wrote. I think it was from a speech he made, on the subject of “Old Fogey.” The very *first* old fogies, he said, were probably Adam and Eve. And the older generations have been old fogey to the youngsters ever since!

In 1927, when this article was written, this new psychology on child rearing was just emerging. Today it has fastened itself like a leech or a barnacle onto a deceived and misled society—and the greatly multiplied rate of juvenile delinquency testifies to its efficacy.

Here, then, is the article written in 1927, now published for our many new readers in the kind of magazine of which I then dreamed—and with a few comments I have written in the form of footnotes:

What’s WRONG with the YOUNGER GENERATION?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

IS THE younger generation of this modern day hell-bent or is it not?

An older generation dares to sit in stern and solemn judgment. The jazz-crazed, pleasure-mad youngsters hurl back the defiant retort that their old-fashioned, back-number elders simply do not understand. The sheik-flapper¹ generation emphatically assert their ability to take care of themselves. And they simply step the harder on the gas.

The Terhune-Wright Debate

Two literary luminaries—Harold Bell Wright and Albert Payson Terhune²—attempt to settle this moot question in the June *Ameri-*

ican Magazine,³ by engaging in debate. Mr. Terhune says the sheik-flapper generation is hell-bent. Mr. Wright says it is not.

Mr. Terhune believes much of the trouble lies in the newer psychology⁴ in child rearing. Instead of having been whipped and raw-hided into parental obedience, the present generation of youngsters, he says, is the victim of a treat-with-kindness, do-as-you-please psychology. Lack of parental obedience, he believes, is the heart of the difficulty.

Mr. Wright denies that our young people are hell-bent, because, he says, they are merely aping their elders. According to Mr. Wright, the parents are to blame—not in lack of discipline, so much as through example. The real trouble, says Mr. Wright, is that Dad attempts to correct young Willie something like this:

“Willie, I want you to keep out of my cigarettes!” Or, “Willie, if you ever sneak any of my hip-flask liquor⁵ out to a party again, I’ll cut down your allowance!”

Or that Dad will reprimand his flapper-daughter thus:

“Bubbles, you little painted husky, you let Mother’s lipstick and rouge alone!”

Mr. Wright sees in our snappy, peppy younger generation a real improvement over those immediately previous. Their life, their pep, their zip, their energy, he says, is going to do wonders when they are a little older and take the helm.⁶

Mr. Terhune says human nature has not changed. Our youngsters of today, hell-bent as he pictures them, are doing merely the things the older generation would have done with the lid of restraint thrown off. They haven’t been held down, while the older generation was.

There is, beyond a doubt, much truth in both their views.

The Real Cause

And now I intend to let fly a few observations of my own upon this hotly debated question. I have mixed considerably with the younger generation. I believe I know them and understand them—

at least in part. I am, in age,⁷ just midway between this sheik-flapper generation and the older one that is so ready to condemn. I have mixed with the younger set in their high school and college activities. I know them, I know their parents, and I know their college professors.

It would be simple folly to attribute all the wild and, to the oldsters, shocking characteristics of the young folk to any single cause. Many things, of course, combine to produce the composite sheik-flapper generation.

They are, in the first place, merely the victims of unhealthy influences—and this INCLUDES their parents! They are exactly what training, environment, example and outside influences have made them.

I shall not attempt to rate these influences in order of their importance. That is merely opinion, anyway.

But I want to mention, first, the result of lax parental training. It is true that the parents of the preceding generation refused to "spare the rod and spoil the child." The youngsters of that generation were reared in such strict discipline that, when they themselves became parents, they simply could not bear to be so strict with *their* children as their parents had been with *them*.

Their childhood and youth had been, generally speaking, one of self-sacrifice, strict obedience to parental law and long and frequent "whalings." The memory of this unremitting parental discipline was so indelibly burned into their memory that it produced a definite reaction. So the present crop of younger people were reared in a brand of discipline that swung almost to the opposite extreme. They were not made to suffer the pangs of self-sacrifice, the stern authority, the frequent and extreme whippings to which their parents had fallen heir.

The chief difficulty, though, was not so much a matter of substituting psychology for thrashings.⁸ *Most youngsters were not taught SELF-DISCIPLINE.* They were not trained in SELF-CONTROL.

The greatest handicap to the

younger people today is their utter disregard for self-control. They have been permitted to grow up following DESIRE, instead of DUTY—given reign to *impulse* and *inclination*, instead of using judgment. They have formed the disastrous habit of being led and controlled by their whims, their passions, their fancies. Consequences are seldom weighed or considered, and still less seldom heeded. The question isn't "SHOULD I?" but "Do I WANT to?" There's no control of self.

When power is uncontrolled, then the greater the power, the greater the potential DANGER! If this younger generation is imbued with an excess of pep, energy and power, the greater is the danger, unless that power is controlled—held in check by the force of self-discipline. When such excess energy is permitted to run riot wherever blind impulse leads, there's likely to be a WRECK!

Mr. Wright views this tremendous burst of speed, which we observe being demonstrated by the youngsters, as a wonderful asset for the future, when this generation takes the helm. But will all this pep and speed and energy be wisely and beneficially directed? Will it even be available then? Vitality, like many other things, needs to be conserved. When it's wasted and dissipated, the supply is soon exhausted.

And by what process of reasoning do we know that this sheik-flapper age has greater power of personal vigor than the generations which went before? When the lid's off the teakettle, letting out so much more steam, is there more steam inside than when the lid was on? Our youngsters have thrown off the lid! They are simply letting off, and not conserving, the steam!

Parental Example No Whitewash

I sharply disagree with Mr. Wright in any notion that the sins of the parents can be applied as a whitewash for those of their children. Suppose we grant that Willie cops onto his dad's cigarettes and snitches his bootleg liquor? Suppose Bubbles does learn from her mother to use rouge and lip-

stick and to pluck her eyebrows? It happens, I grant, altogether too often. But that does not make it right.

I know parents who are far more interested in the social popularity of son and daughter than in their soul's salvation—who encourage their youngsters in all the searches after a thrill that keep up the feverishly excited pace. And who do not dream of what goes on beyond the focus of their vision—and *would not believe it if they were told!*

But does the fact that parents are setting the example—even encour-

¹ A sheik meant "a masterful man to whom women are irresistibly attracted." The term was popularized by E. M. Hull's novel *The Sheik*, later made into a movie. A flapper was "a young girl considered bold and unconventional in actions and dress: term popular from about 1910 to 1930." The name is derived from the custom of girls wearing galoshes or overshoes unfastened so they would flap. Quite an attention-getter!

² Harold B. Wright died in 1944. Albert Payson Terhune died in 1942.

³ A major magazine—ceased publication years ago.

⁴ This false modern child psychology was then newly introduced.

⁵ Those were the prohibition years of bootleg liquor.

⁶ They have now taken it. And look at the sorry chaotic world they have produced.

⁷ I was then 35.

⁸ Mere physical punishment, alone, may be totally ineffective or harmful. Too many parents do not spank for the right purpose, at the right time or in the right degree. Too often it is unaccompanied by the necessary *teaching*. It should be used to *impress* the lesson. When the teaching is absent, nothing is impressed but resentment and a sense of injustice.

The child should never be literally spanked into *doing* what he had rebelled from doing—but *because* he rebelled—because of disobedience and wrong attitude. It should be administered immediately upon the offense, or failure promptly to obey—not after repeated threatenings to punish *unless* he obeys—threats expressed *after* initial refusal to obey, and *while* the child *continues* in rebellious refusal to obey. Don't give the rebellious child repeated opportunity to rebel. Be sure he hears and understands what he is told to do. If in doubt of this, repeat the instruction or command once more, plainly. Then, if ignored or rebelled against, punish *immediately*—making him *understand* it is administered because of failure to obey, refusal to obey, or deliberate rebellious attitude. Make him UNDERSTAND he must obey *when spoken to!*—not when he gets good and ready. One exception: if in a public place, where the punishment would attract public attention, and probably indignant criticism or hostile action, tell the child quietly but firmly he is going to have to be punished for his misdemeanor when you return home. Then, on returning to the privacy of your home, talk to him, making the lesson plain and clear, and impress it with the spanking.

Most mothers spank so lightly nothing is really impressed. Make it hurt enough to be impressive! Many fathers spank too hard. Never *injure*. Make it impressive short of injury. Like the stitch in time, the spanking *in time* may save nine others.

aging the tendencies of youth—erase existing sins? If youth is hell-bent, does parental example and sanction alter the path toward hell? Or does it, rather, signify merely that the parents are sliding down on the same toboggan?

Youth is subjected, primarily, to four major influences—the home—the school—the church—and outside friends, activities and amusements. So much for the effect of the modern-day home life. We have not had much to say about the religious influence of the home life—but then, there is so little of that in the average home, it simply requires no mention!

The School Influence

Now for the second influence—the school. Even in the grades and high schools today, the evolutionary concept is planted, ready-manufactured, into the absorbent minds of youth. Not necessarily EVOLUTION—not by that name. But the evolutionary concept dominates every branch of study in the school curriculum today. That concept is the basic point of view that denies the miracles of the Bible—denies the Creation account of Genesis, denies the authority of revelation.

It is the point of view that teaches, instead, that for millions of years man has been slowly, steadily climbing upward. Civilized man once was what the savage is today. Between that prehistoric day of dim antiquity and the present, man has passed through the Old Stone Age, the New Stone Age and the others through which evolutionary science imagines life has traveled.

The chief god, or gospel, of this concept is PROGRESS. Everything is, by natural law, getting constantly better and better. Progress is the gospel of the age! The basis of this concept is NATURALISM and the reign of natural law, as opposed to supernaturalism and possible interference by a divine Creator with the work of his own Creation.

In high school, I say, the young folks are given this CONCEPT. It forms the basis of any study that it might involve. This point of view is merely taken for granted. Not pre-

sented, as such, supported by arguments, and propagated into acceptance. Just simply assumed as a matter of course and taught as a universally known, commonly accepted FACT.

In college, the student gets evolution straight—without any deception or nicknames. A year or two of college, and he is a rare student indeed who is not a thorough convert to the doctrine of evolution.

If he ever held to fundamental religious beliefs, they are shattered to bits by now! His eyes are suddenly “opened.” He now views his old religion in the light of an ignorant superstition—a foolish bit of folklore, not unlike the Santa Claus myth. He may be shaken, bewildered, upset. But his disillusionment is complete. His hope of an eternity in “Heaven” is blasted as a foolish, childish dream. Some few go out and commit suicide.

But most of them, perhaps having exercised a certain self-restraint, due to religious convictions, until now, simply throw restraint to the winds! If they have not done so sooner, they now hop on the bandwagon and join the frenzied gang.

What's Wrong with Churches

Now what about the churches? What is *their* contribution to the modern tendencies of youth? In former generations, the churches held more or less of a balancing, restraining influence upon adolescents. The church, especially in the smaller communities, was a sort of social center. The young folk, most of them, attended Sunday school. In church they often heard inspiring, interesting, fiery sermons.

But that's all changed today. The average church is now about two-thirds empty, the other third being populated with gray heads. The average sermon today is lifeless, boring, lacking in fire and power. The church no longer serves a social need. The automobile,⁹ good roads, modern movies, dances and entertainments, have usurped the churches' social ministrations. The teenagers are no longer interested.

Some churches have attempted

to compete with the lure of modern amusements by bringing movies, amateur plays, dances and other entertainments into the church. But, in the amusement game, our churches have proved themselves pitiful novices. The crowd still prefers its entertainment where it is presented with professional and worldly skill. Other churches have attempted to meet the second great competitor—the fast-spreading “intellectual” skepticism—by turning modernist,¹⁰ and throwing to the four winds all that is vital in fundamental Christian doctrine.

The churches, today, have proved themselves incapable of meeting the modern problems of youth.

Two outstanding lures have robbed the churches of the young people—modern amusements and modern “rationalistic” skepticism, the outgrowth of evolution. The churches have failed to meet these momentous new snares because they have been wanting in sound doctrine. They have turned the Bible upside down.

Sound Bible truth would have met—at every turn of the road—this so-called newer knowledge, which has sprung from evolutionary teachings.

Sound Bible teaching would have kept the ministers, the church leaders, full of spiritual POWER. It would have fired them with vigor, with interest, with heart-warming, soul-satisfying church services. Our young people are simply *heart-hungry*—that's all that's wrong. They're empty—and they want to be filled up and warmed in the inner man. The churches have failed them. They don't understand—how can we expect that they should?—and they are merely seeking the spiritual food they *really* need, in movies, in dances, in wild entertainment, in “necking,” sex and debauchery, and all too often finding the “inspiration” in bootleg liquor! They're getting—and buying at a dear price—cheap

(Continued on page 36)

⁹ These were then in the early stage of development.

¹⁰ The “Modernist” movement was just getting under way. Today it is in dominance.

GENERATION?

(Continued from page 10)

Woolworth jewelry, when what they really crave is the pearls of a heart-warming, Spirit-firing Christian experience!

The Sinful "Don'ts"

Religion has come to be considered, by these youngsters the oldsters condemn, as a dark, gloomy, profitless, penance-paying life. The average adolescent's conception of Christianity is a whole flock of "Don'ts," beginning with capital Ds. The churches shout "Don't dance," "Don't play cards," "Don't go to movies," "Don't bob your hair," "Don't smoke." The church offers no alternative. Christianity is viewed as a sort of living painful penance.

Instead of something that makes one happy—instead of something that would feed those cold, empty, hungry hearts—religion is pictured as something gloomy, foreboding, painful and cold and as silly and superstitious.

When Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised that the Comforter would come. And he promised that "ye shall receive *POWER* after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you." The apostles were *FULL* of *power*, and fire, and vigor and interest, after the day of Pentecost. What's become of that *POWER*? What have men done with the heart-warming, soul-satisfying Comforter that Christ sent down from heaven? That's what our young people are really seeking. But they don't know it, and it seems there's no one to tell them, or lead the way!

What Parents Don't Know

Now what about the outside influences? The automobile. The movie. The cabaret, the night club and the speak-easy? The dance hall. The social affairs of high school and college? These have degenerated into artificial, devil-inspired outlets that are doing in a false way what the churches and the homes have failed to do in a right and healthy way—ministering

to the passion of modern youth for an internal warming-up.

I know something of the modern conditions from first-hand investigation. And while I realize full well that the average parent of middle age or past will never believe what is actual fact and truth—it is my conviction that Judge Ben B. Lindsey," while offering a dangerous solution, presents at the same time a really true and accurate picture of the moral status of the young folk of today. The real shocking results take place, of course, under cover. Most older people refuse to believe the real truth. Judge Lindsey is in position to know. Listen to a few brief excerpts from his book *The Revolt of Modern Youth*.

On the testimony of thousands of high school students—average students, including all classes—*more than 90 percent* of all the youth who go to parties, attend dances and ride together in automobiles, indulge in hugging and kissing. "Some girls," says Judge Lindsey, "insist on this kind of thing from boys they go with, and are as aggressive, in a subtle way, in their search for such thrills as are the boys themselves."

A certain very beautiful and spirited girl told the judge frankly that she refused to go out with a certain boy because he lacked pep, and didn't know how, as she put it, to "love me up." "Do all the boys do such things nowadays?" asked the judge. "Of course they do," she retorted. "If they don't, there is something wrong with them."

But there is another type in the flapper world—quite numerous and common—not at all oversexed, but who nevertheless permits promiscuous liberties. He quotes the conversation of such a typical girl—extraordinarily keen and intelligent—of well-to-do and apparently good parents. She is unusually attractive to boys. She is a typical flapper—glib, slangy, sarcastic, cynical. She permits occasional kissing, because it's expected.

1927 Teenage Slang

"But don't you resent the way they dance?" asked the judge.

"Oh, you mean the button-shin-

ing?" she asked casually. "Not at all. Close dancing affects some girls—but it never has any effect on me."

"There is a common impression to the contrary," observed the judge.

"I know there is," she came back crisply. "All the old killjoys and weeping-willows in the country think the dirt that is in their own minds. That's the way *they'd* feel; and how they do envy us the thoughts we don't think!"

"But——" the judge began.

"I'm telling you the truth," she went on. "Most of us girls don't get any special thrill out of close dancing. We do get a thrill out of dancing itself; and we go to parties with these young crumpet munchers and snuggle pups because we like to dance, and for no other reason."

"And the—er—crumpet munchers?" the judge asked, trying to snap the words out the way she did.

"*They* dance for the kick they get out of it," she said promptly.

"In the dancing?"

"Yes, in the dancing—holding the girl close, you know. And afterward, in petting, heavy necking and other things, if she'll stand for it. I don't."

I have quoted this conversation in detail, because it is a fair sample of the kind of language employed by high school pupils of today, especially in the cities, and it is absolutely typical of the prevailing situation.

Hell-bent?

Are the youngsters hell-bent? Listen to some of the judge's statistics and estimates, based upon, beyond doubt, the best information available in the United States.

Says Judge Lindsey: "*At least 50 percent* of those who begin with hugging and kissing (and that is 90 percent of all high school pupils) do not restrict themselves to that, but go further, and indulge in other sex liberties, which, by all the conventions, are outrageously improper—halfway sex intimacies that wreck the health and morals alike." And the judge continues that "15 percent to 25 percent of those who

begin with the hugging and kissing eventually lose their virtue completely." Not necessarily from promiscuity, or frequency, he explains, but it happens.

Most people will not believe these facts. But they are based upon investigation and upon actual records. The truth is that the real facts are far worse than most people WANT to believe. I know parents of high school and college children who simply scoff at any such statements of conditions as outlined above—and whose very own children are on the same road right now, in its earlier stages—and yet these parents would never believe it, and are doing nothing to prevent it.

They have never taught their children frankly and honestly about sex problems. They have not brought them up in sound religious teaching. They have not trained them in self-discipline and self-control and right direction. They have permitted them to grow up following blind impulse, desire, inclination and whim. Their children have been equipped with no safeguard—no protection. They're getting a good dose of evolution and atheistic teachings in school—and they're out on wild parties continually. Are they hell-bound?

Parental Responsibility

The parents of today simply do not realize the DANGER. Never has the pathway of youth been paved with so many temptations and pitfalls—and strewn with so many moral casualties—as today. Never has the responsibility of child rearing and parental guidance and training been so grave.

You who are parents—if you love your children—do not underestimate the danger. The school influence—the outside influences—all must be counteracted. The responsibility falls squarely upon the shoulders of you parents.

The alert, watchful, thinking parent need not be alarmed. The danger lies in ignorance, in laxity and in blinding the eyes to existing facts and conditions. Don't underestimate the influences your chil-

dren will be called upon to face.

Be a pal¹² and a chum to your children. Get, and hold, their confidence. Take an interest in their interests. Try to *understand* their point of view. You may need, tactfully and wisely, to help them alter it. Get them to confide in you, and make them *want* to come to you with all their problems and troubles.

Don't be ashamed to teach them frankly, yourself, the sacred and holy mysteries of sex¹³—teach them young—before they become informed in a wrong way from other children. Ignorance of these matters is their worst handicap—knowledge, if imparted in a right and sacred way, is their greatest protection. Virtually ALL wrongdoing, of every possible nature, is merely a result of LACK of understanding!

Above all, teach your child self-discipline. Teach him to resist inclination and impulse—to do what he OUGHT to do, instead of what he WANTS to do.

Bring your children up in sound Bible doctrine—it is the one best protection against all forms of temptation and evil in all the world. Teach the children to UNDERSTAND. Explain the WHY of Christian doctrine. It is reasonable, rational—don't let them regard it as something foolish or silly. Let them realize that a true Spirit-filled Christian life is a FULL life—a happy life—a joyful life—a peaceful life—a life of power, of strength, of service, of accomplishment.

Jesus was humble. He was meek. He was lowly. But Jesus was STRONG—POWERFUL. He is the most powerful man who ever walked on the face of this earth—the actual Maker and Creator of this very earth itself! And yet, with all this supreme power, he was humble and meek. That is the way we should be. Not self-exalting—not glorying in self—not vain—but realizing that all power and strength comes from God, through the Holy Spirit, and then seeking all of it we can get, and giving the praise where it belongs—to the Eternal!

We parents need to realize that

times have changed. Our youngsters face influences and conditions far different from those we faced. Don't justify your own laxity by saying, "I don't believe conditions are as bad as they're painted."

An ostrich can't escape threatened danger by sticking his head in the ground and hiding his eyes from the danger. Young people today are thinking frankly, talking openly, about subjects and problems that never used to be discussed. They're asking questions. Don't think you can hush them up. Safety lies in open, frank, honest, straightforward, God-fearing explanation—in knowledge and understanding.

The adolescents of today have hungry minds and hungry hearts. Their fate lies in *our* hands.

Let's not make the fatal mistake of thinking we can steer them safely from the shoals of worldly temptations merely by saying: "Don't dance! Don't go to movies! Don't smoke! Don't drink!"

Their starved emotions, their pent-up energies, are going to find an outlet, one way or the other. If we don't want them to fall victim to this world's tawdry imitations, then we must show them the REAL THING. If you don't give your children something constructively BETTER, they *will* dance, they *will* drink, they *will* dissipate, in spite of you. Never have we needed the help and the power of God as we need it now! □

¹¹ Benjamin Barr Lindsey, 1869-1943. From 1900 to 1927 (the year this article was written) world-famous judge of Juvenile Court, Denver, Colorado. Later, judge, Superior Court, California. Authority on juvenile court laws and juvenile delinquency. Author of books on this subject, and the explosive book that shocked the world, late 1927, *The Companionate Marriage*.

¹² I had to learn that this advice, written before my two sons were born, was unsound. I tried to practice this advice. But when my sons were 3 and 5 years old, and I 41, I learned I could not reduce my thinking and manner to the 5-year level, and they could not ascend to the 41-year level. I started by calling my eldest son, Dick, "My Pal." When Garner Ted came along, he said one day, "Well, I'm your Pal, too!" Thereafter Dick became "Pal One," and Ted, "Pal Two."

But we were not really "pals." We were father and sons. Today I would change the above advice to read: "Be a sympathetic, understanding parent and counselor, maintaining close and loving companionship with your children."

¹³ We now have available the proper textbook to help parents in this: *The Missing Dimension in Sex*.

REAL HISTORY

(Continued from page 4)

mankind had gone astray. The prophet Isaiah was inspired to write: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way . . ." (Isa. 53:6)—contrary to the way of God's CHARACTER.

How, then, get humanity back? **HOW** carry out the divine PURPOSE?

The Purpose of the Church

How could God have offered salvation to the children of Adam and Eve? Satan had broadcast and inoculated their minds during infancy with the attitude of SELF-centeredness. Before they were old enough for conversion (as Christians know it), they had already sinned, and incurred the DEATH penalty.

None could be reconciled to God and receive his Holy Spirit until their death penalty had been paid for them! Therefore it was prearranged for the Word, who also was God, to be born of a human woman, to become Emmanuel (God with us), God in human flesh—both man and God. He, tempted in all points like the rest of us, never sinned. Though he did not incur the death penalty, he paid it—for YOU and for me—for all humanity!

So, in God's Master Plan for working out his PURPOSE, "as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Cor. 15:22) by a resurrection. Judgment was not yet passed on the deceived in Satan's world. But it was appointed for men once to die, and after this the judgment (Heb. 9:27). All who ever died shall be made alive by resurrection (I Cor. 15:22-24; Heb. 9:27).

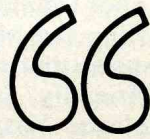
But HOW was Jesus Christ to become SAVIOR—to save all lost humanity? Just dying for us was not enough. God's CHARACTER had to be built into us. God performed an act of creation in Adam. That was a PHYSICAL creation! It began with the first Adam. But the SPIRITUAL creation began with Jesus Christ. The true Christian will "put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness"

(Eph. 4:24). We become a NEW CREATION. So God's spiritual creation is still in progress!

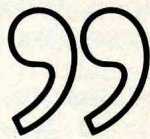
Now WHY the Church? What is its PURPOSE? It is God's means of working out his PURPOSE here below—his overall PURPOSE! That NEW CREATION—that SPIRITUAL CREATION—started with the Church of God!

How the Church Was Started

Notice now how Jesus started the Church. First, after being baptized himself—after being tempted in the



What is the Church?
Why does it
exist? What is its
purpose? People in the
Western world
take the church as an
institution for
granted — they know
not why!



supreme temptation by Satan, and overcoming Satan—Jesus started by CHOOSING 12 disciples. A disciple is a learner—a student being taught. Jesus was the teacher.

Even these disciples were still carnal. Yet he said that when they received the Holy Spirit, the Spirit would bring to remembrance all that he had taught them—and then, with the Holy Spirit, they would UNDERSTAND!

These disciples were not the Church. They and the prophets preceded and became the foundation of the Church.

Jesus used these 12, taught in advance, to form the foundation and to teach and rule the Church.

The disciples were not volunteers. They were chosen. Those in the Church are ALSO CHOSEN! Jesus said emphatically, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him . . ." (John 6:44).

In the same way, God has chosen the CHURCH to become disciples—students—learners—starting not only a new Spirit-led life and way of living in themselves, but also to "grow in grace, and in the KNOWLEDGE of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:18). The repentant, believing Spirit-led Christian must BE TAUGHT SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE. He is being converted—that is, *changed!* From carnal to spiritualmindedness. From this world's way of living to GOD'S WAY OF LIFE!

As the disciples were a foundation for the Church, so the Church is a foundation for the KINGDOM OF GOD, to be reestablished on earth at Christ's return in POWER and GLORY. He will reestablish the GOVERNMENT of God through the FAMILY OF GOD, then to become the KINGDOM OF GOD.

The Church was assigned a dual commission: 1) to carry Christ's Gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD to the world *for a witness* (NOT to convert the world at this time); and 2) to "feed the flock"—instruct the Church as the members GROW in spiritual knowledge and character.

At Christ's glorified return to earth, the dead in Christ will be resurrected, and the living in Christ instantaneously changed from mortal to immortal, and all shall rise to meet the returning Christ in the air and to reign and rule with him in the KINGDOM OF GOD!

Satan shall then be removed for a thousand years. The Church will then *BE* the KINGDOM or FAMILY OF GOD. We shall be kings AND PRIESTS, reigning ON THE EARTH (Rev. 5:10).

But, looking into our time today, what about the Church TODAY? By whom and THROUGH whom did Christ build up the present era? That modern history will be covered in a succeeding number. □