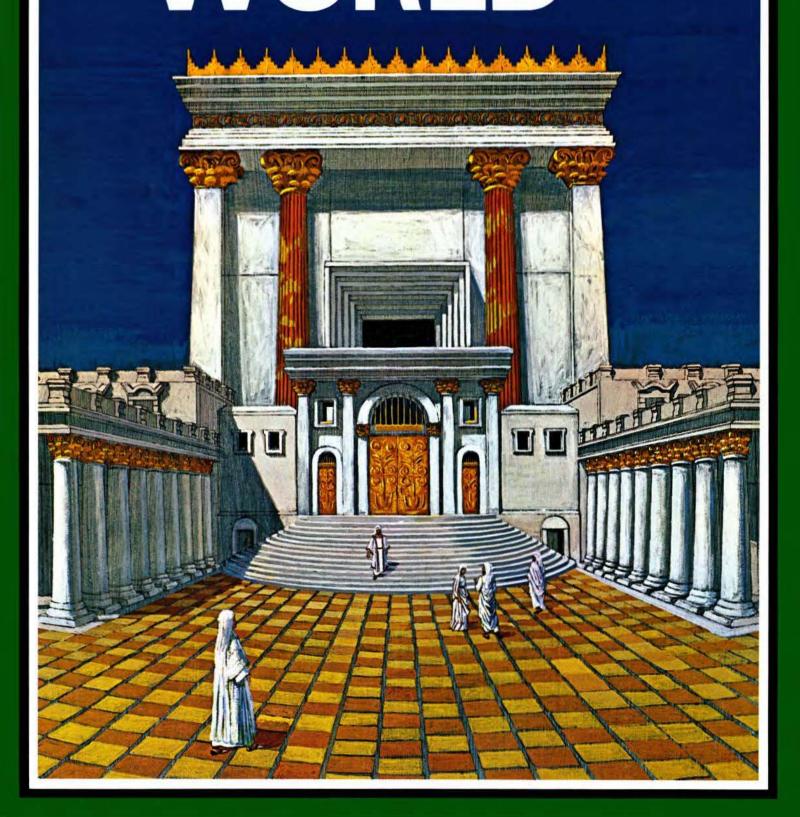
The Good News of OMORROY'S Nov.-Dec. 1970



Personal from

Habert Country

SOME of the teachings in the Bible are a little hard for the average thinking mind to understand.

James tells us to count it all joy when trials, ordeals, reverses, beset us. *Troubles* a Joy? That's pretty hard to accept, isn't it? And, for the average person, a lot harder to put into practice.

Few find any pleasure, let alone JOY, in the obstacles and troubles they encounter. Yet this Biblical teaching says we ought so to count them. There is a reason, although few understand it.

In one of the Psalms you'll read that the righteous are going to have to bear many afflictions. But, it promises, the Eternal will deliver us out of them all — if we believe and trust Him!

Again, it is through much tribulation that we must enter the Kingdom of God. WHY? There's a reason!

Now consider another Biblical teaching hard for some to understand.

Several years ago I wrote an article, now available in booklet form, What Do You Mean — Born Again? In the fifth chapter of Ephesians you find a husbandwife relationship pictured as corresponding to Christ and the Church. Scriptural teaching assures us that, at His coming, Christ is going to marry the Church. Also, the Scriptures teach that the Church will, at His coming, be born of God, by a resurrection of all who have died, and the instantaneous conversion from mortal to immortal of those then living (I Corinthians 15:50-53).

So one man reasons: Could a full-grown MAN marry an infant girl baby, just born? If those in the Church are to be just then *born* of God, how can they marry Christ before they grow up?

This, too, seems difficult for some to comprehend. Yet the answer to James' teaching — the UNDER-STANDING of what James really means, is also the answer to this seeming inconsistency.

There is a third seeming inconsistency, hard for some to understand. About a year and a half ago in this column I explained how, contrary to the thinking of many, a Christian may—and too often does—actually commit sin after he is converted. He should not, of course. But too often he does, and yet he still remains a Christian. The true explanation of James' teaching, first mentioned above, is also the explanation of this experience.

So let's understand!

Why were we born, in the first place? What is the real PURPOSE of human life? God Almighty the Creator is reproducing Himself! As truly as we mortal humans have been given power to reproduce ourselves — to bring forth progeny in our own image, born with our very nature — even so the Great God is bringing forth sons in His image, born with His very divine nature!

The very PURPOSE of our existence is that we be begotten as God's children, and become BORN of Him.

And human reproduction is the very type of spiritual reproduction. What God created at the time described in the first chapter of Genesis was a physical creation. You'll find nothing spiritual there. In physical man, made of the dust of the ground, God created the MATERIAL with which He may mould, shape, form, and create the spiritual being. He pictures us as the clay, Himself as the Potter — forming us into the spiritual image of His designing.

Now human reproduction, I say, pictures spiritual reproduction. Each human, since Adam and Eve, started from a tiny egg, called an ovum, the size of a pinpoint. It was produced in the body of the mother. The egg is *incomplete*, of itself. It has a life of only about 48 hours, according to some authorities. Unless fertilized by the life-giving sperm cell from the human father within that limited lifetime, it dies.

Each human, spiritually speaking, is like an egg. The average human lifetime is said to be 70 years. Adam was created *incomplete*, and each of us was BORN INCOMPLETE — that is, we were made to *need* the Holy Spirit of God. And unless, within our limited

lifespan of some 70 years, we are begotten of God — by His Spirit which is HIS IMMORTAL DIVINE LIFE, entering to impart eternal life to us — we shall die — and that shall be the end — except that God has appointed a resurrection of all who have lived, and, for those who reject His gift of eternal life, the final second death in the lake of fire.

But, in the case of the human ovum, once fertilized as a begotten human, the egg — now called an embryo — is kept within the body of the mother, and is nourished and fed material food through her and protected by her. And there it must grow, being fed physically through the mother, large enough to be born. After a number of weeks, the embryo is called a fetus, and at birth it is a human baby.

In like manner, the Bible calls the CHURCH the "mother of us all." That is, the mother of Christians — those begotten of God. It is the function of the Church to protect and feed, spiritually, on the spiritual food of God's Word, those begotten children of God, so that we may GROW SPIRITUALLY, in the divine character, ready to be born.

Surely this is a wonderful comparison. Yet types and antitypes are not always alike in every detail.

When a physical baby is born, it is not ready for marriage. When the spiritual child of GoD is born he will be fully mature for the spiritual marriage. How can this be? This is what one thinking man could not see.

The unborn human fetus is only growing physically. At birth, the human baby knows nothing. He is helpless. He must be taught. He must learn. He is born merely with a mind capable of learning, knowing, thinking. He is not yet of mature size physically or mentally. Many do marry who are still entirely immature spiritually and/or emotionally. But we do assume that one has reasonable maturity physically and mentally before marriage. In the human, this development takes place in the human state after the human birth.

Therefore, the human baby is not ready for marriage at birth.

But the spirit-born are different!

Just as the fertilized ovum — the embryo which becomes the fetus — must grow physically from material food, so the spirit-begotten child of God must grow spiritually before he can be born. But there is a difference!

The fetus does not attain to complete physical maturity before birth, and has no mental maturity. But,

in the spiritual rebirth, one must attain reasonable spiritual maturity before he is spirit-born.

Now what is spiritual growth? Just as the physical embryo-fetus must grow physically large enough to be BORN, so the Spirit-begotten Christian must grow spiritually or he will never be born of God. But spiritual growth is CHARACTER-DEVELOPMENT.

The Spirit-begotten starts out with a MIND from the beginning. God is perfect character — divine, spiritual character. God is also LOVE. And perfect spiritual character is the way of LOVE! Such character is the attainment of the ability, in a separate independent entity of free moral agency, to be able to discern right from wrong — the true values from the false — truth from error — the right way from the wrong, and then to make the right CHOICE or DECISION, even against self-desire, impulse or temptation; plus the WILL and self-discipline to resist the wrong and to DO the right.

No human, with human nature, has the power—alone by himself—to do this. But God has made the spiritual power and help man lacks available. Man must desire to know—must hunger and thirst for truth; man must make his own decision, exercise his own will, even against the pulls of his nature. But without the help of God—without spiritual POWER from God—man is utterly unable.

That is why truly converted Christians sometimes actually do sin. They are like the Apostle Paul, as he describes himself in Romans 7. With his mind he wanted to go the way of God's law, yet he found himself unable. Another law — human nature — warred within him against the good resolutions of his mind. But the sequel to Romans 7 is Romans 8 — the Holy Spirit chapter. Who, Paul cried out, could save him from this body of death he struggled against in vain? The answer is, God, through His Holy Spirit.

A true Christian doesn't want to sin — should not. But sometimes he finds himself caught in the vise of habit, or overwhelmed by temptation or by circumstances from which he is unable to free himself. Surely, had such a one been continually praying, keeping himself close to God, and detached from the world or its lures or the temptations of the flesh, he probably would have had sufficient divine help to have prevented the sinning. But only Jesus Christ ever did keep that close to God!

God looks on the heart. In such a case, the Christian does not sin maliciously, with malice afore-(Continued on page 48)

WHAT IS SALVATION?

Why do we need salvation? How do we get it — and when? What do we receive when we do obtain it?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

HY DO we find many religions in the world?

Some people today say that religion is merely a superstition. And others today spread propaganda that religion is the opiate of the people! But MOST of the people in the world embrace some ONE of the world's many religions!

How many of them ever stop to ask, sanely and candidly, why? Why do they need religion — and what does it offer them?

Of all the world's great religions, the only one that offers forgiveness of sin and salvation is the Christian religion. The sin question and the receiving of SALVATION is the very heart and center of the Christian religion.

But just what is this thing that is called "Salvation"? It is something everybody (who knows anything about Christianity) has heard about — and yet, do you realize that almost nobody — even of those who profess the Christian religion — really KNOWS what salvation is!

Why World Is in Ignorance

A man 82 years of age, who had been for many years an elder in one of the major Christian denominations, came to me once and said: "I have heard many hundreds of sermons about Christ, and about salvation — but in all my 82 years of life I have never heard one explanation of the plain whys and wherefores of salvation. What is this thing we call salvation, anyway?

Why do we need it? How do we get it, and when? And what do we get, when we get it, anyway?" Those things he asked me. In his 82 years this man had never heard a plain and a simple explanation that made it clear.

Many of you have heard sermons about salvation, but not many OF YOU have ever heard a plain, clear explanation of just what it is, why you need it — and most of you have been deceived and unconsciously misled about how to obtain it!

The HOLY BIBLE is the only textbook of the TRUE religion of the Creator God, as brought and revealed by Jesus Christ. You can prove that! And you can prove that the Holy Bible is the inspired revelation of the Creator who created this earth and put life upon this earth; who is the very source of life, the Supreme Ruler of the entire universe.

Now the prophecies of the Bible say very plainly that all nations — with their many religions — are today deceived; and that even among professing Christians, it is the many who have been deceived — who have turned away from the truth, and accepted fables.

It's time that we wake up and realize the state of religious affairs in this world today! It's time to wake up to the fact that pagan doctrines and practices began, even 1900 years ago, creeping into Christianity — and that today most of us have been reared from childhood in the assumption that these pagan teachings and practices are true, and that they came from the Bible. Most of you have never known any better. Why should you? — you haven't taken the trouble to look into the Bible for yourselves to see just what it does say!

Only ONE Authority

Now let's see if we can understand plainly and clearly just what are the whys and wherefores of this thing called salvation.

The sole authority on this subject is the Bible. If the professing Christian world has turned from the truth (and remember that the Bible is TRUTH), and if it has turned to beliefs of MEN, then you must expect that what you are going to find, in the Bible, will be DIFFERENT from what you have been led to believe the Bible says!

Yes, it's going to be very surprising, so prepare yourself for some surprises — and expect to find something different from what you have believed!

The Apostle Paul, who was the Apostle to the Gentile nations, under inspiration of GoD, instructed the young evangelist Timothy how to find the true way of salvation. You will read of that in II Timothy 3:15-17.

"From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures." The only Scriptures that Timothy had known from a child were those that we call the Old Testament Scriptures. None of the New Testament had been written when Timothy was a child.

"From a child thou hast known the

holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." Then he continued: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

Before all of the New Testament had been written, God inspired Jude to write about SALVATION in Jude 3 and 4:

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation [he was writing about salvation], it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for" — what? "for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares." This was before 90 A.D., before all of the Bible was even written.

Even then there were "certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness [license to do what you please], and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ," turning men away from THE WAY of GOD into the ways that might seem right to men.

Let us go back to the faith once delivered unto the saints, for it is only the Holy Scriptures which are able to make us "wise unto salvation." In them, in the Scriptures, we are to find the faith which was once delivered!

All Scripture is INSPIRED of GOD—and is profitable to CORRECT us where we have been in error! So you can expect some correction in what you have believed!

What Is Salvation?

First, what does this word "SALVA-TION" mean?

The expression "to be saved" means Two different things: 1) Deliverance from trouble or danger; deliverance from sin and its consequences, from DEATH. We often hear of the expression "to save someone from a house that is on fire." You would want to be saved, to be rescued from the penalty of sin. 2) Salvation means to preserve — to keep, i.e., to keep us alive eternally by the GIFT of eternal LIFE.

The Holy Scriptures do NOT say that the penalty of sin is to live forever in the torment of a hell fire. No, they say precisely the opposite! You've been taught that the Bible says that the wages of sin is eternal *life* in hell fire. Romans 6:23 says just the opposite! Notice — this is in your Bible:

"The wages of sin is death." That is the wages you're going to collect for sinning. Death is the thing that stares you in the face, that stares every man in the face.

"But the gift of God is eternal life." You do not now have eternal life abiding within you! It is a free gift of God, and you don't have it unless you obtain it. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 6:23

You need deliverance from the eternal DEATH penalty that you already have incurred — from that everlasting punishment, which is death, that you have brought on yourself as the penalty of violating God's Law. Everyone has sinned and brought that penalty upon himself.

In order to be delivered from total and eternal death, in order to save your life — that is, to KEEP or to PRE-SERVE you ALIVE forevermore, and throughout all eternity, you need to receive the gift of eternal life, because you do not possess it from natural, human, fleshly birth. It is not inherent in you — and it can COME to you ONLY as a divine GIFT from GOD!

What do you need to be saved FROM? From the penalty of sin. To be saved FROM the penalty of sin, you must stop sinning.

What Is SIN?

But how can anyone stop sinning, unless he knows what sin is? Most people SUPPOSE that sin is doing something that you think is wrong — that hurts your conscience. Many seem to

think that sin is the BEST way to live, but which a harsh and stern God denies us — the forbidden fruit which is really sweeter. They think God isn't quite fair.

All right, now answer this: How many sermons have you ever heard in all of your life, explaining FROM THE BIBLE what sin 15? How many sermons have you ever heard giving you the Bible definition, reading right from the Bible, "SIN is..." and then giving you the definition of what it is? How many have you ever heard to read, right out of the BIBLE, the BIBLE definition of sin?

Not very many, I'm sure! No, it usually is just taken for granted that everyone automatically KNOWS what sin is it is almost universally assumed that sin is doing what YOU THINK is wrong or what society or each church denomination says is wrong - or that which troubles your conscience! But the Bible says "there is a WAY that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12; 16:25). Your Bible says that what seems right to a man is the way that will end in DEATH: therefore it is the way of sin. What one man THINKS is wrong, another thinks is RIGHT. And what hurts one man's conscience will not disturb another man's conscience at all!

Millions of people today believe that sin is the more DESIRABLE and ENJOY-ABLE way — the way that is BEST for us, and so they put off turning from sin just as long as possible. They want to ENJOY sin right up to the last minute, and then get in on a deathbed repentance just before they die!

Exactly what is sin? Here is the plain Bible answer: "SIN is THE TRANS-GRESSION OF THE LAW" (I John 3:4),

Sin is what God, in His Law, says is wrong! Repentance means we quit breaking God's Law!

Let's Come to UNDERSTANDING!

To understand the plain whys and wherefores of salvation, we need to be corrected, first of all, on two points:

1) that God created man MORTAL, not IMMORTAL, and 2) that God's inexorable spiritual Law is GOOD, and that

sin is the transgression of that spiritual Law that God set in motion.

So let's begin now at the very beginning. Let's turn, now, to the Scriptures that are able to make us wise unto salvation — and are profitable to correct us! The only Scriptures that Timothy had known from his youth were the Old Testament. So let's turn back to the very first chapter in the Bible, in Genesis, the first chapter. Beginning with the 24th verse:

"And 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," that is, they would reproduce in the same form and shape, the SAME IMAGE, the same likeness, so that each calf looks just like its mother before it. They reproduce after their kind, the same form, the same image, exactly.

"And God said, Let us make man in OUR IMAGE."

Here, the word for God is Elohim, and it's a uniplural word. This was written, originally by Moses, in the Hebrew tongue thousands of years ago. The word translated into the English word God is, in the Hebrew language, Elohim. Elohim is uniplural. It means more than one person. In other words, one family, a kingdom of persons; one kingdom, but more than one person. Only one God, because Elohim is not a person. God is a Family!

We have the mineral kingdom and we have the plant kingdom and the animal kingdom. There is an angel kingdom that God created, and then high above all is the *Creating Kingdom*, the GOD KINGDOM.

In the God Family there is the Father. Jesus Christ is called the Son of God, and we can become sons of God. There is a Father and a Son — a family relationship. And so, God is more than one person.

What Is Man?

"And God said, Let us make man in OUR image, after our likeness" [the same form and shape], after OUR kind. GOD IS REPRODUCING HIMSELF!

That is the very purpose of God, to reproduce Himself. But, what is man? And what is man made out of? Let's

read a little further, now, in chapter 2, verse 7 of Genesis:

"And the Lord [Eternal] God formed man of the dust of the ground," not out of spirit. He formed man of the dust of the ground. Man is dust. "Unto dust shalt thou return," said God to the first man. "And [He] breathed into his nostrils the breath of life," just as He had done into the nostrils of animals. Man, too, became a living soul; not that man has an immortal soul, but he became a living soul.

The Hebrew word for "soul" is nephesh. It means "the life of animals, animal life, mortal life that is certain to die." That is the meaning as Moses wrote that word.

So man has NO IMMORTALITY. Man was made flesh and blood — the same as ANIMALS, and he is considered to be in the animal kingdom, mortal, subject to death.

BUT — since God is reproducing Himself, man can be born of God — born of the Spirit of God. Now Adam could have been begotten of God so that he could have been born of God. You will read in Genesis 2:8, 9:

"And the Eternal God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the Eternal God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of *life* also in the midst of the garden." There was the tree that would have given the man immortality. He didn't have immortality, but it was made available in this garden through the tree of life. There was also another tree, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Spirit of God was AVAILABLE through that tree of life. It was offered to Adam. God freely gave it to him so that he would be begotten as a child of God, but now notice verses 15 through 17:

"And the Eternal God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Eternal God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat." That included this tree of life and immortality. "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou

shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die,"

Man Must CHOOSE

Man possessed FREE MORAL AGENCY.
God made man a FREE MORAL AGENT,
Man had to CHOOSE. The very fact that
God said, "in the day that thou eatest
thereof" — the very thing God condemned and forbade him to partake of
— means that God allowed him to do
it.

God said later to His people, "I have set before you life and death," the right way of living, and the wrong way, "blessings and curses." He said to man, "CHOOSE!" He commanded the man to choose the right way, but He allows man to choose disobedience and the wrong way. That's what God allows, and that is precisely what man has chosen.

God is the Supreme Ruler! God has decreed, as the Supreme Ruler, that man must CHOOSE. Man must make his own choice whether to obey God, whether to OBEY the laws that God set in motion, or whether to DISObey.

God is the Creator, not only of the LIFE of man and animals, but God is the Creator of force, and of energy and of every LAW that exists.

God's Spiritual Law

God also set spiritual laws in motion that regulate man's relationship with his Maker, with his Creator, and with his neighbors. That Law was given in LOVE, and that Law is LOVE. It's the very essence of love. It is the very principle of God's nature. It is love toward God, so that we can have the blessings of God, and the things that we need to receive from God. It is love toward our neighbor so we'll be kept in a right relationship with our neighbors, and have peace and be happy.

That's the law that God commanded man to obey. And when man breaks that law, man brings heartaches and headaches, and he brings every kind of wretchedness and unhappiness that this world has reaped because of its Disobedience to God.

Adam chose disobedience. Mankind

ever since has chosen DISOBEDIENCE. Adam, our first parent, the first created man, was driven out of the garden of Eden and away from access to that tree of life. Now turn to Genesis 3:22:

"And the Eternal God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, LEST he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, AND LIVE FOR EVER..." If man had taken of that tree, he would have lived forever, "therefore the Eternal God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way." Why?

"To keep the way of the tree of life"

— lest he go back and gain immortality.

The man did not have immortality. He did not have eternal life. He was born subject to death. God said that when he took of that wrong tree, he would die; and men have been dying ever since.

World Is Cut off From God

From that very minute mortal man was cut off from contact with God! He was cut off from access to the Spirit of God and the gift of eternal life!

God imparted precious and sacred knowledge to the first man, knowledge of what man is, knowledge of God and contact with the Creator. But observe. Man rejected God's knowledge — and God allowed man to go his own way. He has been allowing it ever since.

God set apart 6,000 years for man to go his own way. That 6,000 years is just about up! But we're still rebelling against God, and the way of God, and the way that would bring us peace, happiness, joy, and everything that the human heart really wants and desires.

Later, humans multiplied and they spread out into different nations — cut off from God and from knowledge about the possibility of eternal life. Man then began to evolve HIS own religions, his own ideas. Man evolved and set in motion his own pattern of society — and his own kinds of governments — all cut off from God! Man set up ways on this earth and a civilization diametrically contrary to the

ways of God — ways that would have brought peace to the world and happiness and prosperity to all of the individuals in the world.

You people in the many different nations reading Tomorrow's World—you, too, are the children of this first man and this first woman, no matter what your nationality or your race. You, too, are mortal humans that were put here on this earth by the one Creator-God. You, too, were born cut off from God and from the truth about life, cut off from the way to peace, the way to happiness and the gift of eternal life.

About 4,000 years after Adam, God sent His own begotten son, begotten by God as a human son, born of the virgin Mary. This Son of God was also a son of man, because He was born of a human woman. Jesus Christ was human. But Jesus had within Him that which Adam had REJECTED, and had been separated from — the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD!

What Is the Holy Spirit?

WHAT is this Holy Spirit that comes from God?

It is the very SPIRIT - the very LIFE - the very essence, of GoD the CRE-ATOR! God, according to John 4:24, is a SPIRIT, but man is mortal. Man is flesh. God is composed of spirit. Spirit is not like matter. Man is composed of matter. Matter occupies a definite amount of physical space, and has weight. But God's spirit emanates from Him, like the air - like space. It is force, it is power, it is life, it is character! When God's Spirit emanating from the very PERSON of God enters into a man, it IMPREG-NATES that man with the very LIFE of Gop - it plants within that man or woman the divine nature of God, to develop the very character of God, until we, through His Spirit, become LIKE God - until we think as God thinks - until we see things with the same attitude as God sees them, and we act as God acts.

Christ Died in Your Stead

Jesus Christ HAD the Spirit of the living God! And Jesus Christ was wholly OBEDIENT to the inexorable SPIRITUAL LAWS that God had set in motion. These laws are spiritual PRINCIPLES which regulate man's relationships and his happiness! Never once did Jesus Christ disobey, though He was tempted in every way as you and I. Never once did He sin — that is, never once did He transgress God's spiritual Law. Never did He bring the penalty — eternal death — upon Himself.

Therefore, He was able to take on Himself your penalty and to pay it in your stead!

Jesus Christ had received the gift of eternal life from God the FATHER! He did not have to die because of any penalty that He had incurred or brought on Himself. But because He loved all mankind - because of His great love for you, even before you were born - He GAVE His life for you. He permitted misguided men to nail Him to a cross - to pierce His side. He bled to death - dying IN YOUR STEAD, that by His SHED BLOOD ON THE CROSS, your transgressions of the LAWS OF GOD might be FORGIVEN! Jesus Christ had to die because you have transgressed the laws of God.

How to Be Saved

Consequently, if and when you come to realize that sin is WRONG — and that God's laws are RIGHT and for your GOOD — and to REPENT of your disobedience of the Supreme CREATOR GOD — to fully SURRENDER to Him, and henceforth to be OBEDIENT to Him and to His laws, then you may in living FAITH accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour from your own folly — and by your faith in His blood and His resurrection, your guilty past is forgiven. The penalty that you have incurred is paid in full by your Saviour, Jesus Christ.

You are then justified of your guilty past, and since there is no longer any disobedience to cut you off from God, you are reconciled to God the Creator. Contact with Him is established and thereupon God has PROMISED you the gift of His Holy Spirit. He has promised that He will implant within YOUR MIND His Spirit — His LIFE — HIS NATURE —HIS ATTITUDE — HIS VETY CHARACTER!

By the very essence of the Holy Spirit

of God you then become a BEGOTTEN CHILD of the living Creator GOD!

Even then, you are still human. You still have your old human nature, also, and it will strive against this new nature of GoD which He has now implanted within you. You're not yet perfect as God is perfect.

You are now only prepared to start to live a NEW life of GROWING spiritually — of DEVELOPING the very character of God — of resisting all the desires and impulses of the flesh, which your newly SPIRIT-led mind will reveal to you are wrong and in disobedience of the laws of God.

You now start a life of growing daily into closer contact with God through daily PRAYER to Him — and through daily BIBLE STUDY of His inspired revelation of knowledge and of truth, the Holy Bible. You will encounter troubles, problems, trials and tests to try you, to develop CHARACTER within you.

But now you will be close to GoD—and you can take all of these troubles to Him in prayer—and He will give you wisdom to know what to do—He will even change circumstances to bring you out of them. He will give you strength and power for deliverance and for mastery.

Mortal man — cut off from God and the KNOWLEDGE that only God can reveal — has created his own religions, in which he has tried to assure himself that he already has immortality. Men, separated from the real truth which only God can reveal, originated the false idea of the immortality of the soul. There is no such idea to be found anywhere in the one Book through which God Almighty reveals the truth to mankind!

Man is MORTAL — and the most certain thing in mortal life is that we shall DIE — unless we turn to God, repent of transgressing His ways of life, surrender unconditionally to Him, accept Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, and gain contact with God the Father through Him!

Now, how are we to be saved?

KEEP The Commandments!

A young man came to Jesus and said, "What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" And Jesus said, "If thou wilt enter into life," if you want to inherit eternal life, "keep the commandments" (Matt. 19:16-17).

Peter said that the way is first to REPENT, AND THEN BE BAPTIZED, signifying faith in Christ. Baptism is the outward expression of that inner faith in Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. After baptism you are promised that you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).

Romans 8:11 promises that if the Holy Spirit dwells in you, God the Father, who raised up Christ from the dead, will also immortalize, or make immortal your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwells in you.

"If thou wilt enter into life keep the commandments."

Matthew 19:16-17

Turn now to I John 3:1, 2: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." This is speaking of real Christians. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God," yes, already begotten as sons of God when we receive His Spirit, "and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

Do you know that Jesus Christ is now glorified in heaven as very God? His face shines like the sun in full strength. His eyes like flames of fire. We are to be like Him. "Our vile body [is to be] fashioned like unto his glorious body" — to be glorified fully with Him, to enter into the God family, the very Family of God, the Kingdom of God, and be born by a resurrection into that Kingdom (Phil. 3:21). That is what salvation means. That is how you get it.

These are the plain whys and wherefores of salvation.

Personal Counsel

If YOU are ready to really REPENT of your disobedience to GOD — to His SPIRITUAL LAW; if you are now ready

to SURRENDER YOUR WILL to God, and you want to become one of His CHIL-DREN - if you are now ready to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour in real living FAITH and live a life of OBE-DIENCE, write and tell me. We have dedicated, consecrated, converted, fully instructed and trained, ordained MINIS-TERS in all parts of the world available to call on you, visit you in your home, answer your questions, explain the Bible to you - IF YOU REQUEST IT! But none of them will EVER call on you, unless you of your own free will request it! Paul had visited the elders (ministers) at Ephesus from house to house - BUT, regarding the general public, Jesus said, "Go NOT from house to house" (Luke 10:7).

Neither Jesus, nor Peter, nor Paul, nor any of the original true apostles ever approached people and personally URGED conversion on them. God has made every human a FREE MORAL AGENT. God compels each to MAKE HIS OWN DECISION, and the true GOD will never force you to be converted.

But if you, of your own volition, want to know MORE about the Bible — if you'd like to ask questions about it, why not write to the Editor and request a personal visit? We may be able to have one of God's own ministers call on you quite soon. And let me suggest that you jot down on paper the questions you are going to want to ask. I've learned, personally, by more than 43 years' experience, that you'll forget them unless you do.

Hundreds and hundreds — yes, thousands upon thousands — are being converted — their lives CHANGED — by this WORK OF GOD, through The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast worldwide, through The Plain Truth, the Ambassador College Correspondence Course, through this magazine, Tomorrow's World, and other vital free literature we send upon request.

But if you have any questions about the Bible, or the Christian LIFE, write me. I cannot call and visit with you personally any more (as I used to do and wish I still could), but God has now given me many truly called and chosen men who can.

News of the Work

This month we share with all our readers what our family of Co-Workers already knows. Each month Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong writes to every Co-Worker a personal letter on the "state of the Work." Two of his recent letters cover matters of such vital importance and interest we take this opportunity to present excerpts from them, here, for you.

September 28, 1970

Dear Fellow Co-Workers:

I'm WRITING YOU from 38,000 feet, over a desolate portion of Australia, en route from Sydney to Singapore. With two other officials in this great Work, we are on a very important around-the-world trip. . . .

It is very important that I speak to all our new incoming students each year in Freshman Orientation, to get them off to a right start. After Orientation on the Pasadena campus, and the opening Faculty Reception, I flew to the Texas campus. Then on to the campus in England, attending Orientation and Faculty Reception at each campus. We stagger the opening on each campus to make it possible for both myself and Garner Ted Armstrong to attend all three.

From England we flew on to New Delhi, capital of India. A conference had been arranged with the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi (daughter of former Prime Minister Nehru). However, she was at the time in Africa, attending the Congress of Nonaligned Nations in Lusaka, Zambia. So Dr. Singh, secretary to the President of India, V. V. Giri, arranged for me to visit the President. Even he was away at the time, in Bangalore, in the far south of India. We were entertained at a luncheon at Dr. Singh's official residence. Arrangements were made for us to fly to Bangalore, en route to Singapore. The President's personal car, with the presidential flag flying at mast in front, met us at the Bangalore airport, and drove Mr. Stanley Rader (our chief legal counsel) and Mr. Gotoh (Japanese member of our faculty) and myself, to the palace of the Governor of the State. There we had a nice visit with President Giri. I presented him with a small gift, and a copy of the college students' year-book, The Envoy. He, in turn, presented me with a large photograph of himself, in a handsome silver frame with his special presidential monogram at the top. President Giri promised to come to Pasadena to speak before an assembly of our students. I have devoted my next "Personal" page in The Plain Truth to our visit in India. You may read the rest of it there.

Mrs. Gandhi had expected to see us, and I was told that if we could remain or return on the 18th, we could have a meeting with her. However my own commitments did not allow, and so we were invited to return in December.

At Singapore, we visited a number of top officials. The Prime Minister was in Europe, but since he was away we were privileged to meet with the Minister of Education. He already had a copy of our booklet *This is Ambassador College*, and I presented him with a copy of *The* Envoy.

He surprised me by saying he wanted to send his 19-year-old daughter to Ambassador College at Pasadena. I asked if I might interview the girl. He had her in his office within ten minutes. And she will begin attending on our Pasadena campus in January. We also have the son of a member of the Japanese Diet (their "congress") enrolled this year.

At Singapore I was invited to be the speaker at a Rotary Club luncheon. I was followed by a very brief speech by a prominent local member, head of one of the colleges. I was surprised to hear him say he was a subscriber to *The Plain Truth*, praising it highly, telling the local Rotarians they should all become subscribers. I am also writing an article for *The Plain Truth* about Singapore.

We have just visited our offices in Sydney and our printing plant there, and we also flew over to New Zealand to see our office and staff there. While in Sydney, Mr. McNair, Mr. Rader, Mr. C. Wayne Cole, one of our Vice-Presidents in charge of all operations in the Far East and Australasia, and I were luncheon guests of the Reader's Digest at their own large office building in Sydney. Their four top officials for this area hosted the luncheon.

Then, through their good offices, we were able to host a reception in a private room in our hotel last evening. Present were about 30 executives of radio and TV stations, newspapers and magazines. Handling things in this manner is very vital to this great worldwide Work. Last evening's reception was of untold value to the Work.....

It is certainly interesting, to say the least, that I have been able to meet so many world leaders and heads of state in so many nations that are of prime

importance right now, with world conditions moving as they are. I have sought NONE of these meetings, yet the occasions arise. They are aware that through our media of *The Plain Truth*, our broadcasts, telecasts, etc., we reach and influence into the hundred millions of people worldwide, and it is significant that I have been given favor in their sight. . . .

Co-Workers, I think this gives you an idea of the tremendous progress of the Work. As world conditions worsen RAPIDLY, heading on into the grand smash CLIMAX that will END this age and this society, this Work is speeding up, as NEVER BEFORE, to GET THE JOB DONE, before it is too late.

We cannot know, now, just how much more time we have. But this we do know — we must get back of this great Work to our UTMOST, as never before! Our GREAT REWARD is not far ahead, now. And in the meantime GETTING THE JOB DONE is all that matters!

With love, in Jesus' name,

October 28, 1970

Dear Fellow Co-Workers:

SINCE I WROTE YOU a month ago, many things have happened....

Suddenly doors are being opened wide for me personally to have meetings with heads of state of many important nations. I have not sought nor taken the initiative in arranging these important meetings. But they are significant, and another signal of the fast-approaching END of the present civilization and the ushering in of the WORLD TOMORROW — a world of peace, happiness and universal well-being.

When I wrote you a month ago, I was in our jet aircraft, returning from Sydney, Australia to Djakarta for my conference with President Suharto of Indonesia. An appointment had been set, but he was unable to see me until the following day. On that following day I had an appointment with President Marcos of the Philippines at his palace in Manila. I felt it incumbent on me to keep that appointment, and so was unable to wait over in Djakarta.

I had an important meeting with President Marcos. And while I was in Manila, President Suharto tried personally to reach me by telephone to arrange a meeting the next day. Prior commitments did not allow time to fly back down to Djakarta. As a result, I am now looking forward to meeting General Suharto the middle of December.

In Tokyo we met Dr. Binyamin Mazar, Director of our big archaeological exploration in Jerusalem, and also Professor Werblowsky, of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who is professor of Comparative Religions. They were invited with us to the dinner hosted by Prince Mikasa (brother of Emperor Hirohito), and his wife and daughter. Next day, at 2:00 p.m., we met the Prince at the Palace grounds. He took us first to the Palace office building, where a number of candid camera shots were taken. Then to the beautiful new Palace, completed since I was there two years ago.

Then at 4:00 p.m. I addressed a group of the very top professors of several Japanese universities, arranged by Prince Mikasa. The professors invited were those whose principal area of interest is the Middle East. All were greatly interested in archaeology. After I spoke, Dr. Mazar showed them many slides of our archaeological project.

In my talk before them, translated as we proceeded by Osamu Gotoh, head of our Japanese Department on the Pasadena campus, I mentioned the following:

About 150 years ago, leaders of science decided the human mind was so nearly perfect that society could safely discard its swaddling clothes, throw away the "crutch" of religion and reliance on God. Science had come to the place it could deliver the world from all evils. Given sufficient knowledge, science could solve all problems, they believed. So gradually moral and spiritual values were dropped. Colleges and universities began putting emphasis solely on the intellect, and instruction in the professions, technologies, and sciences. World Wars I and II shot moral and spiritual values to the cesspool.

As scientists and educators added to the world's fund of knowledge, the world's troubles and evils increased. During the past ten years knowledge DOUBLED — and likewise, troubles and evils have DOUBLED in the same decade! Today world-famous scientists are frankly frightened. It is now possible to erase all human life from this planet. Human survival is the number one world problem. Scientists and heads of state say publicly the only HOPE is a super world government, and at the same time admit its utter impossibility. Then I told them that we have now come to the place where, as a leading news magazine had intimated some time ago, it would seem that our sole hope of survival rests in the SUPERNATURAL intervention of an unseen "STRONG HAND FROM SOMEWHERE."

I told them how, if we are to place credence in the Hebrew Bible, the entire fault in the production of knowledge took place in the Garden of Eden, in the account of the "forbidden fruit," or the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil." The Creator had set in motion an invisible but inexorable law to CAUSE every GOOD result. That invisible spiritual LAW is the cause of all GOOD. Its transgression is the cause of all evils. When Adam took of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, he took TO HIMSELF the divine God prerogative of producing the knowledge of what is good and what is evil. Rejecting the revealed KNOWLEDGE of God, and DISOBEYING that Law revealed by God, man became an adversary of God, and always has tried to decide for himself what is right and what is wrong. All his KNOWLEDGE PRODUC-TION has been of the way of life that transgresses that CAUSE of all good. Consequently his knowledge production has brought only EVILS. As knowledge increases, so do the problems and evils.

I told those scholarly professors that they are betting their very lives on the existence of the Creator God, and His soon supernatural intervention in world affairs, to save humanity alive. No one sneered or jeered. Those high-ranking professors were sobered. They know world conditions. They knew what I said made sense — it was the truth.

Afterward, Prince Mikasa talked to them for some fifteen or twenty minutes, saying some very nice things about my address.

Co-Workers, this new turn of events throwing me personally into direct contact with heads of state of many great nations is highly significant. It is a door through which God is, I feel, using me to get HIS WARNING MESSAGE to the leaders of nations. It is an additional signal of the fast-approaching END, and the soon coming of the living Christ as KING of kings, setting up the GOVERNMENT OF GOD to rule all nations.

World conditions are Worsening as never before. You know that! This great Work of God must now LEAP FORWARD as never before!

You have YOUR PART. I am plunging harder than ever into my part. Since my return from the round-the-world trip, I have spoken in person before large audiences in France, England, Canada and SIX large audiences in the United States — speaking 17 times in 8 days, before an aggregate of 70,000 people. This was a grueling experience, starting exactly one week after the trip around the world. I am pushing myself on, now, faster than ever before in my life. But I can do little without YOU and your generous help. NOTHING ELSE IS IMPORTANT ANY MORE.

Let's sacrifice, GIVE, that this vital last Message may be given, as never before!

New radio and television stations are opening to us. We MUST get *The* PLAIN TRUTH back on the every-month basis starting December. Also Tomorrow's World. It's only possible if you do YOUR UTMOST as I'm doing mine!

What a WONDERFUL PRIVILEGE to have a PART in this great Work! Let's all respond as never before! With love, in Christ's name, Personal from

(Continued from page 2)

thought. He is merely caught in the vortex of a temptation which sucks him helplessly down into the sin. Then he is terribly sorry. He is disgusted with himself. He repents. He goes to work to overcome. He may not succeed, due to human weakness, at once. But he remains determined and finally does, with God's help, overcome completely. Many a true Christian has had such a struggle over a particular human weakness and temptation, and after even several setbacks, finally, through God's power, won the victory and fought his way free.

God looks on the heart. God FORgives in such cases. The living Christ, our High Priest, has compassion, is filled with mercy - as long as the attitude is right, the desire of the inner man is to conquer the flesh and overcome the temptation and be FREE from it entirely. In the end, it is GoD who gives the victory. But, in such a struggle, the Christian DEVELOPS CHARACTER.

Now character, I have said many times, is something God does not create automatically. It is developed, against the opposing pulls of human nature, with the decisions and wills and struggles of the individual, and through EXPERIENCE.

The development of that CHARACTER is the very PURPOSE of our being alive. Also the development of that character, unlike the purely physical growth of the unborn baby, actually is growing toward SPIRITUAL MATURITY, right now in the begettal stage prior to spirit BIRTH — in this present mortal human life

Notice how the "mother of us all," the Church, is to protect and feed those in it, until they reach spiritual MATUR-ITY. In I Corinthians 12 you'll read how God gives spiritual gifts for various administrations, or functions of service. In Ephesians 4:11-14, Christ has given special spiritual abilities or talents to certain ones in a chain of authority under Him in the Church - and notice for what PURPOSE:

"And his [Christ's] gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ [the Church], UNTIL we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (RSV).

In other words, to full spiritual maturity!

Now WHY should we count the troubles and problems and temptations that beset us as all JOY?

Simply because we cannot hurdle these obstacles successfully in our own power. They drive us to seek help from God. To go to God for the wisdom to know what to do, and the power to be able to do it, requires FAITH. This is a living faith. It is ALIVE. It is active.

When we meet such trials, we often do not know what to do. We lack the WISDOM to make the right decision. So open your Bible to the first chapter of James. Notice verse 5.

If you lack wisdom, in such trials, GO TO GOD for it! But ask IN FAITH - no wavering - no doubting. Be SURE God will not fail, but will give you this wisdom. Depend upon Him for it. If you waver, you are like a wave in the ocean - tossed back and forth going nowhere! So, instead of wavering, BE STEADFAST. And if you don't get the answer immediately from God, have PATIENCE. Don't give up. Trust

Now notice verses 2-3: "Count it all JOY, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness" (Revised Standard Version). These trials force you to your knees. You must have FAITH to meet them. They test your faith. They develop spiritual CHARACTER!

In the King James Version, it says the trying of your faith produces patience. It produces that kind of patience that is steadfastness. THAT IS CHARACTER!

Sure, it may be unpleasant for a while. But, Paul assures us that if we

suffer with Christ, we shall REIGN with Him — and the GLORY to be revealed in us is so incomparably greater than anything we now are, that this promised future for eternity is something to REJOICE over!

Yes, count it all Joy! Even if unpleasant. It is maturing you, now, for the marriage to Christ. The CHURCH of God shall be BORN into the KINGDOM OF GOD! The Kingdom of God will not be composed of spiritual know-nothings and infants.

When we are born again - born of God - resurrected in spirit bodies, those bodies will not be small, like a human physical infant which must grow to full physical size. We shall look as we do now, so far as form and shape and features are concerned. But the resurrected body will be a different body - composed of SPIRIT instead of flesh and blood (I Cor. 15:35-44).

The original twelve apostles were Christ's witnesses. That is, they were actual eye-witnesses that Jesus rose from the dead - that the living resurrected Christ was the same Jesus who had been crucified. They were with Him forty days after His resurrection. But nobody will be foolish enough to suggest that when Christ was BORN very Son of God by the resurrection (Romans 1:4) that He was resurrected in a tiny infant's body composed of spirit. He was resurrected FULL GROWN, as He had been when crucified. How did the apostles know He was the same Jesus? Because they knew what Jesus had looked like - and in His born-again resurrected body He looked the same, except He now was composed of spirit instead of matter!

The resurrected Christ was PERFECT - He was very God! But He did not grow up into perfection after He was resurrected. It was during His human lifetime, setting us the example, that He was made perfect, as you read in Hebrews 2:10 and 5:8-9.

Thus it is plain that we must develop spiritual character, growing to spiritual adulthood, during this life - not after our resurrection in GLORY! This is the spiritual growth, of which the physical growth of the unborn child, from tiny embryo to a size and weight of some six to eight pounds at birth, is a type. The physical growth of the unborn human is a growth of physical size and weight. The spiritual growth of the begotten but yet unborn spiritual child of God is a growth in spiritual character, not of physical volume, size or weight. The human baby merely grows large enough to be born prior to birth — NOT TO PHYSICAL OR MENTAL MATURITY. But he does grow. And this physical growth

is the TYPE of the spiritual growth by feeding on the Word of God, and prayer, and Christian fellowship, and participation in the Work of God in the life of the begotten child of God.

The difference is merely the difference between matter and spirit. One is a material growth. Material growth is measured by volume, size, weight. The other is spiritual growth, measured by character development.

Jesus was BORN very Son of God by His resurrection (Romans 1:4). He was born fully mature. He was born in a spirit body, which was manifested to His apostles in the same apparent size and shape as when He died. When He appears on earth the second time, in His spirit glorified body, we shall be resurrected, or instantaneously changed, to a body that will be like Him (I John 3:2) — full grown — adult!

Letters to the Editor

Personal from the Editor

I especially liked the Editorial you wrote, for it is exactly correct. During the years I've seen and heard of many similar experiences of people turning away from any kind of religious programs, etc., because they felt they were being "forced" to listen against their own will. Many feel those trying to "talk" religion to them are not "qualified" to do so — there is a time when every person is more receptive to the Word of God, and to discover it themselves in their own way and time leaves them with an "open mind" to accept it without any "resentment" from an outsider.

J. E.C., Warren, Mich.

Thank you very much for your July-August Tomorrow's World "Personal from the Editor." It caught me just in time, before I made the mistake of antagonizing my family and friends.

Mary T., Cordele, Georgia

Your superb "Personal from the Editor" of July-August 1970 in Tomorrow's World has clarified the mixed feelings I had about the work you were doing. The enclosed check is my confidence in your work (\$100).

Frida L., Newark, N. J.

America, Listen!

I want to become a Co-Worker. I have listened to the World Tomorrow broadcasts for over fifteen years. But, it was not until the America, Listen program came to Nashville last June, that I became so aware of the need for a change in my life. I was able to attend every performance and talk to many of the students from Ambassador College. It was an experience I will never forget. I have never seen so many truly happy and radiant faces. I now realize that no other goals in life will satisfy, except seeking the Kingdom of God first. I am anxiously awaiting your reply. Thank you.

Tommy B., Nashville, Tenn.

News of the Work

I am sure that, like myself, all the Co-Workers will be especially helped by the encouragement you have given in showing us just what we are privileged to be part of. Please keep these articles coming on "News of the Work," for it is difficult while living and working in the world to keep a positive picture of just how we are being used.

Mrs. C. J., Yorkshire, England

New Co-Worker

I read and feel I thoroughly understood your article on tithing in Tomorrow's World magazine. I feel obliged to turn my fullest gratitude to you for having revealed to me this financial law of great importance. So I wish to begin now as a Co-Worker. I enclose in here the sum of R2 as my first tithe.

Mr. O. M. L., Maseru, Lesotho, Africa.

Baptism Request

I wish to receive the Holy Spirit — I would like to be baptized. I have finished reading your article on "Just What Is the Church?" in Tomorrow's World magazine. I agree with every word you said. Therefore I would like to live by every scripture of the Holy Bible including Acts 2:38. I would like to follow the example Jesus Christ of Nazareth gave us and be baptized.

Robert L. S., Hope, Arkansas.

 We have already sent your letter to one of God's ministers (an Ambassador graduate) in your area — he will be contacting you as soon as possible.

Willing to Change!

Your article "Are You Willing to Change?" in the Sept.-Oct. issue of Tomorrow's World has caused me to change. For quite some time now I've been hearing your broadcasts and receiving literature on many subjects. I've even been paying my tithes. But I never prayed, even after receiving and believing this true knowl-

edge. Your article showed me that I was being weak and led by human nature. Tonight I humbled myself and prayed and I hope God heard.

Glenn L.,

Brooks AFB, Texas

• Excellent! God DOES hear a RE-PENTANT person's prayer. For better understanding of prayer, read the article in this issue — "Your Prayers Can Work Miracles" — and also request our reprint article "The Answer to Unanswered Prayer."

God's Promise

I would just like to mention that I'm very impressed with the Tomorrow's World magazine. In the July-Aug. issue there is a small article entitled "God's Promise" that has given me so much encouragement and I'm really grateful for it. Indeed, trying to live a Christian life is so difficult and right now that one small article has done more to boost my morale than anything else I've read or heard.

Richard McC., West Liberty, Ohio

Tithing

Tomorrow's World is a very important magazine for "today's world." The July-August issue was outstanding. It successfully answered my questions concerning the True Church, "Hell," and "Heaven." But getting more to the point of this letter, it has helped me understand the tithe ("About Tithing," p. 33, July-Aug., 1970) and has awakened me to my responsibilities in this area. I would like to offer 10% of "my" savings and earnings to God's Work here on earth. Even though this amount is not great it can help in some way. I will be continuing to tithe any further income that I receive. Actually it is a very small "repayment" for the many benefits your Work has given me and for the many articles you have given me. I hope you will please accept my tithe. Chuck C., Flint, Mich.

 Thankfully accepted — and put to work in God's Work for others.