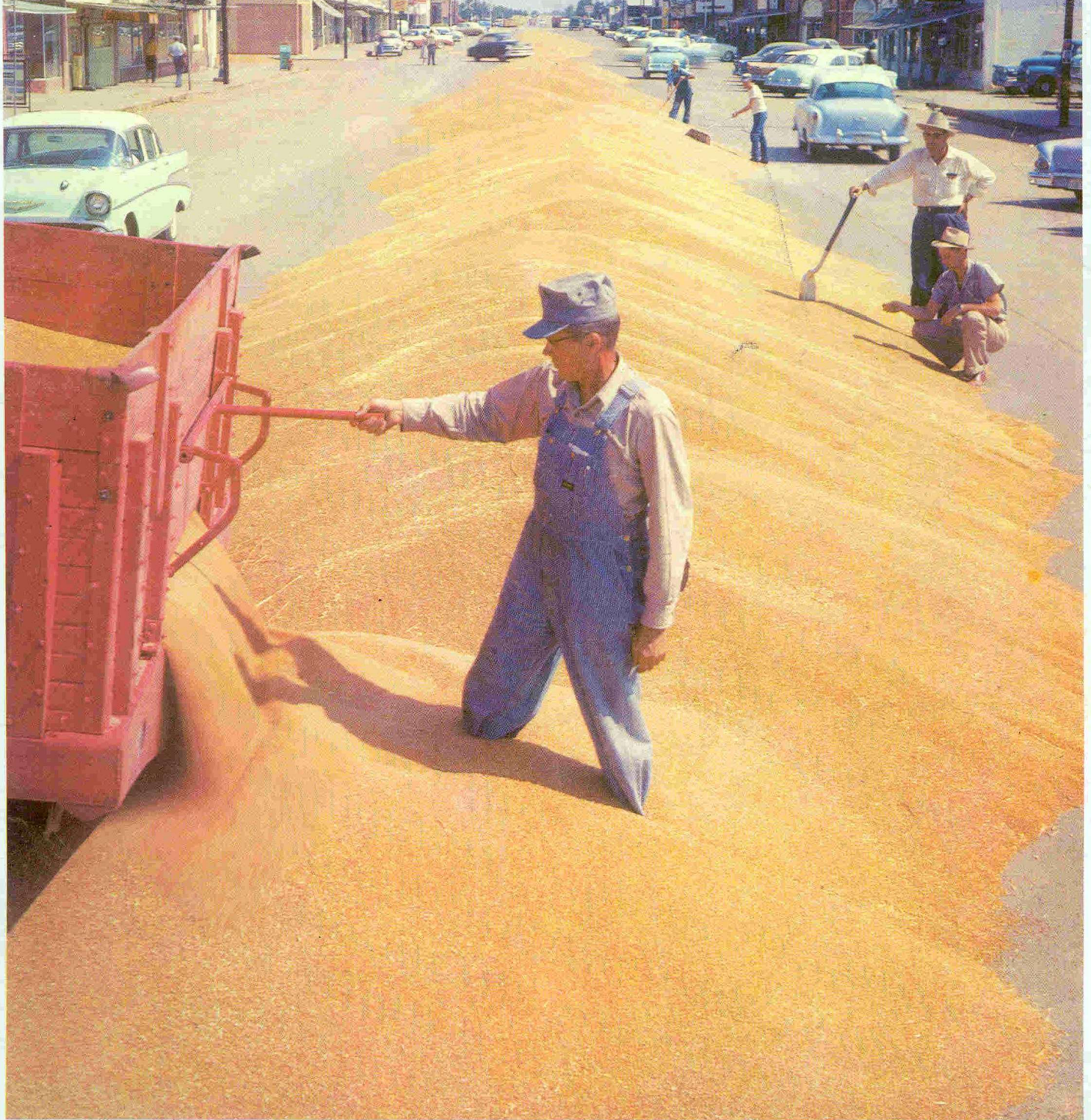


the
PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



What our READERS SAY

Famine

"I am very seriously concerned about the article on "Famine" in your most recent publication of *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine. My life has been lived but our greatest concern is for our four young children. I never realized the danger our country and families, and children in turn, now face."

Mrs. C. E. P., Azusa, California

"I wanted to mention how superb the all-color *PLAIN TRUTH* is. It certainly adds class for those who are forming their first impressions of it.

"After seeing the starving people in India . . . it makes one ill to sit here and eat three full meals a day when I know so many are starving. And those that aren't starving are dying horrible deaths from wars and all sorts of sordid crimes."

Mrs. June G.,
Seattle, Washington

Latin America

"I want you to know that I have just received the February issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH* in full color and I think it is the finest quality printing I have ever seen! The color really makes such articles of travel as Dr. Charles V. Dorothy's 'INSIDE LATIN AMERICA!' come alive. Now the reader can travel right along with the author! Thank you so much for your creativity and for sharing it with your readers."

Michael M.,
Battle Creek, Michigan

St. Valentine's Day

"Many thanks for the copy of the first issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH* in full color. I found the interesting article 'St. Valentine's Day,' which contained a remarkable revelation of the pagan origin of this day . . . I confess, I had never given much thought to this matter. It was, indeed, a surprise to learn how there is a connection between St. Valentine and Nimrod, Baal, and even Saturn!"

H. R. S., Sacramento, California

Anti-Semitism

"I do not believe it is man's nature to rebel, riot, and fight wars. These demonstrations and race riots appear to be instigated by the Communists and the Jew Zionists. These people have a lust for making trouble. I receive material from so many good sources, whom I know are not being influenced by these dastardly people, that time does not permit being wasted on any publications even if only a suspicion of Jew control exists. Please remove my name from your mailing list."

Robert R., Appleton, Wisconsin

• *Your self-contradictory bias is rather obvious, RR. You claim Jews have a "lust for making trouble," but deny it is in "man's nature to rebel, riot, and fight wars." Are you really sure just WHAT you believe, beyond, that is, your animosity for the Jews?*

Convinced?

"I have been listening every day to your program and it has really helped me to understand the Bible. Your series on the Ten Commandments is truly wonderful. . . . Could you put my letter in your magazine so I can prove your letters to the Editor are real? My husband is doubtful about it."

Mrs. R.H.S., Sonoma, California

• *If he saw your letter—he's doubtful no more.*

"You are too sensational and the things you predict will never come to pass. To me, the Bible is a prejudiced book, full of nonsense and I don't believe it because its writers were prejudiced. No book in the world can give me a true picture of God. Why don't you just take a long walk off a short pier?"

Veronica L. M., California

• *That's what the world is doing—we prefer the short walk on a long pier.*

Eager for More

"Today I received my first copy of *The PLAIN TRUTH*, and I must confess that much of the content surprises me.

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the PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

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Personal from the Editor

THIS is the second edition of *The PLAIN TRUTH* with full color *inside*, as well as the front cover. Of course our first full-color number had not come off the press when I wrote the personal column for the February issue.

This is my first opportunity to tell you. I personally picked off the big press the very *first* copy of that *first* full-color PLAIN TRUTH, had it specially run through the bindery to be stapled, trimmed, and made complete.

And I was *disappointed!*

In big-scale color printing—740,000 copies that issue—we are just *beginners*. We still have things to learn, technically. None of us at the Ambassador College Press (Pasadena plant) was satisfied with the color. Our editorial staff was not well pleased.

Yet, paradoxically, we all thought it WAS THE BEST ISSUE SO FAR! The color reproduction was far from perfect. BUT AT LEAST THERE WAS COLOR!

So now I would like to take our readers behind the scene and tell you some things about printing a magazine in full color. Color printing is a highly technical operation. It requires special and costly equipment. Already we had been printing the front cover in full color—and very satisfactorily. But our cover, of heavier and more glossy paper, is printed on a special sheet-fed cover press.

But the inside of the magazine is printed on the big web press, shown on the front cover of the February number. It is fed by huge ROLLS of paper. All four colors are printed in the one operation.

But first, four separate plates must be made. When these are all properly blended together on the press, they produce all the colors of the rainbow.

In order to develop these four different color plates, a highly specialized

and very intricate color-separating machine is required.

Part of the reason our color pictures were not perfect last month was needed skill in operating this intricate new machine. Part was due to the fact some of the pictures were not too good color-wise, anyway. To further improve our color pictures, a better grade of paper was immediately ordered. Delivery should make the April number.

So here we run into still another problem—acquiring high-quality full-color pictures (or film) in the first place. As long as we printed all pictures in black-and-white, we had a wealth of picture material available. Like all large-circulation magazines, we employ the great worldwide picture services of the major press agencies—such as *Wide World* photos, the picture service of *Associated Press*. But these are primarily newspaper services, and newspapers use little or no color. The color-photograph selections of these services are extremely limited.

Most picture magazines, such as *LIFE*, and *LOOK* in the United States, and other similar picture magazines in other countries, employ their own staff photographers. We already have one full-time staff photographer, who has been sent already to many parts of the world to take photographs for *The PLAIN TRUTH*. We may need to employ more.

I thought it well to let our readers know what a really great undertaking it is to print such a large-circulation magazine—now approaching a million copies—in full color.

Most of our readers already realize, I'm sure, that our effort is to make whatever we do THE BEST—as near perfection as possible.

There remains one other BIG consideration that will come as a big SURPRISE to most of you. When you pick up one of the big-circulation picture-type magazines, whether in South Africa, Aus-

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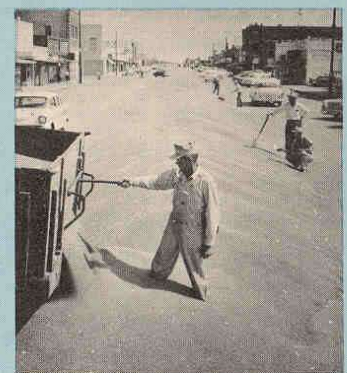
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Bob Taylor Photo

OUR COVER

A bumper U. S. wheat crop produces temporary storage problems! Wheat is windrowed down the center of typical Main Street, Great Plains, U.S.A. This seasonal surplus is now being drained away to satisfy Asian hunger pangs. But U. S. cannot continue to stave off worldwide famine caused by waste, drought and population pressures.

tralia, Europe, or LIFE or LOOK in America, you get the impression that the magazines are nearly altogether FULL COLOR.

Well here is the surprise I received: Dr. Herman L. Hoeh, our Managing Editor, brought me a current issue of a mass-circulation picture magazine. He had cut out, as far as possible without removing editorial or non-advertising reading matter, all the advertisements. And what a surprise it was! There were 51 pages containing pictures. 36 of these were in black-and-white. Only 15 were in color! All other pages either contained no pictures, or advertising. With all the ads left in—PROFUSE with much color—the reader receives the impression of a magazine just chock-full of COLOR.

It was a surprise to me to realize that so much of the COLOR in these mass-circulation magazines is *in the advertising!* But *The PLAIN TRUTH* contains no advertising.

As I write, now, I have, of course, seen much of the material that will be in *this* issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*—as it was prepared in our editorial offices and *before* it had been sent to the printing plant. But I have seen *none* of it, as of this writing, of course, as YOU will be seeing it when you read this—in the finished PRINTED magazine. I sincerely hope that the color printing will be an improvement on the February number. I assure you that all of us on *The PLAIN TRUTH* staff will continue striving for improvement—TOWARD PERFECTION.

* * * * *

AND NOW, WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Just as we on *The PLAIN TRUTH* staff find we cannot achieve perfection all at once—from the very beginning—neither can we—OR YOU—arrive at PERFECTION in true Christian CHARACTER all at once—at the very START!

This is BASIC to the very PURPOSE OF LIFE!

HOW did you come to be here on earth? Did you just happen, an accident of blind, unintelligent, unknowing, lifeless EVOLUTION? Or were you put here and given life by an all-knowing, all-intelligent, purposeful *living* Supreme

GOD, who designed and created the human mind and body?

Let me tell you—and I can prove it, and so can you if you are willing—that the Great Creator brought YOU into existence on this earth FOR A GREAT AND MIGHTY PURPOSE!

You were born into a world which has developed a certain type civilization. The instant you were born you knew—NOTHING! But your eyes opened, you looked about, and knowledge of what you saw began registering in your memory—began putting knowledge into your mind. Your ears heard sounds, and thus additional knowledge entered through the sense of hearing. Very elementary at first, but gradually, each bit of new knowledge, entering your mind through your sense of taste, smell, feel, sight and hearing, was *added* to what had previously been stored there.

Gradually you came to know, and take up with, the customs, ways, generally accepted ideas and beliefs of this world. You accepted them, took them for granted without question.

Some of them were good—but many of them were BAD. But you took them for granted without realizing they were bad.

You were born with a *nature*. We call it human nature. Few people realize what it is. Human nature has a spiritual side, and a physical side. On its spiritual side, it is pure VANITY. Vanity loves and tends to exalt the SELF. It is SELF-centered. It is selfish and greedy. It is this way *naturally*. On its physical side, there are the five senses, and the PULL of these senses to want to be satisfied. Exercise of these senses can produce sensations of pleasure. Some of these sensual pleasures are healthy, uplifting and GOOD. But many are injurious, harmful and BAD. Yet the bad ones cry out for gratification as much—probably far more than the good. Thus human nature exerts an automatic, impulsive PULL toward selfishness, greed, vanity, jealousy, envy, hatred, and toward the lusts (*wrong* desires) of the flesh.

Human nature makes it come *natural* to resent and resist authority over one. A child tends to resist the authority of his parents. We grow up with a natural

attitude of hostility toward any authority, all the way up to GOD.

Human nature wants to *BE* good. It just doesn't want to *DO* good.

Because GOOD is the WAY of God's invisible, inexorable, spiritual LAW. That LAW is, simply, LOVE. It is love toward God in the form of trusting and willing OBEDIENCE to God's every command and direction, knowing it is for our highest good. It is love toward God in the form of being GOD-centered—having the mind *continually* (consciously or sub-consciously) in contact with God, *relying* on God, seeking guidance from God, worshipful in the sense of gratitude, obedience, faith in complete trust. It is love toward fellow MAN—in the sense of outgoing concern, *equal* to love and concern for self.

Now NO MAN exercises *that kind* of love *naturally*. You simply were not born with that kind of love.

YOU DON'T HAVE IT!

That is, not unless you have received it from God through His GIFT of His Holy Spirit.

THAT love travels a certain road. It is the road that leads to peace, to happiness, to confident assurance, security, well-being, ENJOYMENT without kick-backs, prosperity—every good thing the heart desires.

Everyone wants that *result*.

That is to say, everyone wants to BE good.

But no one, it seems, *naturally* wants to GO that way—to DO good.

That is the WAY of God's Law.

Now this world is *not* FULL of happiness, peace, joy, and universal prosperity. It is pretty well filled with strife—in the home, in business, in politics, in war between nations. It is pretty well filled with unhappiness, frustration, insecurity. It is pretty well filled with crime and violence, with broken homes and unhappy quarreling homes, with sickness and disease, with frustrations, failures, tragedies.

Now GOD is *not* the author of all these troubles in the world.

God has, FOR A GREAT PURPOSE, made humans free moral agents, and allotted six thousand years for mankind to *make a choice*—whether to accept God's government over him, to be

(Continued on page 7)

hood—we gasp in amazement at the *rebuke* of God. We stammer in wonderment when we hear God is beginning to allow terrible national *punishments* to come upon us!

We ask, "WHY?"

And the REASON for our impending calamities is being made plain to us! We have forgotten our very national identity (if you have not PROVED where our peoples are identified in Bible Prophecy, then write for our free booklet, *The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy* immediately)—we have rejected the AUTHORITY of the Bible, we have pushed God and His laws *completely* out of our lives!

God says, "...The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah [two DIFFERENT "houses" or peoples] is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood [our peoples *lead the world* in crime!], and the city *full* of perverseness: [our cities have become asphalt jungles of crime, immorality, drug addiction and sensuous pleasure-seeking] for *they say*, The Lord hath forsaken the earth, and, the Lord seeth not!" (Ezek. 9:9.)

And that is EXACTLY what millions say today.

One of the most recent, the most "popular" expressions among so-called "Christian" Atheists is, "God is DEAD!" Hundreds of professing "Christian" ministers are quick to explain to their congregations how LITTLE "God" has to do with our present world—how He has "gone 'way off" to some distant place—how "God" has gone into retirement!

People who believe in the great Creator-Being of the Bible; who believe HE LIVES, that He intervenes in our PERSONAL lives; that He is working out a PURPOSE here below, that He will soon SHAKE the nations of this earth, and set up HIS OWN GOVERNMENT here below—such people are regarded as "religious nuts" by many a professing "Christian."

Have millions of our peoples adopted the fanciful notion that "The Lord seeth not"? CERTAINLY!

And let's understand further! We are beginning to suffer the consequences of OUR OWN WAYS OF LIFE!

Get the picture in proper perspective! Too often, like disobedient little children, people put on a show of perfect "innocence" when told of the awesome *prophecies* of the Word of God concerning our peoples!

A young girl wrote, "I am ANGRY with God for having chosen THIS generation for the manifestation of His wrath!"

But THIS GENERATION has done the choosing! Not God.

God says, "I... will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all THINE abominations! And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense THY WAYS upon thee" (Ezek. 7:3-4).

"O Israel, *thou* hast destroyed THYSELF; but in ME is thine help" God says (Hosea 13:9).

We are beginning to suffer the AUTOMATIC consequences of OUR OWN WAY OF LIFE! God is not YET performing MIRACLES in bringing plagues upon us. He is not DIRECTLY plaguing our peoples! Rather, He is ALLOWING the natural results of our own evil ways to come right back on our own heads! We abuse the earth He gave us, polluting it with pesticides and chemicals; killing the nutrients in the soil, striving by our own humanly devised MECHANICAL means to produce crops.

Any farmer who seriously TRUSTED HIS GOD for insect control; for good crops; for good weather; for his very *success* as a farmer, would be SCORNE and RIDICULED by all who knew of his practices!

Yet it is GOD ALMIGHTY who says He WILL intervene in the *weather*! He says it is HE who gives good crops, and protects us from drought and famine! But our peoples have never *recognized* God's intervention in our behalf!

When farmers in South Africa hung sarcastic signs on fences, asking for collections to buy spectacles "for God" so He could "see the suffering of both man and beast" they proved the point. It is man's nature to BLAME GOD when things go WRONG, and give MAN the credit when conditions are *right*.

We're complacent. We like to delude ourselves into thinking these prophecies

are not REAL! We seem to believe, somehow, that we shall keep eating regularly; that life will go on in monotonous day-to-day routine.

How incredibly SHOCKED millions of us will be!

Don't make the mistake of finding some "picky" or "twiggy" little "point" with which you *disagree* in this article, and then begin to let your own mind deceive you into believing drought will not come.

Don't "kid" yourself!

DROUGHT IS COMING! It's beginning to strike us RIGHT NOW. And it's going to get MUCH, MUCH WORSE in the years ahead.

You have been warned.

Whether you ever read one more article in future issues of this magazine; or hear *The WORLD TOMORROW* again—YOU have been warned! And in the years to come you shall SEE, and you will KNOW you heard the *truth* about the future—BEFORE it happened!

May God help you to have the spiritual courage to do something about it *now*.

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

ruled by God's Law of LOVE—or whether to set up his own ideas of man-made government, following what comes *natural*—HUMAN NATURE.

That six thousand years is about up. When it is—a *very* few more years, perhaps less than 15—God Almighty is going to step in, intervene supernaturally and in divine POWER in the governments and ways of society—and BRING PEACE AND HAPPINESS TO HUMANITY!

HOW can that be done?

It's simple!

There is A WAY of personal, group, and organized living that will automatically produce that utopia. And there is A WAY that *has*, for 6,000 years, produced curses, war, strife and violence, frustration, failure—everything this world has.

God is simply going to *enforce*, with

divine Power, HIS WAY. He is going to take over all governments, in a super WORLD GOVERNMENT, ruled by the very CREATOR. It will rule by GOD'S LAWS—the WAY of love!

Why do some people—even college professors and some who are intellectually inclined—become Communists? Because they see many things WRONG in this world—they want to BE right—they grasp Communism as a last straw and only hope, under the delusion that THEY CAN HAVE A PART IN MAKING THIS A BETTER WORLD! They want to BE right—but they don't want to DO right. So they grasp the straw that makes the lying and false PROMISES of producing the solution. But Communism is only another IDEA OF MAN BASED ON HUMAN NATURE. It is a theoretical WAY that would destroy what little good there might be in this world's society. It is the most false of false hopes.

But YOU can *have a part* in actually bringing PEACE, happiness, joy and abundance to humanity. God Almighty is *going to do it*—whether or not you have a part in it! But He is not going to do it alone. He is going to take certain human beings, born in the very LIKENESS of God, who REPENT of their carnal human nature—who cry out to God to CHANGE that nature, and *give* them the matchless supreme GIFT of His divine LOVE that will travel THE WAY toward peace, happiness and joy.

These are they who, through real repentance of what they *are* as well as what they have done, through faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as well as in His resurrected LIFE and POWER, are forgiven their guilty past, given contact with God, *changed, converted*, receiving HIS HOLY SPIRIT, being begotten as HIS CHILD, receiving the DIVINE nature.

In other words, they REPENT of human nature—they REPENT of hostility to authority—of resentment against God's Law. They SURRENDER unconditionally to GOD, and wholeheartedly WANT Him to rule in their lives. They CHANGE (through God's power given by His grace) from rebellion to submission—from SELF-centeredness to being GOD-centered. They let Jesus

Christ (in Spirit) come into their lives and actually live their lives for them (Galatians 2:20).

They change from THE WAY that has brought all the curses upon this unhappy world, to THE WAY that will bring a brilliant, joyous UTOPIA to earth in a very few years when God sends the *living* Jesus Christ in all Power and Glory to RULE ALL NATIONS and bring the happy, peaceful WORLD TOMORROW!

This CHANGE is conversion. This is what it means to *become* a Christian. A Christian is NOT merely one who PROFESSES Christ. God's own instruction to us—the Bible—says that if one has not received God's Holy Spirit, he is NONE of His—he is NOT a Christian (Romans 8:9). God gives His Holy Spirit ONLY to them that OBEY Him (Acts 5:32). This implants within the mind the *divine nature*—it means a CHANGED MIND!

But it does *not* remove the HUMAN nature. The *mind* governs whether the converted Christian now *follows* the pulls, the impulses, the desires of human nature, or whether he resists them and is LED BY the newly received divine nature. "As many as are LED BY the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14). But one's *human* nature cries out to be satisfied—does not like to be repressed.

Just *receiving* God's Spirit is not enough. One must BE LED by God's Spirit. His Spirit opens the mind to UNDERSTANDING of spiritual truth, and the KNOWLEDGE of God's Law. It opens the mind to THE WAY one should follow. God's Spirit also is the love of God—God's own divine love—flooding into the human heart, and flowing on out in love to God and love to neighbor.

One must therefore GROW in spiritual knowledge and in God's grace (II Peter 3:18). He must become a DOER of God's Law—actually LIVING in THE WAY of peace and happiness and joy. This means he must OVERCOME his own carnal nature, his old habits, the temptations of the world—HE MUST BE CHANGED! He must develop toward perfect spiritual and righteous CHARACTER. The real Christian is undergoing a life of TRAINING to become a RULER

in God's Kingdom—in the happy and peaceful WORLD TOMORROW.

One cannot learn everything in a minute, a day, or a year. One does not become perfect at one jump. It is a continuous PROCESS. Just as we were not able (though we tried) to produce the perfect color in the pictures of the February PLAIN TRUTH, so no Christian becomes perfect at the very beginning. He does not overcome or root out all the sins, the wrong habits, all at once. He must do it little by little. But, "he that overcometh, and keepeth MY WORKS unto the end," says Jesus Christ, "to him will I give power over THE NATIONS: AND HE SHALL RULE THEM" (Revelation 2:26-27).

WHY do THE NATIONS of this earth need ruling by Christ and those trained under a Christian life? Because all the unhappiness—everything WRONG with this world—has come from living THE WAY of human nature—THE WAY of hostility to God's Law and GOD'S Government. Because the only way this world can have PEACE, PROSPERITY, HAPPINESS, is to be forced to build a society based on THE WAY that *produces* these desired blessings.

If you have started on THAT RIGHT WAY, don't get discouraged because you have slipped and fallen down along the road a few times. Get up and KEEP GOING. Even if you have sinned and are truly sorry, you can repent and Christ is your High Priest to forgive. Read and study I John 1:7-10 and 2:1-2. This is written to converted CHRISTIANS.

At the time of Christ's coming, the dead in Christ will be resurrected and rise to meet the descending Christ in the air. At that instant those *living* who have been thus *changed*, begotten by God's Spirit, will be changed in composition, from mortal to immortal—from matter to spirit—from human to divine.

THEY are then to RULE with and under the all-powerful living Christ, until ALL NATIONS beat their swords into plowshares, and PEACE shines forth on this war-weary earth!

Jesus Christ taught His followers to PRAY: "THY KINGDOM COME—THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH!" How about it. Shall we pray that prayer?

I DO!