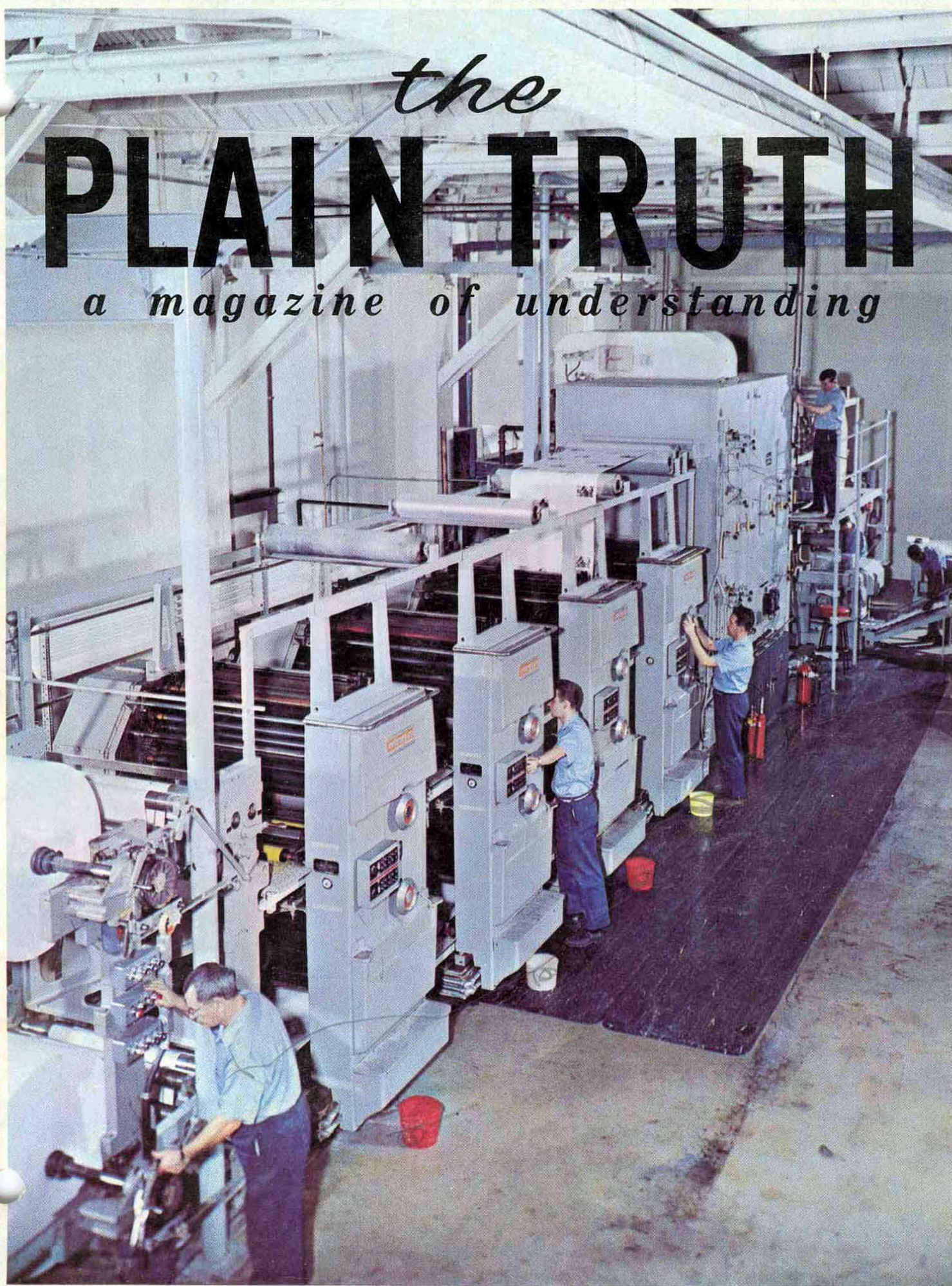


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding



What our READERS SAY

Rhodesia Crisis

"I have been recently promoted from Assistant Magistrate to Magistrate. I find your PLAIN TRUTH most interesting and accurate in reporting on world affairs. Your article on 'The Rhodesian Crisis' in the December issue is at least unbiased and substantially reflects the true position. I feel the article should be more generally published because it is apparent that most people not living in Africa have but a twisted idea of what really the position is. They don't seem to care about the future of western civilization in Africa. They also seem to be reluctant to inform themselves properly of the true position. People have become scared of the truth in their own lives; scared of the truth as regards world affairs and scared of the Bible truths lest it would become plain that they must repent of their sins in order to have real peace."

Magistrate, South Africa

Blackout

"We who live here in New York have now had a water shortage, a blackout, and a transportation strike, which finally ended yesterday. I was not personally affected. . . . I live in easy walking distance of work. Many others were not so little affected. That is, little by comparison; for some lost jobs, and businesses. What will be our next city-wide disaster?—a food shortage, or will the weather cripple us next?"

William J., Brooklyn, New York

From an Ape?

"After hearing several of your broadcasts, it is necessary for me to tell you how wrong you are. Although I have not read the Bible, I know it is wrong, and if it is wrong, so are you. Anyone can see that the Biblical principles of kindness and understanding cannot hold true in any form of human society. I know without a doubt that man is descended from the apes of the jungles, and that if there is a superior being, he is descended from the greatest

ape in the world. This is obvious to anyone who would care to look at the facts."

Listener, Clovis, New Mexico

• *WHAT facts? You say you haven't read the Bible, yet claim to know it's wrong, and say you "know without a doubt" man comes from the apes; something even evolutionists disclaim. Do you always form such absolute opinions about things you've never studied?*

True Womanhood—Lost Cause?

"I have received my November issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH* and I'm now reading the article 'True Womanhood—Is It a "Lost Cause"?' I tell you, sir, in view of the kind of husband that I have, that 'yes, sir,' business seems hard, but if that's the way God wants it then here I go. Really though, I'm just halfway through the article and I have been helped immensely. Thank you."

Patricia L. G., Nassau N.P.,
Bahamas

Crime

"Being a Los Angeles police officer, I can certainly vouch in agreement with you. Crime is certainly on the upsurge. In my opinion, it is high time we as a nation turn to God before it is too late. Keep up the good work. I'm sure that your fine magazine is a blessing to many."

Thomas M., Los Angeles, Calif.

God Speaks Out . . .

"I was very thankful at the receipt of a copy of 'GOD SPEAKS OUT on "*The New Morality*."' My wife and I enjoyed every page and chapter of this book, and my wife indeed was overjoyed at the truths and new experiences we learnt for this wonderful book. It has taught us many things of vital importance, some of which we neglected. We underlined all the interesting passages so that we don't forget. This book has become a kind of my instructor because I have started instructing my young sis-

(Continued on page 47)

the PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

February, 1966

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EDITOR

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Garner Ted Armstrong

MANAGING EDITOR

Herman L. Hoeh

SENIOR EDITOR

Roderick C. Meredith

Associate Editors

Albert J. Portune

David Jon Hill

Contributing Editors

Robert C. Boraker

C. Paul Meredith

William F. Dankenbring

L. Leroy Neff

Charles V. Dorothy

Richard H. Sedliacik

Jack R. Elliott

Lynn E. Torrance

Robert E. Gentet

Eugene M. Walter

Ernest L. Martin

Basil Wolverton

Gerhard O. Marx

Clint C. Zimmerman

James W. Robinson, *Copy Editor*

Paul Kroll, *Art Editor*

News Bureau

Gene H. Hogberg, *Director*

Donald D. Schroeder

Keith A. Hoyt

Staff Photographer

Lyle Christopherson

Regional Editors

United Kingdom: Raymond F. McNair

Australia: C. Wayne Cole

South Africa: Ernest Williams

Germany: Frank Schnee

Philippines: Gerald Waterhouse

Switzerland: Colin J. A. Wilkins

Business Manager

Albert J. Portune

Circulation Managers

United States: Hugh Mauck

United Kingdom: Charles F. Hunting

Canada: Dean Wilson

Australia: Gene R. Hughes

Philippines: Arthur Docken

South Africa: Michael Bousfield

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Personal from the Editor

HERE IS our 32nd anniversary gift to you—a PLAIN TRUTH for the first time dressed up in full color throughout—from cover to cover! That does not mean full color on every page, but all full color pictures are printed in full color.

For thirty-two years, our readers have enjoyed continuous improvement in *The PLAIN TRUTH*. It started February, 1934, as a crude, home-made, mimeographed "magazine."

In this issue you will find an article portraying, in full color, pictures of our own expanded ultra-modern printing plants that now print the full-color PLAIN TRUTH—in Pasadena, California, in Watford, England, and in Sydney, Australia.

In a later number I hope to write an article covering the exciting history of *The PLAIN TRUTH*, showing its amazing growth step by step. And once again, as in the June, 1961 number, I hope to take our readers behind the scenes of our enlarged editorial and mechanical staff—introduce you to each with full color pictures, show you their offices and workrooms. In fact, all this probably will require from two to four articles appearing in successive months. The entire organization has expanded greatly since June, 1961. The circulation of that number was 254,422 copies. This present number you are holding in your hands is 740,000 copies—almost three times the circulation of June, 1961.

The PLAIN TRUTH is now skyrocketing upward toward one million copies every issue. All reports indicate that between two and three million people read every issue. Circulation has been increasing consistently at approximately 30 percent each year. At the present rate of growth we should be printing approximately 3,500,000 copies by the beginning of 1972. That would make *The PLAIN TRUTH* one of the very few

largest-circulating magazines in the world.

We have still more improvements in store for our readers.

* * * * *

THE ENGLISH-speaking peoples are supposed to be Christian. Most church denominations count their membership loosely, including many—probably a large majority—who seldom if ever darken the church doors. Yet approximately 67 million Americans make no profession of religion, are unclaimed on member rolls of any church, according to the 1966 Yearbook of American Churches.

WHY?

WHY are so many either disinterested or disgusted with religion?

Three years ago I answered that question in this column. It evoked an unusual interest and brought a large mail response.

So I reprint it here:

HOW MANY times have you heard non-Christians, judging one who professes Christ, say in disgust: "Well if *that's* Christianity, I don't want any of it!"

How many judge GOD by the way professing Christians live? How many assume that one must live a *perfect* life, before he can become a Christian?

How many say: "If I could give up smoking, I'd become a Christian."

How many think a Christian is supposed to be perfect, never doing anything wrong? Suppose you do see or hear about a Christian doing something **WRONG**. Does that mean he is a hypocrite—that he is *not* really a Christian, after all?

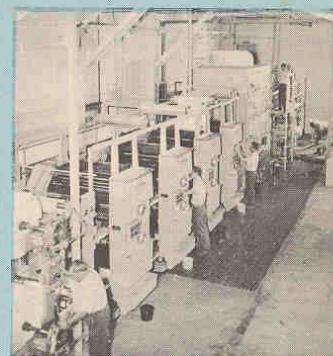
Is it possible for one to actually **SIN**, while he is a Christian, and *still remain* a truly converted Christian?

I suppose nearly everyone would reply in the negative. But here is a vital point *you need to UNDERSTAND!*

It's hard to believe—but **TRUE!** Few

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OUR COVER

This web press was custom built for Ambassador College Press, Pasadena, by the Miehle Company. Huge rolls of paper rush through at more than 800 feet per minute. Four printing units produce the full color, a giant oven dries the ink, and 25,000 16-page signatures are folded each hour.

know just what *is* a Christian. Few know HOW one is converted—whether suddenly, all at once, or gradually. Does conversion happen *immediately*, or is it a PROCESS? IT'S HIGH TIME WE UNDERSTAND!

The TRUTH is that there is a sense in which true conversion *does* take place at a definite time—all at once. But it is also true that in another sense conversion is *worked out gradually*—a process of development and growth.

NOW NOTICE CAREFULLY!

WHEN does one really become a Christian? It is when he receives God's Holy Spirit. In Romans 8:9, we read that *unless* we have the Holy Spirit, we are not Christ's—not Christians.

There is a definite TIME when God's Spirit enters into one. At the *very moment* he receives the Holy Spirit, he is, in this first sense, *converted*. Yes, *all at once!* If he has Christ's Spirit, he is CHRIST'S—he is a Christian! He has been begotten as a child of God.

But does that mean his salvation is complete? Is he now fully and finally "saved"? Is that all there is to it? Is he now, suddenly, *perfect*? Is it now impossible for him to do WRONG?

NO! FAR FROM IT! But WHY? What's the answer? Why do so many MISUNDERSTAND?

Here is the PLAIN TRUTH you need to know.

First, there are TWO *conditions* to becoming a Christian: REPENTANCE, and FAITH. These two we, ourselves, must perform. Yet no one can, of himself, say: "Oh now I see—I must repent. All right, I hereby repent." One does not just decide casually, as a matter of routine, to repent. WHY?

Jesus Christ said that none can come to Him, except the Spirit of the Father draw him. God *grants* repentance. God calls one, and convicts the mind and conscience by His Spirit, working on the mind externally. Usually a real struggle goes on within. The person has been shaken to *know* he has done wrong—he has sinned. He is not only sorry—he abhors himself! He is brought to real REPENTANCE, not only for what he has done, but for what he now sees that he *is*.

Yet he, himself, must make the de-

cision. If he does repent, surrender to God, and in FAITH accept Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, then, upon performance of these TWO conditions, God *promises* to put within him the GIFT of the Holy Spirit. This is the very *life* of GOD—SPIRIT life. It imparts to him the very *divine nature!*

Then *what*, at that stage, *has happened?*

This new convert has only been *begotten* of God—not yet BORN. He has not received the full measure of God's Spirit Christ had—he is only a *spiritual babe* in Christ—he must now GROW spiritually, just as a newly conceived fetus in its mother's womb must grow physically large enough to be BORN as a human.

This new convert has NOW REPENTED, in his mind, from the depths of his heart. HE MEANS IT, too! In all sincerity, in his mind and heart he has *turned around to go the other way*—to live a different life. He is now a CHRISTIAN—he has received God's Holy Spirit. He really *wants* to do what is right—to obey God—to live GOD'S WAY.

YET HE FINDS HE DOES NOT DO THIS PERFECTLY! Many, at this stage, become discouraged. Some give up even trying to live a Christian life. And WHY? *Because of the false notion that a Christian is one who becomes PERFECT at one fell swoop*—or, that one cannot become a Christian *until* he has broken all wrong habits, and *made himself* righteous.

It's vital to UNDERSTAND how true Christianity REALLY WORKS!

The newly begotten Christian must grow up, spiritually. What would you think of a human baby, who became 6 feet tall *all at once*, without *growing* up? The growing up process requires TIME. There is *an instant* when a person receives the impregnating Holy Spirit of God—when he first becomes a Christian. But he is only a *spiritual infant*. He must *grow up* spiritually.

The newly converted person, *in his mind and heart*, sincerely has ABOUT-FACED! He has actually gained contact with GOD, and received God's Holy Spirit. God's own divine NATURE has

now been conceived within him. BUT THAT'S ALL—it is *merely conceived*—not yet full grown! And his HUMAN NATURE is *still there*—it has not been killed or removed!

Understand this!

We were all born HUMAN. We all were born with HUMAN NATURE. Few seem to know what human nature is. It is a strong PULL—a tendency—and, like gravity, it is a *downward* pull. Like a strong magnet, it draws us in the WAY OF SATAN—that is, a pull toward pride and vanity, selfishness and greed, a lack of outgoing concern for others—the spirit of competition, opposition, strife, effort to acquire, and to exalt the self. It is a pull toward self-gratification, and jealousy, envy and resentment toward others. It is the spirit of rebellion against authority, hostility toward God and the Law of God. THAT is human nature. YOU were born with it. It is still within you.

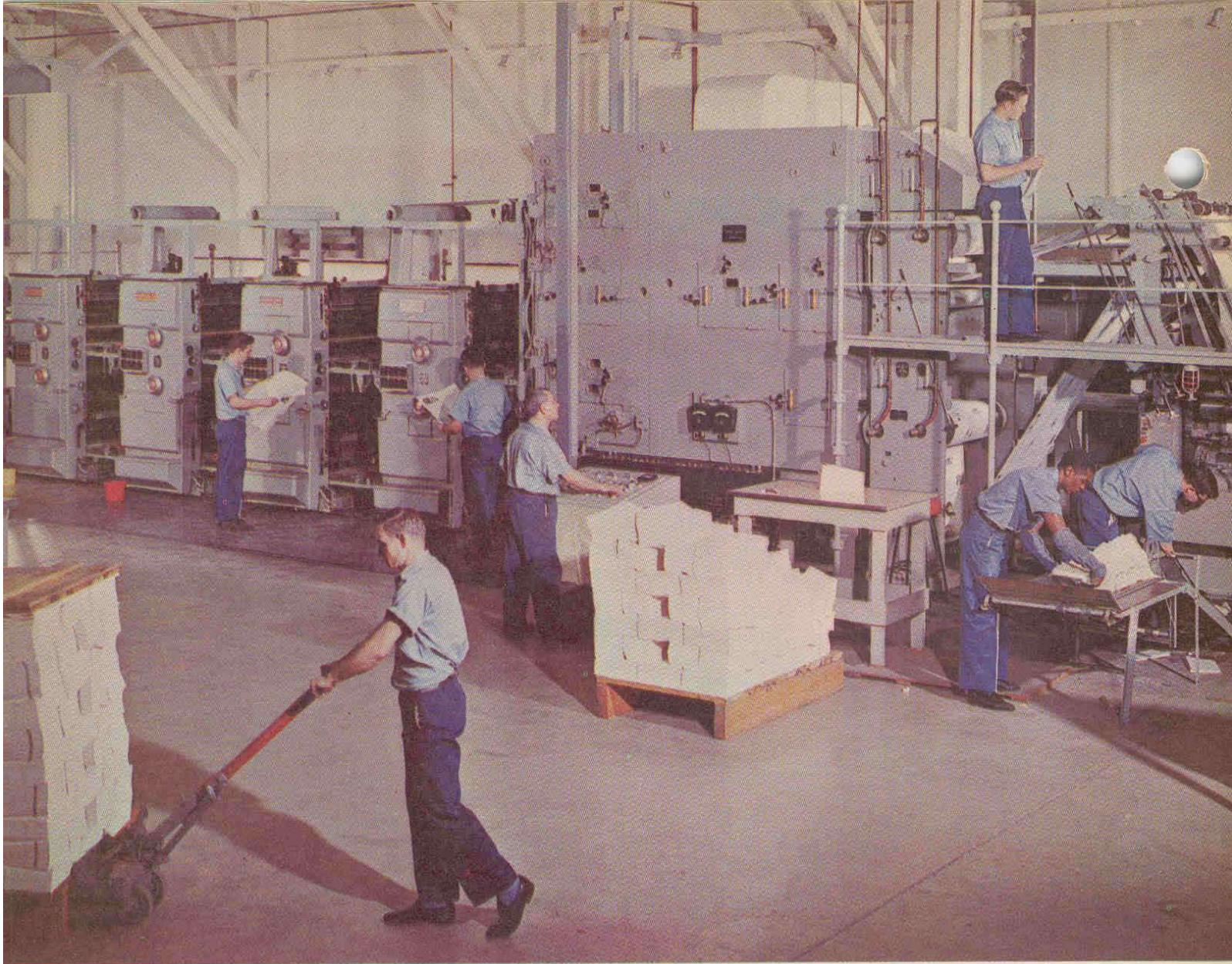
Originally God created the beautiful archangel Lucifer. He sealed up the sum of wisdom, knowledge and beauty. But one thing he lacked—the righteous CHARACTER to choose the right way, and resist the wrong—to discipline the *self* in the way he ought to go, instead of the way of self-desire.

God's PURPOSE in having created humanity—in having caused YOU to be born—is to reproduce Himself. And GOD, above all things, *is* PERFECT, RIGHTEOUS CHARACTER! God is able to create character within us—but it must be done as a result of our independent free choice. We, as individual separate entities, have our part in the process.

What *is* perfect character? It is the ability, in a separate entity, to come to the KNOWLEDGE of the right from the wrong—the true from the false—and to CHOOSE the right, and possess the WILL to enforce self-discipline to DO the right and resist the wrong.

Like muscle, character is developed, and grows by exercise. My name is Armstrong. I suppose I could make my arm stronger, and develop the muscle, by constantly bending it back and forth at the elbow. But if I pull, or push, against some heavy weight or resistance,

(Continued on page 41)



Ambassador College Press Pasadena, California

Australia—are printed in our own newly enlarged printing plants—740,000 copies this edition! Approximately two million others are joining you in reading it!

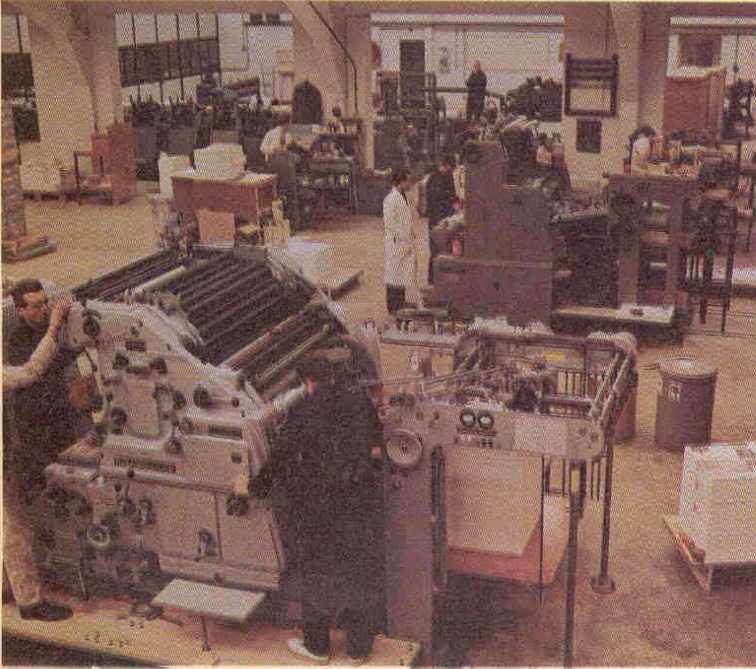
Envisioned in 1927

You may have heard that the world-famous comedian, Jack Benny, claimed for years (jestingly) to be only 39 years old. Two years ago, however, he admitted to celebrating his 70th birthday. Unlike Jack Benny, I can lay claim to being 39 years old—**TRUTHFULLY**. For that is my true *spiritual age*. My conversion and begettal as a son of God took place in early spring, 1927.



Top, left: Another view of the Miehle web press (shown on the cover) which prints the U. S. and Canadian editions of *The PLAIN TRUTH*.

Below, left: Panorama of bindery and small press section of Ambassador College Press, Pasadena.



Ambassador College Press Watford, England

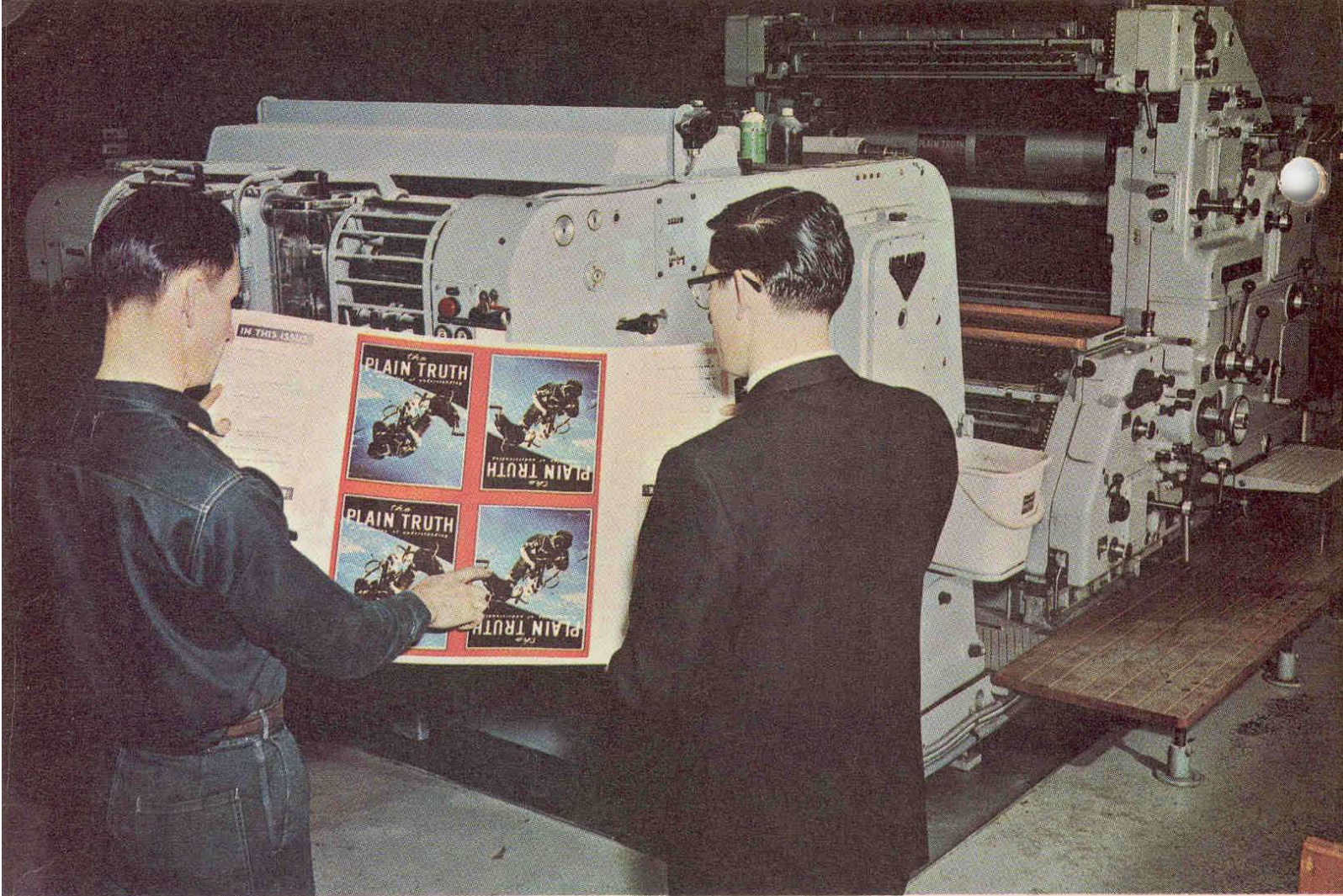
Press room, above, and bindery, below, of the new Ambassador College Press, Watford, England.

At that time I first envisioned *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine. I even employed commercial artists to design a front cover idea. I wrote two or three articles to appear in it—(one of which was published in the June, 1965 number of *The PLAIN TRUTH*—and for the first time). But circumstances did not permit the publishing of *The PLAIN TRUTH* then. Not until seven years later—February, 1974—was it possible, and then only as a small, “home-made” mimeographed “magazine,” of about 150 copies.

Possibly no magazine ever had so humble and unpretentious a beginning. But *The PLAIN TRUTH* was born with a mission. It survived those turbulent early years when repeatedly its life was threatened. Time and again it skipped one or more issues. But always it came back. And it grew. And it was constantly improved as it grew.

We have not realized the maximum of that 39-year-old dream even yet. Still more improvements are to come. Our constantly expanding organization is faced with many problems in adapting our procedures to the production of a





Ambassador College Press Sydney, Australia

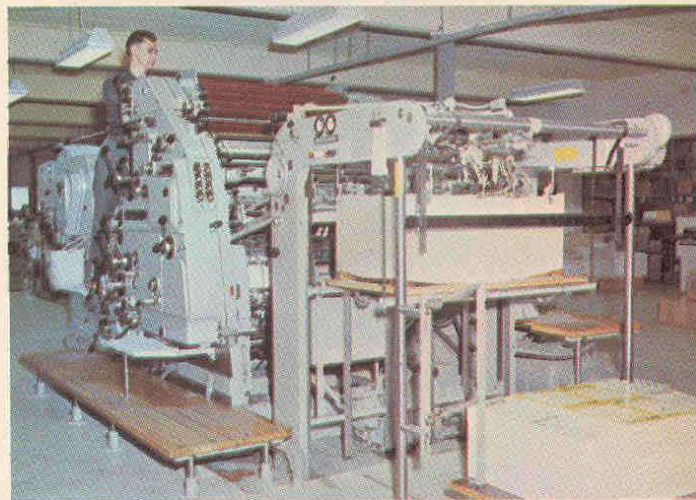
full-color magazine. We expect improvements. We hope, in another year or two, to step up the number of color pictures, and even the size of some, and to increase *The PLAIN TRUTH* from the present 52 pages to 68—that is, 64 pages plus cover, an increase of 16 additional pages.

But the present 52-page magazine, full color, with a circulation of 740,000 copies is an accomplishment that brings rewarding satisfaction, and deep gratitude to our God, who has guided this publication and all the associated Work of God through many tempestuous years of struggle.

Top: Viewing a press sheet of the cover of the July, 1965 PLAIN TRUTH, printed in Australia.

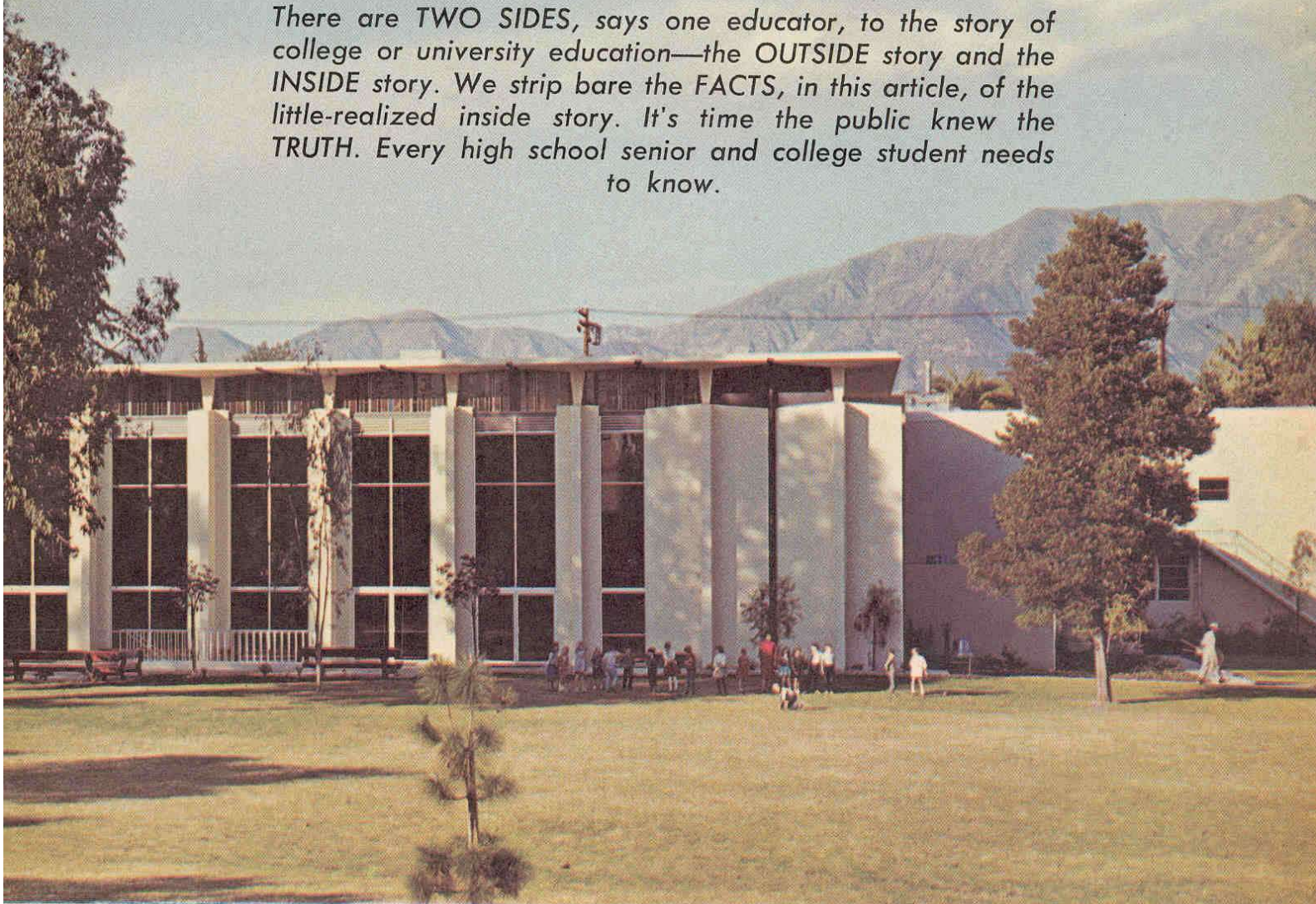
Center: Main press in operation.

Right: Finished copies of the August PLAIN TRUTH coming off the bindery.



THE INSIDE STORY OF COLLEGE EDUCATION

There are TWO SIDES, says one educator, to the story of college or university education—the OUTSIDE story and the INSIDE story. We strip bare the FACTS, in this article, of the little-realized inside story. It's time the public knew the TRUTH. Every high school senior and college student needs to know.



by Herbert W. Armstrong

WHAT DOES the public SEE when it looks at this world's college and university life? It sees the veneer—the OUTSIDE story.

It sees the huge and stately buildings. It sees the colorful marching bands, the scantily clad, high-stepping twirlers, the organized cheer leaders and shouting football fans. It sees the subsidized entertainers.

It's high time we followed these entertainers inside the ivy-covered buildings, and grasp the eye-opening picture of the INSIDE story. It's time we behold in stark realism the millions

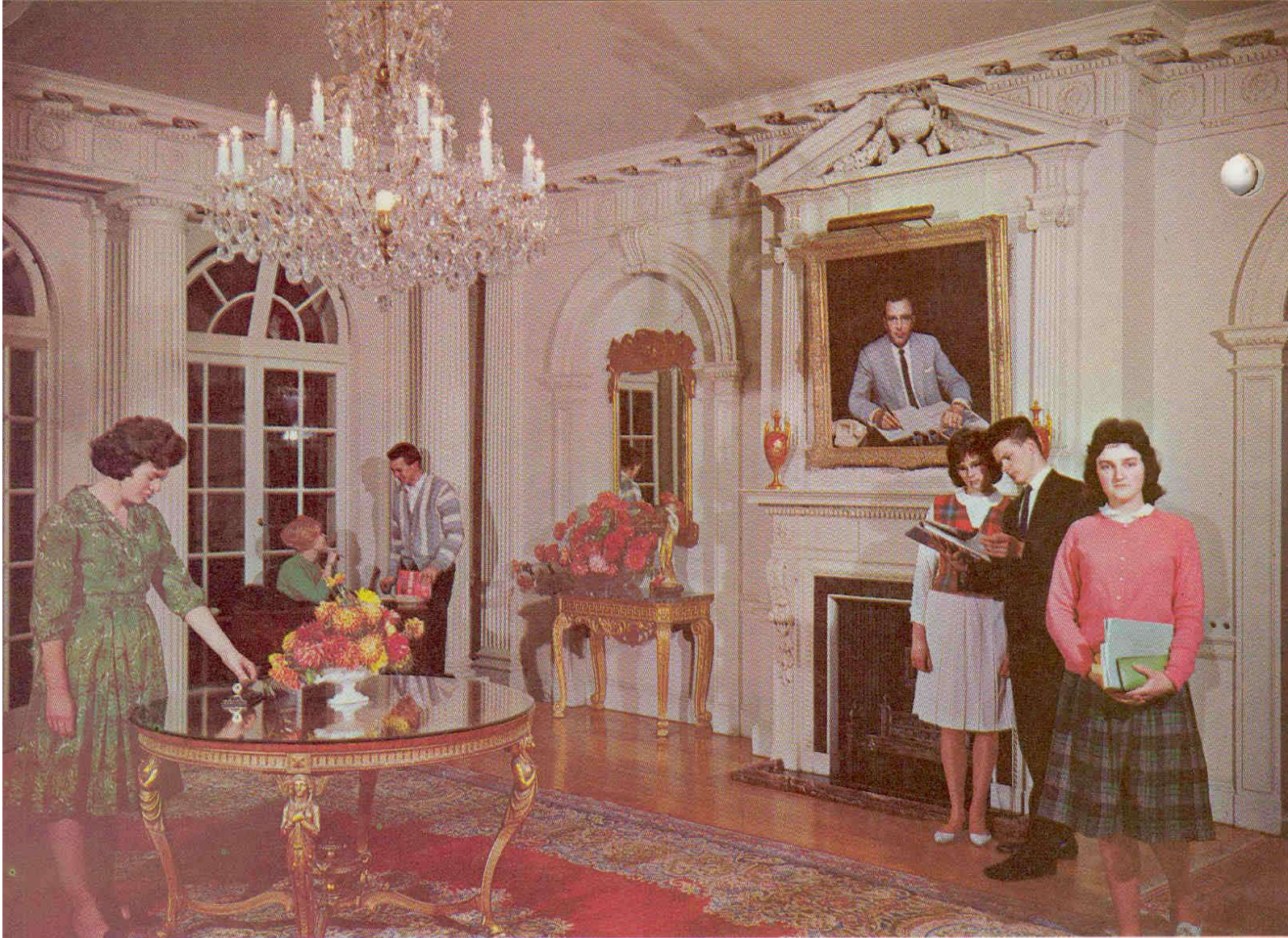
of bored students being put through the sterile, mechanized conformist factories—absorbing useless and dead “knowledge.”

One book, newly published (1965), is titled *Robots in the Classroom*. It was written by Jane Bergen and others, published by Exposition Press, New York. Inside the front flap is the implication that graduates today become “seasoned conformists or frustrated outcasts.” The preface makes the statement that in American education 50 percent of the program is fraudulent, and another 25 percent is largely ineffective.

Dead, Unusable Knowledge

Listen to the graduate with an M.A. degree from one of the world's most famous, big-name universities in England:

“Imagine the excited elation of the average high school graduate in the United States or Canada—or the possessor of a G.E. certificate at ‘A’ level in Britain—or the equivalent student in Australia, New Zealand or South Africa—if offered the opportunity to be educated at my Alma Mater. He would undoubtedly consider it



© Ambassador College

The Grand Hall in Memorial Hall, Ambassador College, Bricket Wood, England

that one chance of a lifetime.

"I spent three years there acquiring dead, unusable knowledge. Long hours were spent in research and study of nonconsequential happenings of several hundred years ago—or of the lives or writings of nonconsequential people. Neither these people nor these events left any mark on human progress, or played any important part in history. It was *dead* knowledge. It was unusable knowledge. It was worthless. When I requested permission to research and write on some important personage or event, modern or ancient, with real significance and value in the problems of our time, of the world, or of value in my life, the request was disallowed.

"I majored in French. But I was not taught to speak French. I was given no opportunity to converse in French with any Frenchman, or with dons or fellow students. I was not taught even to translate effectively so that my

knowledge might be used in publication work. I look back on it now as a wasted three years.

Different at Ambassador

"Then I came to America and entered Ambassador College in Pasadena, California. There I learned to *speak* French with a French-educated Professor. There I attended regular French Club dinners where all students spoke *only* in French. There I began for the first time to be able to put my French to practical use. There, for the first time, I learned the real PURPOSE of life—learned to discern the true values from the false—found the meaning of life, and learned how to put knowledge to work in a practical manner."

That is merely one case history among the hundreds who have come to one of the three AMBASSADOR COLLEGE campuses from more than 160 highly regarded universities and colleges from

all parts of the English-speaking world. Incidentally, this particular student entered Ambassador prior to the opening of the second campus in England.

WHY THIS PHENOMENON?

At Ambassador there are basic *differences* which have drawn here as high as 65 percent of incoming male freshmen from other educational institutions of university level. That is a statistic unheard of in any other undergraduate liberal arts college in the world.

From World's Famous Universities

Students holding Master's degrees from such universities as Harvard, Northwestern, Oxford, have entered Ambassador as undergraduate students. Some of the other universities from which students have entered the Ambassador undergraduate college include Yale, Carnegie Tech, University of London, University of Sydney, University

of Melbourne, University of Auckland, University of Mexico, University of Pennsylvania, University of Pittsburgh, University of Wisconsin, University of Michigan, Michigan State, University of Indiana, Purdue, University of Minnesota, University of Iowa, Iowa State, University of Kansas, Kansas State, University of Nebraska, University of Missouri, University of Oklahoma, University of Texas, Texas A & M, University of Colorado, Colorado State, Stanford, University of California (Berkeley), U.C.L.A., University of Southern California, University of Washington, Washington State, University of Oregon, Oregon State, Cal Tech, Los Angeles State, etc., etc., etc.

I have said before—and I say again—something is criminally **WRONG** in modern education. Many educators do recognize that certain evils have leavened the educational system in the western world. Many realize the drift into materialism—that colleges and universities have become educational factories of mass production using assembly-line systems—that students virtually lose their identity.

But few educators realize the *real* criminal danger!

They are failing to educate the **WHOLE MAN** or **WOMAN**. Education today generally is concerned primarily with the *mind only*. Education has become narrow, specialized, unbalanced. There is no effort to build **CHARACTER**. Campus morals have taken a toboggan slide, and premarital sex, seldom even frowned upon any more, has become close to universal. Premarital pregnan-

cies wreak countless tragedies.

Such basic prerequisites of the truly educated person as emotional maturity, personality development, travel, actual experience in **DOING**, are unthought of.

The basic, and most essential of all knowledge: the **PURPOSE** and real meaning of life; the true values as distinguished from the false; the **WAY** to peace, abundant living in happiness; these basics are conspicuously absent from the regimented curricula.

Students come to Ambassador to learn **HOW TO LIVE**, as well as how to earn a living. Ambassador students learn to **WORK**, as well as study. They also learn to **PLAY**—and to play hard, but cleanly. Many Ambassador students are given unheard-of travel opportunities. Each year a limited number—from three or four to ten or twelve or more from each campus—are given a scholarship opportunity to study for one or two years at one of the other campuses—in England, Texas, or California. There are other travel opportunities. Last spring the entire student body in England was taken on a three-day trip to Paris.

The educational system of the occidental world was spawned in paganism. It has perpetuated to this day pagan traditions, pagan superstitions, false philosophies, pagan religious customs. These things go largely unrecognized and unrealized by a deceived world which confers blind but complete acceptance without awareness of the real truth.

Into this educational system has been injected the leaven of German "ra-

tionalism"—which is strangely irrational; and more recently the materialism of modern science and technology. Spiritual values are not the educators' concern. Morality—I think we may safely say the educators and educational officials look the other way.

At Ambassador we recognize that a college education should prepare the student for **LIFE**—for the happy, rewarding, successful, enjoyable, *abundant* life—for a life of **USEFULNESS**, of **ACCOMPLISHMENT**—of **PURPOSE!** A college education should be *practical!* Knowledge is of value only to the extent it can be *used!* Knowledge should serve the person—not the person serve the knowledge. There is no time or place for dead, impractical, unusable knowledge at Ambassador.

In my *Autobiography* I have recounted how my elder son, Richard David, studied French four years at Ambassador. He studied under a native-born Frenchman, educated in Paris, with degrees from a Paris university. On graduation he was sent to Paris on an important mission. There he was accepted as a native-born Frenchman—there was no foreign accent in his speaking the language.

The predominant educational system in the occidental world is decadent. The World Tomorrow is going to witness an entirely **NEW** system of education. I have said repeatedly, this world is the product of its leaders, and the leaders are the product of the deteriorating system of education. It is an unhappy, deteriorating world.

If utopia is to come—and it is!!—

Ambassador in England—the Rose Garden, with Music Hall, right background.



Lounge room of one of the women's residences, Ambassador College, England.





West side view of Dining Hall on Ambassador campus, Texas, shows glass-walled student lounge area.

the whole world will have to be completely re-educated. That statement, I realize, is shocking. It sounds incredible—but it's true.

This world faces the population explosion. It faces famine and the starvation of humanity. It faces the extinction of human life by nuclear devastation. It faces total insanity—with one in ten today already a mental patient, and the percentage on the increase. The world doesn't want to face up to reality—to what this actually MEANS!

It means that—UNLESS God Almighty exists, and UNLESS He is about to send the *living* Jesus Christ back to earth in total divine POWER and GLORY to take over world rule and save this world from itself, then this world cannot and will not carry on another generation.

But the Eternal GOD *does exist*—and the dynamic *living* Jesus Christ *is coming*—and in A VERY FEW YEARS! The nations will not welcome Him. The religious leaders will call Him a False Prophet. Vast armies will try to fight Him—but to no avail whatsoever



Temporary portable classroom buildings, of latest design, on Texas campus. To supersede them are two new classroom buildings, on architects' drawing boards, to begin construction in 1967.

against the divine SPIRITUAL POWER! He will break every government of man—as God says of Him: "Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel" (Psalm 2:9). The governments of this world will become the kingdom of our Lord and His Christ (Revelation 11:15). The God of heaven will "set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed: . . . but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms" of men on this earth (Daniel 2:44).

But NOT ONLY shall existing human governments be destroyed, and replaced by the KINGDOM OF GOD—a WORLD-RULING government that will

usher in PEACE, and universal prosperity, plenty, happiness and joy—but also the existing paganized EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM will be destroyed and replaced with GOD'S KIND OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

The NEW-DAY educational system of the WORLD TOMORROW already has been introduced. Like the proverbial grain of mustard seed, it is beginning already to spread around the world. Today there are three campuses—California, Texas, and England.

Yes, THERE IS A REASON why students by the hundreds are leaving the most famous of this world's universities and applying for admission at one of the Ambassador campuses.

Interested students in the United States and Canada should request the current college catalog. (The new 1966-1967 editions will be printed about the beginning of spring.) Address The Registrar, Ambassador College, Pasa-

dena, California. Those in United Kingdom, Europe, South Africa or Australasia should request prospectus, addressing The Registrar, Ambassador College, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Short Questions

(Continued from page 18)

convert and save the whole world. If He had, we would not witness the hundreds of contradicting religious ideas and competing sects.

For 6000 years God is allowing the world to go its own way to teach mankind that its ways only lead to misery and death. God will soon set His Hand to save this world. That is the message of the gospel of the Kingdom of God. For 1000 years the nations are going to learn the way to peace—and everyone will be given opportunity for salvation (II Pet. 3:8-9).

You need to understand the *time element* in God's plan of salvation. Write for our amazing article entitled "Is this the Only Day of Salvation?" It will vividly explain why God has allowed mankind 6000 years to go his own way. And how God will remove the spiritual blindness from the eyes of humanity.

FAMINE!

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skyward, nearly toppling over backward, when studied on a chart!

In another 24 years (21 have disappeared since World War II!), the present population of the U. S. would be 362 MILLION—DOUBLE what it is today!

But foodstuffs are being *lost*; destroyed by weather; sent abroad to feed starving millions—or not produced at all! WHY? WHY are all these horrifying troubles descending upon us *at the same time*?

Christ Foretold Our Times!

Jesus Christ was asked for the signals in world conditions that would

prove His intervention in human affairs was near! He answered, "... You shall hear of wars and rumours of wars... nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be *famines*, and *pestilences*, and earthquakes, in divers places."

And your newspapers are literally FILLED with THOSE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS!

Further, your Bible prophesied OUR peoples would be stricken with drought, famine, and disease epidemics! We are the "lost ten tribes" of ISRAEL of your Bible—and you can PROVE that to yourself by writing for our free booklet, *The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*.

Listen to what God said would come upon our peoples—and notice how *exact* conditions are becoming today! "But if you will not listen to me; if you will not do all I order you... I will subject you to terrible woes, to consumption and fever that waste the eyes and wear life away: you shall sow seed in vain, for YOUR ENEMIES will eat YOUR crops!" (Lev. 26:14-16, Moffatt).

God said, "For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but *eight gallons*, and the harvest shall only be a *tenth of what is sown!*" (Isa. 5:10.) Can you imagine carrying a *hundred* sacks of wheat *into* the field to plant, and harvesting only ONE sack? But THIS HAS HAPPENED—and MORE IS COMING!

DROUGHT was prophesied to strike our peoples! Listen to the startling *accuracy* of these prophecies! "I will make the sky hard as iron for you and the earth hard as bronze, till you spend your strength in *vain*; for your land shall bear no crops, and your trees shall bear no fruit" (Lev. 26:19-20).

"... The Eternal will strike you with... *drought*, blasting, and mildew, that shall pursue you till you perish; the sky overhead shall be brass and the earth underfoot shall be iron; the Eternal will turn the rain of your land into *powder and dust* dropping from the sky upon you..." (Deut. 28:22-24). The EXACT conditions you've just read about!

Further, God warned, "... a strange nation will eat up your crops and all the fruit of your labour, and you shall

be utterly crushed and broken continually, till you are driven mad by the sight of it all... Much seed shall you carry to the field, but little shall you reap!" (Deut. 28:33-38.)

We Ask, "But WHY?" Here's God's Answer!

WHY? "... Because you would not listen to the voice of the Eternal your God, KEEPING HIS COMMANDMENTS and orders for you... because you have not served the Eternal your God with joy and with a glad heart for all your *abundance*; therefore, with *hunger* and *thirst* and *nakedness* and *utter poverty*, shall you serve the foes the Eternal sends against you!" (Deut. 28:45-47.)

What about YOU? What about the people *you* know? What about our institutions, our governments, our businesses and our lodges, our entertainment and our industry, our scientists and our military men?

HAVE WE SERVED GOD? HAVE we?

No! We have served our own selfish interests—we've served our vanities and our lusts! We call FILTH "new morality"! We try to make pornography, swill, unfaithfulness, infidelity, fornication, adultery and even homosexuality into "TRUE LOVE"! We try to rescue OURSELVES from our terrible farm problems, our weather problems, our race problems, our marital and personal problems!

We want God to get out of our consciousness and our lives when the going is EASY—and then BLAME Him when the going gets TOUGH! Farmers in South Africa recently hung out signs on their fences above a bucket which said, in effect, "Throw your pennies in here, so we can buy spectacles for God that He might see the sufferings of both man and beast!" Days later they went to their churches to pray for rain!

ARE we rebellious and disobedient? Do we ignore God's Word, His LAWS which He gave for our GOOD, His Christ He sent to show us HOW TO LIVE? Yes!

God said, "And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt shew this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee, 'Wherefore hath the Eternal pro-

protect you in your reign over the nation that God has chosen to use in carrying out His divine purpose!"

There was a long silence as Jesse and his family, startled by Samuel's words, wondered if this could be a fantastic dream. David was the most amazed, inasmuch as he couldn't imagine, at the moment, why he had been made the king of Israel.

"Prepare yourselves to go with me to sacrifice to God," Samuel told Jesse and his family before a spirited conversation could get started. "As for what has happened here, it would be wise to say nothing about it to others. I shall be in touch with you later about the matter."

After Samuel had returned to Ramah and excitement had abated in Jesse's household, a change came over David. Although he had been taught to observe God's laws, a new outlook and special understanding began to come to him. God was imbuing him with a gift of unusual wisdom, as well as with a confident, peaceful state of mind. (I Samuel 16:12-13.)

At the same time a change was taking place in Saul. He became more irritable and worried. He brooded over what Samuel had told him. He had growing periods of depression, and suspected those about him as spies. God was taking from him the comfort of a sound and peaceful mind. (I Samuel 16:14.)

(To be continued next issue)

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

the muscle will develop much faster. Therefore God purposely put within us this NATURE that exerts a heavy pull *against* that perfect righteous character—to give us something to *strive against*, for THE VERY PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPING RIGHT CHARACTER!

God's CHARACTER travels in the direction of His Law—the way of LOVE. It is an outgoing CONCERN for others. GOD has that character! He has an outgoing *concern* for you and for me. He GAVE His only begotten Son to reconcile us to Him, and make the JOYS of His character and everlasting life possible for us. He showers on us every good and precious gift. He even puts within

us HIS DIVINE NATURE—*when* we repent and turn *from* the WRONG way of THIS WORLD, begin to *resist* it, and turn TO Him through faith in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour!

God's divine nature is the nature of love—of giving, serving, helping—of outgoing concern. It is the nature of humility.

Now when one is converted—has repented, and *turned from* Satan's and this world's false WAY—has *at once* received God's Holy Spirit—his HUMAN nature, as I said before, does not flee. It, too, remains. It *still* exerts a pull. We still live in THIS PRESENT EVIL WORLD, and *it* exerts a pull. God still allows Satan to be around—and HE exerts a pull.

So we now have THREE PULLS to RESIST—to OVERCOME! We must now *overcome* these three—Satan, this world, and our own SELVES. We have to battle against these three, in order to develop

and strengthen RIGHT CHARACTER within us. God says plainly it is THE OVERCOMERS who shall be saved—who shall REIGN with Christ!

No human being is strong enough to do this BY HIMSELF! He must seek, and IN FAITH receive, the help and power of GOD. Even with God's power he will not overcome such forces easily, or all at once. IT IS NOT EASY! Christ plainly said the way to ultimate salvation is hard, difficult. It's a constant BATTLE—a struggle against self, the world, and the devil. The creation of CHARACTER comes through EXPERIENCE—it takes TIME!

THIS development is a PROCESS. It is a matter of GROWTH—DEVELOPMENT. It requires, to become PERFECT, full and right KNOWLEDGE of the very Word of God—because Jesus taught that we must *live by* EVERY WORD OF GOD.

The natural, unconverted mind cannot fully and rightly UNDERSTAND the

Scriptures of God. The acquisition of this KNOWLEDGE, in itself, is a procedure requiring TIME. It is the DOERS of this Word, not hearers only, who shall be saved.

But can any man DO, immediately and all at once, this new WAY he now learns about? Can any man, all at once, break all HABITS he now sees are wrong? No, he finds he has a FIGHT against acquired former habits.

He still has this PULL of human nature to overcome. This nature is A LAW working within him. The apostle Paul calls it the law of sin and death.

Paul was *converted*. Paul was a real Christian. He had repented, accepted Christ, and received the Holy Spirit. With his MIND, he wanted with all his heart, and in real intense sincerity, to DO God's WAY! But did Paul DO it perfectly?

Let him tell. LISTEN!

"For we know that the Law is spiritual," he wrote, "but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not, but what I hate, that I do. . . . Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me." He is speaking of human nature within him. He continues, ". . . for to WILL is present with me: but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. . . . O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? . . ." Then he thanks God—that GOD WILL—through Jesus Christ, and by the power of His HOLY SPIRIT. BUT IT TAKES TIME!

The truly converted Christian will find that he often stumbles, *under temptation*, and falls down—even as a physical child learning to walk often falls down. But the year-old child does not get discouraged and give up. He gets up and starts out again.

THE TRULY CONVERTED CHRISTIAN IS NOT YET PERFECT!

GOD LOOKS ON THE HEART—the inner MOTIVE—the real *intent*! If he is trying—if he gets up whenever he falls down, and in repentance asks God's forgiveness, and sets out to do his very best NOT TO MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN—and to persevere with

renewed effort to OVERCOME, God is rich in mercy toward that man in his striving to overcome.

Speaking to CONVERTED CHRISTIANS, John writes: "These things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And *if any man sin*, . . ." (even though he ought not) ". . . we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and He is the propitiation for OUR sins . . ." Yes, for the SINS of converted CHRISTIANS. Such people often are under heavier temptation than before conversion. They are STRIVING against sin—STRIVING to overcome. But they are not yet perfect. Sometimes they are caught off guard. They may actually sin. Then they WAKE UP, as it were, and realize what they have done. They REPENT. They are filled with remorse—*truly sorry*—disgusted with themselves. They go to GOD, and CRY OUT for HELP—for more power and strength from God to OVERCOME!

This is the WAY of the Christian!

It is the way of a constant BATTLE—a striving against SIN—a seeking God in earnest prayer for help and spiritual POWER to overcome. They are constantly GAINING GROUND. They are constantly GROWING in God's KNOWLEDGE, from the BIBLE. They are constantly rooting out wrong habits, driving themselves into RIGHT habits. They are constantly growing closer to GOD through Bible study and prayer. They are constantly growing in CHARACTER, *toward* perfection, even though not yet perfect.

With Paul, they say: ". . . Not as though I had already attained, or were already perfect: but I FOLLOW AFTER, . . . Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this one thing I do*, FORGETTING those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS!"

But, someone may ask, what if one's life is cut off, and he dies *before* he has attained this perfection? Is he saved, or lost? The answer is that we shall never obtain absolute perfection in *this* life.

I said, earlier, that a person who is converted does receive the Holy Spirit at a *definite time—all at once!* Not the

full measure Christ had—he is not at once full grown spiritually—only a spiritual babe in Christ. Yet he is then a changed, converted man—changed in mind, in attitude, in the *direction* he has set himself to strive to travel. Even though he has not yet reached perfection—even though he may have stumbled under temptation, and taken a spiritual fall—as long as, in his mind and heart, he is earnestly striving to travel GOD'S WAY, to overcome and grow spiritually—as long as God's Spirit is in him—as long as he is being LED BY the Spirit of God, he is a begotten SON OF GOD.

If, anywhere along this life's journey, that life is cut short, such a man will be resurrected.

It is only the one who deliberately QUILTS and GIVES UP—who REJECTS God, and God's WAY, and rejects Christ as his Saviour—who turns FROM this direction of GOD'S WAY, *in his mind and heart*—in his inner INTENT—who deliberately and intentionally in his mind TURNS FROM Christ, who is lost. If, once having been converted, having received God's Spirit, and TASTED of the joys of GOD'S WAY, one deliberately rejects that way, makes the DECISION, not under stress of temptation, but deliberately and finally, NOT to go God's way, then God says it is IMPOSSIBLE to renew such a one to repentance. He would have to REPENT of that decision. But if he WILFULLY made it, not in a time of temptation, but calmly, deliberately, wilfully, then he just WILL NOT ever repent of it.

But anyone who FEARS he may have committed the "unpardonable sin"—is perhaps worried about it, and HOPES he *has not* committed it, and still WANTS to have God's salvation—no such has committed it—such a one MAY repent, and go right on to salvation IF HE WANTS TO!

If YOU have stumbled and fallen down, DON'T BE DISCOURAGED! Get up and press on ahead!

If you see a Christian do something wrong, DON'T SIT IN JUDGMENT AND CONDEMN—that's God's business to judge, not yours! Let's have compassion and mercy—WE don't know the inner heart of others—only GOD does!