

Hope for the Future

The Missing Dimension in Sex

Tough Decision for U.S.
TAIPEI OR PEKING



**China's Premier
Chou En-lai**

DO YOU see a bright future ahead? For you? For humanity?

Personally, I do — and if you can join me in saying that, you are one in a hundred thousand!

Where is any *good news* today? Where is any future to be found in nations developing nuclear weapons which can erase all human, animal and plant life from the earth?

Where is any hope to be found in the wretchedness, ignorance, poverty, squalor and filth in which more than half the world's population lives?

Where is any joyous anticipation to be found in prosperous "have" nations where sources of drinking water — the rivers and lakes — are being polluted and the air we breathe is being befouled, the soil is worn out and contaminated and the foods are being robbed of nutrition in food factories; where homes and families are being broken up, crime is rapidly increasing, racial problems and violence are erupting, and sickness and mental disturbances multiplying?

Where is happiness today? Sixty years ago, driving along country roads in Iowa, I saw and heard farmers plowing behind teams of horses, singing happily as they walked. Today, the farmers ride tractors — but where did the singing and the happiness go? Where do we find encouraging reassurance for tomorrow on university campuses where the leaders of tomorrow are consigning morality to the limbo of an outmoded past, where suicides are on the increase, and where unproved doctrines are being absorbed by impressionable minds?

Where do we find inspiration in the assertions of world leaders and the "great," warning us that we must adjust to a future of growing problems and dangers where there are NO SOLUTIONS?

Well, for those of the above prevailing concepts, the future must indeed appear discouragingly bleak — if they take a look at it instead of kidding themselves into the assumption that by ignoring the dangers they will somehow go away.

There is a CAUSE for every effect.

There is a CAUSE for the state of the world today. And there has to be a CAUSE that will produce the peaceful and happy world tomorrow. There had to be a first cause for the very existence of "matter, of life, of forces and energies.

But today, it is considered "intellectual" to be willingly IGNORANT of that. I have said that in the first two centuries of the so-called Christian era, it was popular to embrace gnosticism — meaning, "we know." But today, it is popular to embrace agnosticism — meaning, "we don't know — we are ignorant." Today, ignorance is embraced and labeled "knowledge."

Is it IGNORANCE to recognize the facts of the great first cause who reveals the true cause of all of today's ills? Is it wise, intellectual and knowledgeable to be deliberately ignorant of basic facts and truth?

There are two main ways of life — two basic principles — two fundamental philosophies. One is the way of GIVING, the other of GETTING. One is LOVE, the other LUST. One believes it is more blessed to give than to receive. The other insists that acquiring, taking, accumulating, in the way of competition, leads to progress and happiness.

The one way is God-centered, the other is SELF-centered. The one accepts the Golden Rule, the other says, "Do it to others before they do it to you."

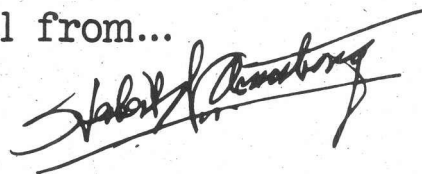
The one is the way of the divine nature; the other, the way of human nature. The one is the way of humility; the other, of vanity.

This world — all civilization — this world's society — is based on the hostile, competitive, SELF-centered way. It has produced every wail of human woe. It is the way that now threatens the extinction of humanity.

This all means one thing. Man, imbued with human nature, is utterly UNABLE to solve his problems. He can only worsen problems and create new ones. By the "knowledge" and efforts of man, this world is doomed and hopeless.

Is there, then, nothing to live for? Is there no hope for the future? Not within the knowledge, the skills and abilities of this world's great minds.

Personal from...



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Of self-professed "great" men, God says, "Professing themselves to be wise, they have become fools!"

But there emphatically is a bright future ahead! The world tomorrow — which the *Plain Truth* proclaims — will bring world peace, universal prosperity, universal right education, universal good health.

In the wonderful world tomorrow, we shall have knowledge of the TRUE values. People will cease chasing the false values and suffering the painful consequences. People will learn the WAY to real happiness and find it. Life will be continuously interesting and invigorating. There will be world peace. There will be universal prosperity.

But I am not naive enough to suppose that this utopia will blossom forth automatically, through the imminent acceptance of these truths by all mankind. This coming utopia does not depend on the planning or doing of men. It will be produced *in spite of men*.

The greatest event of all history will be the coming of the *living* Jesus Christ again to earth. But this time, he is not coming as the gentle young man from Nazareth, bringing the announcement that led to his flogging and death at the hands of angry men. Jesus Christ rose from the

dead. He went to the throne of the government of the vast universe to be GLORIFIED, and coronated as supreme RULER over the entire earth. When he returns, the world will know something of the meaning of "the power and the glory!"

His eyes will flash like flames of fire. His face will not be pale white. It will be like the sun shining in FULL STRENGTH. He will come with all the POWER that created the universe!

He is coming to crush every government of men, as if to grind them into powder! He is coming as the King of kings, ruling over ALL NATIONS.

He is coming to *change human nature!*

He is coming to enforce the WAY of outgoing concern, or love, of giving, serving, sharing, helping, instead of grasping, taking and self-centeredness.

He is coming to abolish war, competition, strife and violence. He is coming to inaugurate a universal, right education. He is coming to clean up this filthy earth. He is coming to restore the government of God as the all-powerful world government. Yes, I see a very bright future — just ahead!

It's the only GOOD NEWS in the world today! □

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THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX

The dissemination of knowledge about sex has occurred only since World War I. Medieval ignorance, coupled with the "sex-is-shameful" attitude and church repression, caused frustration and miserably unhappy marriages. But the modern diffusion of sex knowledge and the permissive sexual freedoms of the "new morality" have plunged the Western world from the frying pan into the fire. Why?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Part II

THE most vital dimension in knowledge about sex and marriage has been missing.

But this vital dimension is missing *not only* from knowledge about sex and marriage. It is missing from knowledge in general.

To understand, we need to realize the impetus behind the general knowledge explosion and how the most vital dimension came to be missing.

The dramatic rise in the world's total fund of knowledge began, roughly, 170 years ago, with the advent of modern science. The new knowledge in the fields of science and technology developed slowly at first. Knowledge production gained momentum gradually, and then, finally, came the knowledge explosion.

Even when I was a boy, we used kerosene lamps, horse-and-buggy transportation, and the little "dinky" trolleys which had just replaced the horse-drawn street cars. Radio, television, and airplanes were unheard of by most people.

It's hard to realize, now, that this world went along on virtually an even keel — with no material progress to speak of — for thousands of years. It was primarily an agricultural world, using primitive farming methods. The cast-iron plow was not invented until 1797 — the disc plow not until 1896, when I was a growing boy. The first harvester came in 1836.

Think of it! Through those long millennia the world was virtually without transportation or means of communication. Transportation was by foot, mule-back, camel, elephant or horse. By sea it was by slow-moving sailboat. The telephone was not invented until 1876, wireless in 1896. The first steamboat (Fulton) was 1803.

In my lifetime we have seen the machine age, the jet age, the nuclear age, and the space age. What stimulated this accelerating materialistic development?

It occurred simultaneously with the sudden spurt to national wealth and

power of two nations — Britain and the United States — 1800 to 1803. With this suddenly acquired material wealth, our people became materialistically minded.

The New Messiah — Modern Science

Our scientists assured the world that man had progressed to the point where he could safely dispense with the superstitious crutch of religion and belief in God. Now humanity could rely on the new messiah — modern science.

"Given sufficient knowledge," said the scientists, "we shall solve all of humanity's problems and cure all the world's ills." The tools of modern science were merely a stepped-up use of those man had employed since the dawn of history — observation, experimentation, and human reason.

So knowledge production has increased at a continuously accelerating pace. And this includes the area of sex!

But Evils Increased Also

But, paradoxically, humanity's problems, troubles and evils have been increasing at an equal pace of acceleration! In the one most recent decade, from 1960 to 1970, man's total fund of knowledge DOUBLED! But, incredibly, in that same ten short years the world's TROUBLES and EVILS *doubled also!*

WHAT'S WRONG with the dictum that knowledge is the sole need for solutions? Increasing evils have come with increasing knowledge! That's the hard, cold fact that must be faced!

Is it wrong to possess or gain KNOWLEDGE? Most certainly not! Am I discouraging the acquisition of knowledge? BY NO MEANS!

On the other hand, we are face to face with the FACT that evils have escalated along with the production of knowledge. That does not necessarily mean that the knowledge produced *caused* the evils. It *does* mean that the knowledge produced *did not* cure existing evils or *prevent new evils*.

There *has to be* a knowledge gap — a missing dimension — somewhere! It's high time we learn what it is!

For every *effect*, there has to be a CAUSE!

There has to be a CAUSE for all the world's evils! There has to be a CAUSE for the worsening moral problem! There can be TWO KINDS of knowledge — true and false.

Academic Freedom

In this feverish development of knowledge production, scholars in universities have been placing great emphasis on *academic freedom*. Academic freedom is defined as the independent judgment allowed teachers, scholars, scientists, students, in the pursuit of knowledge.

Science as a whole and higher education have exercised the academic freedom to postulate a creation without a Creator. They have engaged in the activity of knowledge production with total rejection of any possibility of the miraculous, the supernatural, the existence of God — or anything outside the realm of the material. They have rejected utterly revelation as a source of basic knowledge!

When I engaged in research on the theory of evolution, I studied Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, Vogt, Chamberlain and other exponents of the theory. But also I looked at the other side of the question. But I would venture to say that most of those whose higher education has been acquired during the past half century have been taught and have accepted without question the evolutionary theory, *not having examined with any seriousness* the biblical evidences of special creation. To go along with the evolutionary concept has become the scholarly "IN" thing. In most institutions of higher learning, the world's "best seller" has been dismissed *without a hearing*.

Is it not human to err?

Could it be *possible* for the most highly educated minds to have been intellectually misled or deceived? Could they, viewing only *one side* of the question, be infallible, entirely above making mistakes?

The Cause of Errors

For many years now, I have observed that errors almost always come from a false basic premise, carelessly *assumed* as self-evident, and taken for granted without question, then building on that false basic hypothesis. The basic premise for knowledge production in our time has been the evolutionary concept. It has been the eyeglasses through which all questions have been viewed. Yet it remains unproved, and by its very na-

ture it is a theory not subject to proof. It is a FAITH. And to question it is — to those who embrace this faith — academic heresy!

Do we, then, DARE question the theories so generally accepted by advanced scholarship? Is it heretical to question their assumed conclusions and ask for PROOF? Is it academic heresy to look at the *other side* of the coin?

Suppose, now, we appropriate the *academic freedom* to carefully *examine* that which has been dismissed *without examination*.

It might prove exciting and enlightening, at this point, to allow ourselves the latitude of academic freedom unprejudicially to examine the biblical narrative of the forbidden fruit. That bit of revelation purports to describe the crucial initial event in human experience that changed the entire course of history.

The first three chapters of the Bible do have something to say about sex and marriage. And, after all, the man and the woman there described *were naked, weren't they?*

Evidently few, if any — whether scientist, scholar or theologian — have viewed

There has to be a cause for all the world's evils! There has to be a cause for the worsening moral problem! There can be two kinds of knowledge — true and false.

this account with any remote conception that it might explain the origin of the scientific method of KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION. Or, that it might reveal the *very source of the fatal missing dimension!* Certainly almost no one — theologians included — has ever UNDERSTOOD what this account really does SAY!

Begin at the Beginning

I think we must begin our view of the forbidden fruit narrative at the beginning, the very first verse in the Bible.

So we begin: "In the beginning, God..." That statement definitely puts God in existence before all else. No postulate — no guess — no "perhaps" — just the simple positive statement, "... created the heaven and the earth."

Whether fact or fiction — truth or error — that is what was written, purporting to be the revealed Word of God.

Something tremendous is indicated to have occurred between what is stated to have been the original creation of the earth (verse 1) and the statement in

orchids & onions

letters

The Mideast

An onion for Adli Muhtadi's article "Sadat's Window to Peace," in which he said, "The only missing element for a renewal of the secretary of state's efforts in the region would be Israel's realization that it has committed a mistake by not accepting an interim agreement with Egypt."

Muhtadi makes two grave errors, both of which are heavily laden with pro-Arab political opinion. One, he states dogmatically that a "mistake" was made, and that it was Israel's mistake. Secondly, he makes it appear there was a perfectly acceptable "agreement" held out to Israel by Sadat.

Muhtadi's Arab prejudices are blatantly obvious — hardly the type material one would expect to read in the *Plain Truth*, which has, over the years continually tried to faithfully present ALL sides of each picture, NOT from political points of view, but from the "overview" of the Creator and Bible prophecy.

The Israeli government negotiated face to face with Egypt through the daily meetings between military generals at mile 101 on the continent of Africa. The subject: How to arrange giving Egypt back its helplessly surrounded 3rd army. Later, Israel pulled back from its forward defense line at the Suez Canal itself, allowing a U.N. peace-keeping force to take up buffer positions, but retaining control over the strategic Gidi and Mitla passes. Finally, Israel agreed to give up both passes, and the Abu Rodeis oil fields (captured from Egypt in Sinai), and felt it was quite literally "bending over backward" to offer Sadat an honorable compromise in return for a nonbelligerency statement from Egypt.

For Muhtadi (whose credentials listed in the article showed a Palestinian background) to assert that Israel made a mistake by not "accepting" an interim agreement is utterly misleading, totally false from the Israeli point of view, and

absolutely unlike the *Plain Truth* editorial policy.

G. A.,
Eugene, OR

... and Far East

Mr. Rader's recent article on the Domino Theory left one with the impression that his Thai friend knows what is best for Southeast Asia and that is U.S. isolationism. Perhaps so, but I think my Vietnamese friends might disagree, as might hundreds of thousands of refugees in Cambodia and Vietnam.

For my own part, each time another country falls to Communism, I see part of my own freedom withering away. How many more millions of people must be murdered before someone answers pleas for help with a realistic form of aid?

William Patrick Gooley,
Annapolis, MD

A Panamanian Orchid

Thank you for printing the truth about the Panama giveaway (*Plain Truth*, April 5, 1975). I spent four years in the Zone (1962-66), including the riots of January, 1964, and was close enough to what went on to ask myself some astonishing questions.

One expects, of course, to find rampant nationalism in a country like Panama. . . . What astonished almost all of us in the Zone, however, was to find the most rampant Panamanian nationalism echoed and amplified in the mass media of the U.S.A. . . .

When you think it over, it does seem queer that for a radical measure like surrendering the Canal, a major strategic and economic loss for the nation, the State Department can't think up any better justification than that maybe it would make Panama love us, or keep Panama from injuring us.

First, not any or all of the concessions we've made to Panama in the past have brought us Panama's love, or even Panama's tolerance. Second, what on earth can

Panama do to justify such a sacrifice? What can Panama give us, or deny us, that should persuade us to give Panama so much as the time of day? Does any American feel it so important to convince the world we're the Good Guys, that we should make sacrifices like this in the hope of achieving it?

If so, let him look at Israel and her treatment by the United Nations. That's what happens when you make sacrifices for world opinion.

Alfred B. Mason, M.D.,
Long Beach, CA

Mini-Orchids

Let me say that the *Plain Truth* news magazine is one of the finest published in this country. It makes the "standard" news magazines look like children's primers. Your literate intellectual level is on a par with the British publication, *The Economist*.

Harold J. McBreen,
New Shrewsbury, NJ

Never in my life have I read a newspaper or magazine from cover to cover as I read *Plain Truth*. I cannot imagine who could have given my name and address to you but I thank that person.

Cheers to *Plain Truth*!!!

Miss Zia Meyer,
Salt River, Cape RSA

Frankly, I had my doubts that my letter would see the light of day in your paper (week ending April 15, 1975).

The truth is hard to come by these days. I am beginning to believe that you are trying hard to tell it as it is — continue sending the *Plain Truth* to us.

Saul Goodman,
Bronx, NY

I just finished reading Part III of the Incredible Human Potential by Herbert Armstrong and I just have to say — AMAZING! I think it is wonderful that Herbert Armstrong can write such an inspiring biblical article twice a month while he is doing such a great job going before the nations of this world with the Gospel.

For strength like that, God has to be directing it!

Mrs. John L. Bass,
Marietta, GA

The Buchwald Controversy

Art Buchwald's parodies are great!

Margaret Kellner,
Elberfeld, IN

Sorry, no more donations as long as Art Buchwald writes for your magazine.

Herbert Edwards,
Binghamton, NY

I think it is wrong to have Art Buchwald in the pages of *Plain Truth*. Is it right to spend God's money on a non-Christian writer, whose purpose is to aggrandize himself, i.e., his "humor"? I assume a fee is paid to him or his syndicate, for the privilege of polluting the pages of truth with his soothsaying, politically (worldly) oriented comments.

Would not the Work be better served by having a column written by a converted, praying, Holy Spirit inspired author in his place and space? Are we coming out of the world by propagating the words of this overweight, cigar-chomping, carnal-minded buffoon whose quality of humor is open to debate, to [say] the least?

Henry Penna,
Massapequa, NY

• We on the *Plain Truth* staff don't always agree with everything that Art Buchwald writes — and we're certain he wouldn't always agree with us, either. (In actuality we print a mere fraction of his prolific output.) However, when an astute satirist like Buchwald zeroes in on the foibles of human nature, both individually and on the national level, we feel our readers should have the opportunity to see what he has to say. As Britain's Prince Charles said just the other day, "A most important thing is to retain your sense of humor. If you lose that, and your ability to laugh at yourself, you're defeated."

On the point of "Christian writers," we're not certain of Mr. Buchwald's religious persuasion, and frankly are not even interested in finding out.

However, in this light, it is interesting to note that the apostle Paul, a very literate man, quoted the "non-Christian" poet and seer, Epimenides, in a passage which eventually became part of scripture (see Titus 1:12).

SEX (Continued from page 7)

It is the prerogative of GOD ALONE to determine what is right and what is sin — what is good and what is evil. God has not delegated to man the right or power to decide WHAT is sin — but he compels us to decide WHETHER to sin, or to obey his law.

To rightly determine what is GOOD required the creative power to produce and set in motion such inexorable LAWS as this spiritual law and the laws of physics and chemistry — a law which AUTOMATICALLY causes GOOD if obeyed and EVILS when disobeyed!

Adam and Eve had only God's word that they were mortal and could die. Now Satan disputed this. He said they were IMMORTAL SOULS.

WHOM should they believe? They had no PROOF, except God's word. But now Satan discredited that, and claimed just the opposite.

Satan said their intellectual powers were so great they could determine for themselves what is GOOD and what is evil. That is a GOD-prerogative. "You can be God!" said Satan.

This Satan was appealing to their human VANITY. Remember, they had just been created, with perfect human minds, not God minds — but perfect human minds. They allowed the thought to enter their minds that they possessed intellectual powers so GREAT that they could assume the God-prerogative of PRODUCING THE KNOWLEDGE of what is GOOD and what is EVIL!

Intellectual vanity seized them! They were thrilled, enthralled, intoxicated

with vanity at the grand prospect.

How, after all, could they be sure God had told them the truth?

The First Scientific Experiment

They saw (verse 6) — they used observation — that the forbidden tree was good for food, pleasant to their eyes, and desired to make them wise. Intellectual vanity was stirred. In the ecstasy of this vanity they used human reason. They decided to reject revelation imparted by God and to make the very first SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT!

They took the forbidden fruit and ate it!

They took to themselves the prerogative of deciding what is GOOD and what is EVIL. In so doing, they rejected the God-centered WAY of God's spiri-

tual law, and, rejecting it, of necessity they chose the way that transgresses it!

They PIONEERED in deciding for themselves what is right and what is wrong — what is righteousness and what is sin! And humanity has been doing what seems right in its own eyes ever since.

And how did they do it? They (1) rejected revelation, (2) used observation, (3) used experimentation, and (4) used human reason. And that is precisely the "scientific" method used by modern science today!

And the result of that experiment? They DIED! They produced the first child delinquent, the first criminal and murderer!

The most VITAL dimension of knowledge was MISSING from their "scientific" procedure! □

(To Be Continued Next Issue)