

*the*  
**PLAIN TRUTH**  
*a magazine of understanding*

VOLUME XXIX, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER, 1964



Wide World Photo

**RACE RIOTS** in New York—Negro men yell and wave during civil disturbances in Rochester, New York. Read, in this issue, the truth about the race crisis.



# What our READERS SAY

## The Beatles

"We were just appalled at your description of the Beatles in England. What is our dear old England coming to?"

—Lady, Victoria, B.C.

• *To grief!*

## Cain's Wife

"I am going to challenge you. . . . In Genesis 4:17 it says, 'And Cain knew his wife and she conceived and bare Enóch.' At this time according to the Bible there were only three people on earth—Adam and Eve and Cain. Abel was dead; Cain killed him. Who was Cain's wife? And where did she come from? I have a lot of doubts, so you can expect to get a lot of questions from me, and I expect answers."

Walter S., Massachusetts

• *Read the geneological record of chapter 5, verse 4, Walt. Adam and Eve, like most folks today, had girls as well as boys. Cain married his sister. See the Short Questions in the August Plain Truth.*

## Tongues Question

"The article about speaking in tongues is so revealing I couldn't wait to read another thing before I wrote you about a sister of mine. She has fallen prey to this nonsense and no one can talk her out of it. So I am writing to ask you please to send her *The PLAIN TRUTH* henceforth and especially please rush a copy of the July issue. Hoping she'll wise up. I just live for my copies to arrive."

Mrs. C. R. W., Pennsylvania

"I just finished reading 'Truth about Speaking in Tongues' and it saddens me. . . . I find that it disagrees completely in almost all instances with what I have always been taught by real men of God. Therefore, I don't want to be bothered with it any longer."

Bonnie T., Kansas

• *Trouble is, Bonnie, you compared it with what you had always been taught,*

*instead of with your own Bible, as we asked you to do.*

## Smoking Is a Sin

"Have just finished reading the article 'Smoking is a Sin.' I can personally say every word of this article is absolutely true. I started picking up cigarette butts and smoking them at age 6, and continued until I was 43. That adds up to 37 years of puffing away on the weed. I smoked my last one March 15, 1963. I can truthfully say I have no desire to even smell someone else smoke. And I'm thankful to God for the help He gave me."

Vernon C. E., Texas

## By-Passing God

"My husband and I will be very grateful if you will enroll us in your Bible Study Group for the next course. We firmly believe that the great need in the world today is a comprehensive knowledge of Almighty God as revealed to us in the Holy Bible, by His Holy Spirit. Speaking generally it seems as though, in the search for truth we have by-passed this God . . . and have wandered on through the fields of human endeavour, Science, art, literature, etc., and now find ourselves in an impenetrable maze of doubt, delusion and despair. Under these circumstances we believe, with you, that the Bible (under God's guidance) holds the key that will unlock all barriers and will lead us back to God, the real Way and the Vital Truth and life everlasting."

South Brisbane, Queensland.

## It's Free

"To the skeptic who doesn't believe that your literature is free I submit the fact that I have every issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH* from January of 1957 to July of 1964 plus a large number of booklets and articles, and I have not paid nor been asked for one penny for them. I wouldn't take a \$1000 for them either!"

B. T., Florida

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# Personal from the Editor

**T**HIS is written at sea, in mid-Atlantic, on the giant steamer UNITED STATES. Mrs. Armstrong had been "enjoying" her usual sea sickness the first two days of the voyage. She still did not feel quite up to the walk to the dining room, last night, for dinner.

The waiters and stewards were inquiring about Mrs. Armstrong. I was served a delicious dinner—juicy California fresh fruit cocktail; crisp celery and super-colossal olives; a flavorful and *tender* sirloin steak (we call them "New York cut" on the west coast)—such as one never enjoys in Britain; flavorful french-fried potatoes and petite peas; all topped off with a special ice-cream-pudding with chocolate sauce.

Make your mouth water? Of course, this great ship, like the AMERICA and the British Queens, is famous for its superb cuisine. Meals, of course, are included in your ticket. The menus are elaborate, and the waiters will urge you to order more than you should eat—no prices on a right-hand column—just eat whatever, and as much, as you wish.

"I wish," said my waiter, "that Mrs. Armstrong could be enjoying this like you are."

And I thought, "I wish ALL PEOPLE, everywhere, could really ENJOY LIFE as much as we do!"

Mr. Albert Portune, our Headquarters Business Manager, and I, have a disagreement. He is a very appreciative man. He's always counting his blessings.

"I'm the most blessed man on earth," he insists.

I flatly disagree with him. I tell him I enjoy that status. Like the Apostle Paul, I feel that I have been the chief of sinners—yet God's marvelous grace has so richly abounded that it seems He has simply *lavished* on me—and my wife—every blessing that even the loving GOD can bestow!

Business associates, not quite compre-

hending the spiritual significance or real reasons, admit and marvel at the really happy and enjoyable life I have been granted. They *seek* the full joys of life. I did, too—once. And as long as I tried to GET and to TAKE them, I somehow never had them.

Back in the pre-conversion days in the magazine and newspaper world, I fought and strove energetically for that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow—the *money* that would buy happiness and all the "good things" of gracious living. I sought and struggled valiantly to attain the vanity-pleasing status of being considered "important" by important business men.

Yet, somehow, I never quite caught up with the end of that rainbow. For a few years—in my middle and late twenties—I enjoyed a considerable financial success—for a young chap under thirty. I was making an income equivalent to perhaps \$30,000 a year in today's money-value. Even so, I never seemed to get out of debt. My heart was set on material things and on plain vanity—and they just never seemed to *satisfy*. Neither, incidentally, did the brand of cigarettes whose advertising claims "they satisfy."

You say you couldn't imagine me smoking cigarettes? Well, I couldn't either—NOW! But I did, then. That's more than 37 years ago. I remember, now, with almost a pang of stomach-sickness, the many times I sat at a banquet table, smoking a fine cigar. Why? Vanity. I was a "sheep." Others did. I followed. But did I ENJOY it? Never! What an idiot I was! In my mouth the saliva flows freely on slightest provocation. A cigar in my mouth started the saliva glands flowing. I was forced to use the napkin for a cuspidor—and even then, it usually made me slightly sick at the stomach. Enjoy it? No!

Those were days of ambition and hustle and striving—but they also were

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OUR COVER

Seething mobs, in summer heat, riot out of control in cities throughout the North! Civil-rights leaders, no longer able to restrain the irresponsible, are in a quandary. These leaders preached civil disobedience—even from the pulpit—as a justifiable means to accomplish their goal. Now their followers, having been persuaded to abandon restraint, feel little moral obligation to obey any authority. Lawless, rampaging thousands riot and loot on the slightest provocation, even in so-called model Northern cities that have long boasted full civil-rights laws.



days of frustrations, fears and worries, and an underlying sense of insecurity. Carnality and this world's ways simply *never paid off!*

Then two successive major business depressions, and circumstances beyond my control, brought three successive total business failures. It was then that a Bible-believing woman, neighbor of my parents in Salem, Oregon, convinced my wife that the Bible enforced observance of the seventh-day Sabbath in this New Testament time of grace! The facts of my outraged reaction at this "religious fanaticism" have been published many times.

I was unable to talk, reason, argue, cajole, or threaten her out of her newfound conviction. I was literally angered into my first STUDY of the Bible—to *prove* to her that "all these churches couldn't be wrong"—and that the Bible commanded and enforced the observance of Sunday, in this New Testament period.

I sought, wrote for, and obtained at the public library every book or booklet possible purporting to refute seventh-day Sabbath observance. I searched every nook and cranny of the New Testament to find the sanctification, making holy, or command to observe Sunday. It was like hunting for the needle in the haystack—the needle that isn't there! Like the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, I never found it!

Instead, I found that Jesus Christ always kept this day "as His custom was," and the Apostle Paul kept it "as his manner was." I found where Jesus gave us an example that we should do as He did, and where we were commanded to walk in His steps—to walk as HE walked. Also that it is "Christ IN us" which gives hope of Glory (by His Holy Spirit), and that He is a changeless Christ—the *same* today as when He walked the earth in human flesh. I found that the New Testament *commands* Sabbath-observance.

By the way, just before leaving Pasadena for England last April, I completed the writing of a new booklet explaining in detail what I found on this question in the Bible. This is our largest booklet so far on this subject.

I think you might find it interesting, as well as surprising and eye-opening. It is an addition to our booklets on *The Sabbath of the NEW Testament*, *Has TIME Been Lost?* and *The Resurrection was NOT on Sunday*. This latest and largest (and profusely illustrated in color) booklet has now been published. YOUR copy has already been paid for (you *can't* pay for your own)—and it *would* be a shame for your copy to keep on lying unused in our mailing room, wouldn't it? If you haven't read those others, ask for them, too. They're FREE, as Christ's Gospel is free, of course.

Well, Satan may have "opened" the eyes of Adam and Eve to evil—and then BLINDED the eyes of all of us ever since—but in that study the true Creator GOD *opened* my eyes to His TRUTH! There it was, staring at me in the Maker's own INSTRUCTION BOOK!

I didn't like it—at first.

"What would my business associates say?" was the question that came automatically to mind.

That's the question that chains *most* people to the darkness, the curses and frustrations of this world. They seldom give a thought to "What would GOD say?" They *ought* to ask, "What is CHRIST GOING TO SAY, when I have to face Him in the Judgment?"

To me, God's Truth meant GIVING UP! It meant giving up associates and friends—at least, so I supposed. It meant giving up the false values. It meant giving up MY OWN WAY! It seemed like GIVING UP everything I had ever held dear or lived for. It was like GIVING UP my very life.

But then, with God's BIBLE before me, I came to realize that Christ had bought and paid for my life—and it wasn't mine, anyway. God had made the giving up easier by repeated de-

feats—by reduction to economic poverty. I was only a "burned-out hunk o' junk," anyhow. Finally, I did make the surrender—UNCONDITIONALLY! I told God He could have my life, and if HE could make anything out of it, He could have it—I had made only a failure out of it! And I *did* mean that!

To me, it meant GIVING UP everything I had valued as worth living for. But, you know, we have to die to LIVE—to LOSE our lives in order to FIND THEM! Perhaps, then, I never expected to really ENJOY LIFE any more. I had sought hard to ENJOY LIFE—and failed. So now I gave it up!

But, actually, that was precisely when I really FOUND IT!

THAT was when truly ENJOYING LIFE first began!

I remember many a happy, blessed, really ENJOYABLE hour spent in the bare kitchens of financially poor people, studying the Bible with them. It seemed as if the angels were there with us—as, indeed, they were! It was as happy as if the bare, poverty-ridden kitchen had been a gilded, king's palace. No—that's wrong; it was *not* just *as* happy—it was a thousand times more so!

I began to learn that happiness did not consist of material possessions. Happiness is in the MIND. And, somehow, I had found happiness—real, full, abundant, deep-down HAPPINESS! We didn't have money—but we had inherited the TRUE RICHES!

I was literally plunged into the very Work of God. I didn't seek it—God PUT me in, once I yielded wholly to be faithful to His Word. Having a part in God's Own Work was the greatest joy I had known.

The *change* came early in 1927. Almost night-and-day Bible study continued. My wife was miraculously healed—even a dumbfounded doctor was forced to admit that. Then I was blessed with my first son. Later, God tried me to see whether I would be willing to give *him* up. Struggling in prayer, I told God I was willing—not for a moment believing He would require it of me. But He did. But God had given me a second son—Garner Ted!

The first conversions through my  
(Please continue on Inside Back Cover)

#### NOTICE—

We regret that again this issue there is no further installment of the "Autobiography." Due to the continued urgency of completing the forthcoming book on *The Plain Truth About Sex and Marriage*, Mr. Armstrong is devoting every available moment to it, and omitting the "Autobiography" and other new articles.



# Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

preaching came in December, 1930. NEVER had I experienced such joy. Talk about THRILLS! I had experienced thrills at football games, and worldly entertainments—but never *anything* like THIS!

Blessings piled up on blessings. God opened the powerful DOOR of radio, and the printing press—in the very smallest manner, at first. But the work grew, and grew. More and more conversions followed—dozens, then scores, then hundreds, then THOUSANDS! I expect to have a lot of COMPANY in God's Kingdom, where we shall live FOREVER!

After 28 years of economic poverty—21 of which had been spent in the joys of God's true blessings—God allowed even a measure of material blessings!

He has blessed me with the most lovely wife in the world, whom I honor and respect above all women—and we recently celebrated our 47th wedding anniversary together in the beautiful little home God has blessed us with in England. He has blessed us with four fine and normal children.

We have very little money in our own name in the bank—yet God enables us to enjoy all the material blessings today that are good for us. This, however, came only after we had learned NOT to set our hearts on economic prosperity.

Best of all, we have the matchless knowledge that we are HEIRS of GOD—and joint-heirs with CHRIST—to be BORN INTO GOD'S OWN FAMILY and share His honor and GLORY forever!

But meanwhile, our minds are free from fears and worries. There are never any frustrations! We have been given abiding FAITH, which never fails—and never will! We have ABSOLUTE SECURITY! We are allowed high position and authority in GOD'S work, directed Personally by the *living* Jesus Christ. I am privileged to work directly UNDER HIM!

We are kept BUSY. We are privileged to enjoy the physical BEAUTY of (we believe) the three most beautiful college campuses in the world! We are privileged to ENJOY seeing the almost incredible transformation and character-development spiritually, mentally, morally, emotionally, and physically, in hundreds of purposeful college students. We are privileged to lead them, counsel with them in their problems, serve them in many ways.

We are PRIVILEGED to have our son, Garner Ted, second in authority, in these colleges, and all God's Great Work—a son IN WHOM WE ARE WELL PLEASED!

I am privileged to write this GOOD NEWS for perhaps more than a million of you to read.

Say! Just what do you mean, Mr. Portune—you are "the most blessed man on earth"? Well, after all—that's the kind of "competition" where I can say I'm rejoicing in the knowledge we SHARE the rich blessings of the benevolent GOD!

I wish men of position, and growing success in the world, could realize the REAL SOURCE of true happiness—of real, enjoyable, interesting, happy and abundant LIVING!

Yes, I wish ALL PEOPLE, *everywhere*, could really *enjoy* life as much as we do.

I'm glad Albert Portune is privileged to enjoy life so abundantly. I'm glad—and supremely grateful—that our son Garner Ted is so blessed, with a dear and lovely wife, three fine and properly trained sons, a beautiful home—every material blessing, beside all the lavish spiritual blessings. I rejoice that Mr. Roderick Meredith, Dr. Herman Hoeh, and many others and their families are equally blessed. I'm grateful beyond words that scores, hundreds, and *thousands*, are now sharing in these same blessings, and will really *know* what I'm talking about!

And I rejoice in the sure knowledge that, in the very imminent future, Jesus Christ is going to return to this earth in all the supreme POWER and GLORY of the Great GOD, and literally *force* this whole world to see the TRUE VALUES, and learn the way to all we enjoy now—and MORE!

SURE I'm happy—just brimful and running over with it. I've tried to share a little of it with our readers today. And, by the way, this happens to be God's Sabbath. I didn't write this all at once—but in two installments, broken by rest, and a delicious lunch, *in which Mrs. Armstrong, at last, joined me!*

But now, I'd better stop before this becomes *work*. And, besides, Mrs. Armstrong says *she'd* like a little of my company!

But, speaking of BLESSINGS which God showers on those who obey and trust Him, all this reminds us of the 1st chapter of Ephesians—*Moffatt* translation. I will have this ended by reproducing some of that for you—and I sincerely hope it applies to YOU, as it surely does to Mrs. Armstrong and me.

Here it is:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who in Christ has blessed us with every spiritual blessing within the heavenly sphere! He chose us in him ere the world was founded, to be consecrated and unblemished in his sight, destining us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ. . . . So richly has God lavished upon us his grace, granting us complete insight and understanding of the open secret of his will. . . . May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, grant you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation for the knowledge of himself, illuminating the eyes of your heart so that you can understand the hope to which He calls us, the wealth of his glorious heritage in the saints, and the surpassing greatness of his power over us believers—a power which operates with the strength of the might which he exerted in raising Christ from the dead and *seating him at his right hand* in the heavenly sphere, above all the angelic Rulers, Authorities, Powers, and Lords, above every Name that is to be named not only in this age but in the age to come—*he has put everything under his feet* and set him as head over everything for the church, the church which is his Body, filled by Him who fills the universe entirely."