PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



Remains of Skyjacked Airliner — Symbolic of Violent 1970

What our readers say

General Comments

"I count myself fortunate to receive The PLAIN TRUTH magazine. Speaking from an experience of 50 years in printing, many years as an executive ... I wish to say that your magazine is about the only periodical in the world that illuminates the reader's mind as no other magazine does.... In today's distorted media you are a rarity; the respectable truth in printed communication."

> John M. F., Brooklyn, New York

"I suppose it would seem a rather harsh conclusion that all the sharp words of condemnation you receive from time to time, even to whatever extent undeserved, work only for good. But the very nature of such criticism . . . only serves to prove the great need for just such a work as you are projecting to the world through the medium of The PLAIN TRUTH magazine." J. H.,

Courtland, Kansas

Knowledge Doubles

"Your article, 'Knowledge Has Doubled — so have troubles — WHY?' is great; gives a complete picture of our present system or pattern of education, and one can readily see why such a system of Knowledge Production is wrong and the problems and evils which it creates.... Thanks for such a wonderful article."

Anna R., Niagara Falls, New York

Automobiles

"I have read the article 'The Ever Present Automobile' and found it very interesting. It sure points out the danger we are facing in the future....Our economy is geared to the manufacturing of automobiles." Charles H.,

North Hollywood, California

"After reading your article 'The Ever-present Automobile' I can't help but wonder — How are you traveling these days - by Shank's Mare, ox cart or donkey?"

Lady, Frazeysburg, Ohio

• Since we can't quit breathing we're still inhaling our share of air pollution, too. But two wrongs really don't make a right. We're using a number of propane-burning vehicles, and striving to pioneer in many fields where protection of the environment is an issue. What do you use — a magic carpet?

"Some months ago, I gave my license back to the Motor Vehicle Dept. because I just got fed up with pollution and the high insurance rates. I also could not afford to maintain a car. It really was a sponge on wheels. I know my handing in my license isn't going to stop pollution — but it is a start. I cannot change the world, but I can change myself." Ted L.,

Flushing, New York

Stop the World

"As a high school English teacher, I particularly responded to 'Stop the World — I Want to Get Off.' It was obviously written by a man who truly understands the intricacies of human nature as well as the psychological complexities of the problems facing our youth today." Mildred M.,

New Market, Virginia

"Far Beyond Anything I Imagined..."

"I had pictured in my mind what I thought 'The Wonderful World Tommorrow' would be like. But it was so very far beyond anything I imagined. There is no other publication like this."

> Mary C., Fayetteville, North Carolina

January 1971

VOL. XXXVI

Published monthly at 300 West Green St., Pasadena, California 91105; Radlett, England; and North Sydney, Australia, by Ambassador College. French, Dutch and German editions published at Radlett, England; Spanish edition at Big Sandy, Texas. © 1971 Ambassador College. All rights reserved.

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United States: P. O. Box 111, Pasadena, Cali-

fornia 91109. Canada: P.O. Box 44, Station A, Vancouver 1, B.C.

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SECOND CLASS POSTAGE paid at Pasadena, California, and at additional mailing offices. Entered as SECOND CLASS matter at Manila Post Office on March 16, 1967. Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a book. BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please include both old and new address. IMPORTANT!

Personal from Salor Monthson

CLOSING THE WIDENING GAP

IN MY TRIP around the world last September, I spoke before a group of professional and businessmen at a Rotary Club luncheon in Singapore. Later, in Tokyo, I addressed a group of high-ranking professors from various universities in Japan, selected and brought together by Prince Mikasa, brother of Emperor Hirohito.

Now I am on another round-the-world tour, writing again from New Delhi, India. And here an incident has come to my attention reminiscent of those two occasions in September. The President of Rotary International, Mr. William E. Walk, Jr., recently visited India. Some of the things he said here reminded me of what I said in the above-mentioned speeches.

Mr. Walk was emphasizing a basic world problem. Isn't it incongruous that modern man can bridge the gap between the earth and the moon — yet he cannot bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots, between one generation and the next, between races and classes, between one nation and another?

And why do these gaps keep widening?

We live today in a world of advanced technological and economic interdependence. But it is divided in many ways by historical and psychological hangovers from the past.

In the past, lack of transportation and communication facilities isolated local areas. Today both rapid transportation and near-instantaneous communication facilities go hand in hand with interdependence among nations in a highly specialized industrial civilization.

The incredible development of rapid transportation and communication should have brought understanding between peoples. Yet these facilities have not contributed to bridging the gap between past isolation and today's interdependence. An unwillingness to utilize modern technological advantages for co-operation and constructive purposes has, on the contrary, widened the gap and increased friction, suspicion, maneuvering of governments for selfish advantage and power.

On both the September tour and the present one, meetings have been set up (not of my initiating) with a number of chiefs of state — Prime Ministers, Presidents, a King. An

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UPI Photo

ABOUT OUR COVER

The Skyjack War — Charred tail of Pan Am 747 rests in desert outside Cairo, Egypt. It was hijacked in September by Palestinian guerrillas. Passengers barely had time to scramble to safety as the \$24 million jumbo jet aircraft exploded in a series of deafening roars.

It was one of four planes hijacked by the guerrillas. The other three were taken to Dawson airstrip outside Amman, Jordan. Called "Revolution Airstrip" by the PFLP (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine) — it is a baked-mud shelf of desert. Here TWA around-the-world Flight 741, Swissair trans-Atlantic flight 100 and BOAC Flight 775 were blown apart by guerrillas, after all passengers were led to safety.

example of this co-operation gap: A leader of one government privately asked me to do what I could to persuade the head of another country to improve diplomatic relations between the two. Because of the tense and delicate struggle between nations, jockeying for advantage and power, politics has become a tightrope-walking chess game. This particular government leader knew that I have absolutely nothing to do with politics. That's the reason he made his off-the-cuff request. He thought perhaps one coming as a friend, educator and editor - completely out of and above politics, might bring to bear a persuasion impossible within politics. And while I will not be in any way politically involved, there is no reason to refuse making a suggestion that might bring two people - or two nations into more friendly and peaceful co-operation.

One might ask, couldn't men have bridged *these* gaps, if they had devoted the same amount of time and expert energy they spent on the space project to exploring the means of solving these problems here on earth?

The answer, tragically, is NO!

Men have, through the centuries, diligently applied study, research, time and energy — all the power and resources of KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION — to exploring ways to CURE these evils. And yet the gaps keep widening. But men always ignore the CAUSE, and treat the EFFECT.

What the CAUSE?

It was the ANSWER to this very problem — this fatally serious problem that formed the subject of my talk to the educators in Tokyo.

Here is the substance of it:

For centuries and millenniums, human society lumbered along at about the same gait. Overland transportation was by foot, horse, camel or mule. Freight on land was carried on wagon, packhorse, mule or donkey. For that reason civilization was centered mostly on coastlands. Men travelled primarily by sailboat. Communication was limited to mouth-to-mouth. There were no such things known as telephones, telegraph, radio, radio-phone or ocean cable. Television has come only since World War II for the public.

Through these millenniums of time the average person lived out his entire life, never seeing any part of the world farther than ten or twenty miles from home. There were no tourism agencies. People knew little or nothing about people a hundred miles or more from their own homes,

In the last three or four hundred years man's technology began to appear. We had the inventions of the telescope, the printing press, the steamboat. Travel by water was speeded up. The telegraph, cable and telephone came and gradually communication developed.

But modern science began a real acceleration about 150 years ago. Men of science decided they could safely discard the crutch of religion and belief in God. The human mind could now supply all the knowledge, on the scientific human level.

"Give us sufficient knowledge," they postulated, "and we shall solve all the problems and cure all the world's ills."

Revelation was rejected as a basic source of knowledge. The tools of knowledge production were — as they always had been — observation, exploration, experiment and human reason. But now they began putting those tools to work with ever-increasing energy.

German "rationalism" was injected into the educational bloodstream. Education dropped emphasis on moral, spiritual and ethical values. It became materialistic, with sole emphasis on the intellect. And the universities schooled and turned out the scientists.

Means of transportation and communication increased at ever-faster pace. Knowledge production was stepped up faster and faster.

But, strangely, paradoxically, new troubles and evils sprang up in the world. For example: Medicine was supposedly giving us better health, eradicating disease. Today one hears little about some of the diseases of fifty to a hundred years ago — but new and more deadly diseases have replaced them — and others have become far more prevalent — cancer and heart diseases foremost. Crime has constantly increased. Unrest grips the whole world. Family life is breaking down. Revolt is everywhere. Especially on university campuses,

with violence. Protest is the current fashion. Meanwhile, man has polluted his soil, his water supplies, the air he breathes, the foods he eats. He has denuded the forests, thus increasing droughts. Morals have descended into the cesspool. Teen-agers see no hope, no future, and hundreds of thousands take to idleness, drunkenness, sex and drugs, blowing their minds.

In the decade of the 1960's, the world's fund of knowledge *doubled*, and in the same ten years the world's evils also doubled.

For every effect, I repeat again and again, there has to be a CAUSE. Suppose that instead of the giant space project, man *had* devoted that time and energy to exploring the means of bridging the gaps for mankind.

The fault is NOT failure to devote time and energy in knowledge-production to discover the CURE. Man has always tried to treat the EFFECT, ignoring the CAUSE.

When evils escalate in virtually precise ratio with knowledge production, something has to be wrong in the method of producing that knowledge. That is one half of the trouble. The other is a basically wrong WAY OF LIFE. And the two are inter-related. Let me explain.

Get vs. Give

Overall, there are only two basic ways of life — two divergent philosophies. They travel in opposite directions. I state them simply: One is the way of GET, the other of GIVE. Or, a little more specifically: One is the way of outgoing concern for others, equal to concern for self. It is the way of cooperating, giving, helping, sharing, serving; the way of kindness, consideration, patience, courtesy.

The other is the SELF-centered way. It is the way of getting, taking, acquiring — of greed and lust. Toward others it is the way of envy, jealousy, unconcern, malice, resentment, hatred. It is the way that tries to get for SELF the best of every deal — and give the other the worst.

At the San Francisco Conference that drew up the pattern for the United Nations, I heard men make laudatory speeches on the theme of brotherly love toward others. There, in 1945, I heard

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Personal from Salar Remarking

(Continued from page 2)

them warn, solemnly, that this was civilization's LAST CHANCE to survive. Then I saw these men fight viciously for every selfish advantage — and at the cost of PEACE!

Men laud the way of love and cooperation as an impractical platitude. But in action, they go the diametrically opposite direction.

And that is the basic mistake, for the unselfish way of giving — of outgoing concern for others — is, in actual fact, no impractical platitude, but the only way to peace, real and true success with prosperity and happiness. I have proved it by 44 years of personal experience. Ambassador College has demonstrated it by 23½ years of collective experience.

Actually, what almost no one seems to realize, the way of "GIVE" — of outgoing concern — is actually an invisible but inexorable fixed LAW in living motion. Actually THAT WAY is a SPIRITUAL LAW, as real and inflexibly relentless as the law of gravity or of inertia. It governs and regulates all human relationships.

Would it seem so strange that man's Maker — the very Creator of the vastness of space, the stars, the sun and the earth, who set in motion the laws of gravity, inertia, all the laws of physics and chemistry — should also have set in living motion this spiritual Law for the very PURPOSE of producing PEACE, HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY, abundant wellbeing for mankind?

For every effect, I repeat, there has to be a CAUSE. We do have evils, and there has to be a CAUSE. We could have GOOD results, but they can be produced only by a CAUSE. And that LAW — that WAY of LIFE — is the CAUSE.

Of course it isn't fashionable any more to mention or even suggest that man had a Maker. It isn't "intellectual." It is absent from the modern PRODUCTION OF KNOWLEDGE. But then, if we are to be rational, we do face the

FACT the evils are escalating in virtually exact ratio with knowledge production. Just WHAT could be WRONG with this knowledge production?

First Scientific Experiment

I explained to the educators in Japan that if we would consider and give credence to the "forbidden fruit" narrative in the Hebrew Scriptures, we might come directly to the crux of the whole question — the CAUSE of all the world's ills — the REASON increased knowledge has paralleled increased evils.

That account shows our very first parents MAKING THE VERY FIRST SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT!

Their Maker had revealed to them this inexorable spiritual Law. He had put them in the beautiful Garden of Eden. That spiritual Law, and the love that fulfills it, was symbolized by one of two special symbolic trees in the center of the garden. The one tree was called "the tree of LIFE." It was freely offered. In reality it represented the very LIFE-impregnating Spirit of the great Creator — the God who, though Himself an eternally living Spirit Person, revealed that He had made man in His own likeness, though of physical matter from the ground. Thus, their Maker explained, man was MORTAL, and could die.

But there were TWO symbolic trees in the garden-center.

The other was called "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." It represented taking to themselves ability to know — to produce the KNOWLEDGE of what is GOOD and what is EVIL, that is, what is right and what is wrong.

The Creator had already created and set in living motion this inexorable spiritual Law that is the way to every GOOD. To produce knowledge of, and follow any OTHER WAY automatically must RESULT in EVILS! For any other way is of necessity the transgression of that Law! There can be no law without a penalty. And the penalty of transgression of that Law is DEATH—capital punishment—ETERNAL punishment, or eternal DEATH.

Notice this significant narrative. Our first parents' Maker forbade them to take and eat of this forbidden fruit. WHY? Because it represented the CAUSE of every evil and unwanted result —

the CAUSE of unhappiness, suffering, strife, violence, death. Because it was BAD for humanity! Their Maker told them they were made only of material substance from the ground — they were mortal — and if they took and ate of the forbidden fruit they would SURELY die! It was SURE!

It is the prerogative solely of God the Creator to determine what is right, and what is wrong. He did not delegate to man the responsibility to determine what is right and what is wrong — but He did compel mankind to decide whether to obey what is right, or whether to choose to do wrong.

Since the Creator already had set in eternally living motion this spiritual LAW to provide the CAUSE for every GOOD result, there was no other right way for man to choose.

Intellectual Vanity — Revelation Rejected

The first man and woman had perfect human minds. But they did not use them rightly or wisely. The thought came to them that they possessed intellectual powers so great that they could even assume the God-prerogative of producing the KNOWLEDGE of what is GOOD and what is EVIL. This appealed to intellectual vanity. They were thrilled, enthralled, intoxicated by the grand prospect.

WHY knuckle under to obey their Maker? Then again, DOUBT entered their minds whether they could BELIEVE Him. He had said they were mortal. They could DIE — they had only a temporary, mechanical-chemical existence. They could only go on living eternally by receiving eternal LIFE as His GIFT — freely offered by the other symbolic tree.

But how could they be SURE? They decided they should put it to the test and see for themselves.

So they entered upon the very first "SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT." They pioneered in the human way of knowledge production.

They rejected revelation. They used observation, experiment, human reason.

It was when they saw with their own eyes — observation — that this fruit was pleasant to the eyes, good for food, and desired to make one wise, that intellectual vanity, lust and greed

entered their hearts. They used human reason. They rejected REVELATION — knowledge revealed by their Maker. They took of that fruit — they TOOK to themselves the prerogative of deciding the right from the wrong way — they made the experiment — they put the matter to the test to see what would happen.

Result of that experiment: THEY DIED!

And their posterity have never yet learned the LESSON of that experiment. The tools of Modern Science, even yet today, are rejection of revelation as the foundation — the starting point — of KNOWLEDGE, plus observation and exploration, plus experimentation, plus human reason.

THAT IS THE METHOD OF SCIENCE — OF EDUCATION — of KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION. Not that observation, experiment and reason are wrong. But when used with rejection of revelation as the starting point, they have led to EVILS.

You, the reader, may still believe in that method. That is your right and privilege. The Eternal Creator has allowed all humanity to CHOOSE that wrong way, and, to their hurt they always have. They will not BELIEVE that is the very CAUSE of all human sufferings and ills today.

They REJECT the CAUSE that will produce peace, happiness, economic prosperity, the truly invigorating, enjoyable ABUNDANT life — and with it the GIFT of LIFE ETERNAL.

But let me make one thing plain. Science in general has ignored (and rejected) revelation, because scientists have not understood *what* it is. They have not understood because religion has not understood. The Book we call the Holy Bible is, simply, the Maker's INSTRUCTION BOOK for mankind.

Any maker of a machine or mechanical device sends along with his product an instruction manual. The Maker of humankind sent along His Instruction Manual. It does not contain the sum total of knowledge. It does contain that basic, foundation of knowledge not discernible otherwise by man. Our Maker intended man to utilize the functions He made possible for man, of observation, exploration, experiment and reason. But these were intended to be used

to *build on* the FOUNDATION OF REVEALED TRUE KNOWLEDGE. Revelation is only the FOUNDATION — the starting point — the approach.

Virtually all error has come from building on a false premise or hypothesis, carelessly assumed and taken for granted without proof. In other words, man has rejected revelation as his basic starting hypothesis, and substituted a false one unquestioned and unproved. And when the trunk of the tree is chopped down, all the branches topple with it.

Why has the increase of knowledge paralleled the increase of problems, troubles, evils in a SICK society? The rational and unprejudiced reader should grasp the answer by now. The true FOUNDATION of knowledge starts with the "GIVE" way of life. Man has built a civilization based on self-centered "GET" — the way of competition, vanity, strife, violence, hatred.

A Better Way

Is it only the Ford Motor Company that can find "a BETTER IDEA" — a better WAY — and that, in producing a mechanical machine?

Forty-four years ago I saw the practicality of a BETTER WAY. I forsook the way of self-centeredness — of vanity, lust, greed, jealousy, envy, resentment, hatred and violence. I accepted and embarked on the God-centered way. And I think I am the most blest man on earth today. I know several who disagree — they think they are the most blest. Funny — or is it? It seems that everyone who turns off that self-centered way and onto the God-centered way feels precisely the same way. And I certainly won't dispute any of them.

For 23½ years Ambassador College students and faculties have *proved* the practicality and effectiveness of this way. Visitors see happy faces that radiate smiles. There is no dissent, no protest, no violence, no hippie-type students. Thousands, all over the world, join every year in this BETTER IDEA — in this more practical, more abundant WAY OF LIFE.

We can't CURE all the world's ills overnight. But, a pretty good START has been made, by rejecting the CAUSE of all the evils, and applying the CAUSE of

all the GOOD. And happy thousands continue MULTIPLYING, every year.

There is, not too far ahead, a happy, peaceful, NEW World Tomorrow!

We'll continue to spread the true knowledge and close the gaps, till the reality arrives! □

"...let Tommy die?"

(Continued from page 38)

KNEW we would lose our wonderful home (the Garden), and that our lives would be filled with work and sweat (Gen. 3:19), and that our children would eventually record the first murder (Gen. 4:8). You could have REMOVED these consequences of sin; you could have PREVENTED Cain from killing his own brother; you could have made life EASY for us, with no bad crops, no bad years, no sickness, no heartaches, no anxieties and worries."

And God could answer: "No, Adam YOU could have PREVENTED all these consequences of sin! Remember, I TOLD YOU NOT TO BRING THESE THINGS UPON YOU. I told you you would surely DIE, that your mortal, human body would be subject to DEATH (the Bible states that the wages of sin is DEATH — Rom. 6:23) if you disobeyed my commands. I ALLOWED you free choice, but I COMMANDED YOU TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE. But I wanted YOU to be the one to MAKE THE DECISION!"

God COULD answer that His great LOVE for Adam, His desire to see a human being rise higher and higher toward the very God plane through building right CHARACTER, was the reason why God LEFT THE CHOICE TO ADAM.

Free Choice

Notice what God said to our fore-fathers. "See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil" (Deuteronomy 30:15).

God places before each of us a choice.

We may choose to obey the laws of good eating, exercise, sleep, and clean thinking, and we will be AUTOMATICALLY BLESSED because of the laws which God has set in MOTION. And we may choose to BREAK those laws, ignore