

An aerial photograph of a large campus, likely a university or religious institution, featuring numerous buildings, parking lots, and green spaces. The campus is situated in a rural area with surrounding fields and a body of water visible on the right side. The title 'The Good News' is overlaid on the top left of the image.

The Good News

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You Can Have *LIVING FAITH!*

How can you know God is intervening to help you? What should you be looking for? How can you do your part? Here are answers to these questions of daily need and eternal import.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

THE OTHER day a young man came out to the college to see me. He had written two or three times asking me to pray for healing of an affliction caused by an accident, and each time I had prayed for him and sent him an anointed cloth, according to the example set by the Apostle Paul (Acts 19).

"I came to see you," he said, "to ask you to pray for me again. I simply can't understand why I wasn't healed."

"Oh, weren't you healed?" I asked. "How do you know you weren't?"

"Why, I still have this nervousness. I still FEEL it."

"Is that how you KNOW?" I asked.

"Of course," he replied.

Well, there was his trouble.

Priceless Knowledge

What would it be worth to *you* if I could tell you exactly how you could always pray to God for every need, for help and deliverance from every trouble, and *always get the answer*? If I could show you a way to always KNOW you are going to actually get what you ask of God?

I can tell you that. I have found the way, myself. Of course, in some cases, like that of this young man, where I have interceded for others, and asked God to do something for them, they have failed to receive the answer—while, on the other hand, many others have received the answer I asked for them. But as of the present moment when I now write, there is not one thing I have had to rely upon God for,

and ask Him for in prayer, for myself and family or this wonderful Work of His which He has committed to me, that has not been answered.

My wife and I have had to depend upon God for just about everything. Once I had to ask God to send us a dime, and we had to have it immediately. Believe it or not, in less than two minutes God sent it to our house. At another time I had to ask God to send us \$35,000.00, by a certain date, for the Work—and He sent it. Once, more than twenty years ago, I remember, before retiring at night, asking God to remove some painful canker sores inside my mouth. When I awoke, they were gone. Once we had to ask God to heal my wife of four or five serious afflictions which had come upon her simultaneously—quinsy with lockjaw, blood poison from a rose-thorn, a dogbite, and two serious internal ailments. Her condition was so critical doctors did not expect her to live another twenty-four hours. She was completely healed of all these things *instantly!* When our youngest son was two years and four months he still could not talk. As a result of a fall, something obstructed his speech. When we became sure of the fact of the affliction, we asked God to heal him and let him talk, and the very next day he was beginning to talk, and in a week he was speaking whole sentences like any boy his age.

God Answers Every Need

I have had to ask God to deliver us, and His Work, from enemies. I have

asked Him for UNDERSTANDING of His will, and His Word. I have had to ask for wisdom where I had none, and for guidance. I have been at my wit's end in desperate trouble, and cried out to God for deliverance. God has answered, every time. Never once has there been a failure to get the answer.

On our return from Europe, nearly two years ago, we found ourselves in a full hurricane in the middle of the Atlantic. When it became known that we were in great danger—and no lifeboat could have been launched in those angry 65-foot waves—I went to my cabin and earnestly asked God to calm the storm. In two or three hours the sea was almost calm again.

You can get the same results—if you will be willing to learn what I have had to learn, and to do what God has shown me I have to do.

If money could buy you the absolute GUARANTEE that you would *always* get whatever you ask of God—ALWAYS receive the answer to your prayers, how much would this magic be worth? You'd be willing to pay a great deal for it, wouldn't you? Ah, but this is something far too precious to be purchased with money. The richest man on earth does not have enough money to buy it. Yet *you* can have it, if you'll pay the price of conforming to God's terms and conditions.

Another young man, almost like a son to me, could not understand why God refuses to heal him. He told me he had read, in our office, many letters from people who have been mi-

raculously healed of many ailments and diseases after I had prayed for them and just sent them anointed pieces of cloth. I had also prayed for this young man, at least three times or more. Yet he knew God had refused to heal *him*. He couldn't understand why—was much discouraged. And how did he know? Why, by the EVIDENCE—he could still FEEL the affliction, and that PROVED God had not healed him.

I had no difficulty at all in seeing at once why these two fine, earnest, young men were not healed.

Know God's Conditions

Before you ask God for anything, you must first know whether it is His will. He tells us His will, in the Bible. He has made us hundreds of definite PROMISES—and He absolutely GUARANTEES He will keep them! Among them He has promised to supply every NEED—not desire or want, but every NEED. He has promised to give us wisdom, to deliver us from every affliction, trouble, or temptation, to fight our enemies for us and deliver us from their power, to guide and direct us in making right and wise decisions. He has *promised* to heal us when we are sick.

Those are a few of the things we KNOW it is God's will to do for us—things for which we may ask, *and be sure we shall get the answer!*

But THERE ARE CONDITIONS!

It is like a contract, or an agreement. God *promises* to always do these things for us, *IF* we do just *two things* He demands of us! And an uncle of mine once impressed on me, so indelibly I shall never forget, that that little two-letter word "*IF*" is absolutely the biggest word in the English language. That great big little "*IF*" is the obstruction that stands between you and getting the answer from God!

First, you must OBEY. "What things soever you ask, we receive of Him *because we keep His Commandments, and do those things that are pleasing IN HIS SIGHT.*"

Second, you must BELIEVE, "According to your *faith* be it unto you."

Now these two young men are both sincere fellows who have surrendered to God, who seek to know His will, and to keep His commandments, and live HIS WAY, thru His power and strength. And both of them have sincerely SUPPOSED that they had FAITH.

But, like at least 99 out of every hundred earnest, surrendered Christians, they have not fully realized just what faith is, or how to exercise it.

The Bible definition of SIN is this: "Sin is the transgression of the law" (I John 3:4).

The Bible definition of FAITH is this: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the *evidence* of things *not seen*" (Heb. 11:1).

God PROMISES to heal you when you are sick. You follow His instruction, you call for the Elders of the church, they pray over you the prayer of faith, anointing you with oil, and God PROMISES that when this is done, "the prayer of faith *shall save the sick, and the LORD SHALL RAISE HIM UP*" (Jas. 5:14-15).

What Is Evidence?

Now these two young men confronted me with the fact God had not done as He had promised. How did they know—what evidence convinced them God had not done what He promised? Why, their EVIDENCE, in both cases, was that they could FEEL the pain, the nervousness, the weakness. They could *see* they were not healed. There was the EVIDENCE that God had not healed them.

But once again, what is FAITH? Faith is the EVIDENCE of healing that is NOT SEEN—or felt! It is impossible for God to lie. Impossible for God to break His promise. Do you believe that?

"Oh, yes, of course," you answer—or do you, now?

I know these two young men *thought* they had faith. As a matter of fact, at the time I prayed for them, undoubtedly they both believed. *At the time*, that is. Yes, they did have faith—*at the time!*

But what they did not realize about FAITH is that *faith must not waver*. It

must *abide*. It must remain constant—unwavering! It must ENDURE—it must CONTINUE! Thru James, God instructs us to ask "in *faith, nothing wavering*. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For *let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord!*"

Yes, these young men really did believe—at *the time!*

But they did not come to the real TEST of their faith until the devil presented *his* evidence, a few days later. When, after a few days, they could still FEEL and SEE they were not healed, then Satan was presenting *his* evidence to their minds! It was evidence they could FEEL and SEE! And at just that point these young men took their eyes off Jesus—off God's PROMISE—they looked at the MATERIAL, SENSUAL evidence, and right then and there, without realizing what was taking place in their minds, they WAVERED in their belief in God's promise. Instead of BELIEVING God's evidence, which is FAITH in what they certainly did not yet FEEL or SEE, they just simply could not doubt the material evidence of the human flesh and the senses of feel and sight! What they felt and saw therefore convinced them THEY WERE NOT HEALED!

God Determines the Time to Intervene

They began to ask "Why didn't God heal me?" and their faith was then gone. Yes, they wavered, and God says, "Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord."

So here is the lesson you must learn—the lesson of faith—if you would get answers to your prayers. First, search the Bible to see whether God has PROMISED to DO what you want to ask. If He has, then ask—but REMEMBER, *God nowhere promises WHEN, or HOW He will do it!* That's the thing to remember! Never forget it! God has not promised He will do it *instantly*, or when you expect, or how you expect. ALL He has promised is to DO IT! He does things in His own time. And sometimes, I have found, God is not in so great a
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first purge OUT the selfishness, the carnality—the *human nature*—and we must be imbued and inspired with the NATURE OF GOD!

In order to make this drastic *change*, God gives us His Holy Spirit—the Spirit of POWER, of LOVE, of a SOUND, BALANCED MIND (II Tim. 1:7). And as we yield to God, surrendering more FULLY to Him, He will give us MORE of that Holy Spirit—more of His divine attributes!

We will GROW in love, in JOY, in peace—even in patience. We will grow in humility, goodness, and FAITH! We will grow in exercising *self-CONTROL*!

There is NO EXCUSE! There is no reason for any true Christian—any servant of Jesus Christ—to bog down in *frustration or confusion*! Frustration and confusion are works of the flesh! They are works of DARKNESS!

God's Spirit is NOT the Spirit of *frustration* but the Spirit of FAITH!

If your life is TOTALLY yielded to God, you will not FEEL "frustrated," "baffled" by overwhelming problems, or "confused" by seemingly inexplicable troubles or trials!

Rather, you will KNOW that frustrations are due to seeking your own will and following HUMAN NATURE! You will know that GOD is not to blame—rather, your OWN HUMAN NATURE is responsible for your problems!

You will know that you need to draw CLOSE to God in prayer and earnest Bible study, so you can SEEK *God's will* in your life and not be deceived by your human nature! And, as you do, you will learn to distinguish between the WILL of GOD and the desires of the flesh!

Frustration will VANISH from your life! It will be REPLACED by the fruits of the Spirit of God—LOVE, JOY, PEACE! FAITH IN GOD!

No longer will troubles frustrate or confuse you! Rather, when you realize the purpose *behind* your trials, you will have cause for great JOY, knowing that God is working with YOU!

Are YOU Frustrated?

Put yourself through a spiritual examination! Are YOU personally *frus-*

trated? Does something "bug" you? Are you bitter or angry—do you find fault with a decision reached by God's ministers? Do certain things dissatisfy you? Are you DISPLEASED at the trials God has permitted to develop in your life?

EXAMINE YOURSELF! If you are frustrated, you need to deeply acknowledge that YOU have SINNED—you have been in the *wrong attitude*—and you need to REPENT!

If you find fault with the government of GOD, or the way God deals with you, you are *in the wrong* and God commands you to repent! This is not a light thing with God. It is not a trivial matter. It is *deadly serious*!

Anyone who has physical frustrations has spiritual problems as well. The two go hand-in-glove. One can be caused by the other. The number and size of

YOUR frustrations is a gauge of your spiritual temperature!

The Word of God commands, "*Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; PROVE your own selves.* Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be rebuked?" (II Cor. 13:5).

The Apostle Paul exhorted, "For if we would JUDGE OURSELVES, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are *chastened of the Lord*, that we should not be *condemned with the world*" (I Cor. 11:31-32).

You can avoid frustration if you heed these words! If you will constantly and faithfully EXAMINE yourself—the way you are going—you can avoid falling into the dangerous pitfalls that lurk ahead! You can walk safely, securely. You can WALK WITH GOD!

LIVING FAITH

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hurry as we. And God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform—not in the ways, nor at the time we expect.

It is sufficient for you that GOD HAS PROMISED! Take it to Him, claim His promise, ask Him to do what He has promised—and then leave it in His hands—RELY ON HIM—trust Him, serene and unshaken in the definite assurance it is now in GOD'S HANDS, and He HAS PROMISED, and He will attend to it, without fail.

He may perform what He has promised instantaneously. Or, He may not. He may TEST YOUR FAITH, permit Satan to tempt you with his physical, sensual evidence to see if you will doubt God's Word. If it is healing you have asked, and two or three days go by, and you do not yet see the answer, but rather still feel the pain or affliction, DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT! Jesus promised that the SIGN shall FOLLOW. It will, if you remain steadfast and unwavering in LEAVING IT IN GOD'S HANDS. Meet this TEST of faith

by disbelieving what you feel and see, and instead BELIEVING God's promise! God can't lie. Faith is merely believing that what God has promised He will do. Faith is your assurance of what you are still hoping for—your evidence of what is not yet visible—what you cannot yet feel.

Faith Not Physical

Always remember that appearances, circumstances, evidences of the physical senses, have absolutely NOTHING to do with the performance of a miracle by God. Several years ago every physical evidence literally shouted at us that there was absolutely NOTHING that could save the college and this Work of God. Nothing could have APPEARED more impossible. The amount of money we had to have was just too great. No such sums ever had come to us in so short a time. But I knew God had PROMISED to provide every need—had PROMISED He would not drop the Work He had begun—had PROMISED to deliver His servants out of every trouble—and I knew these promises of God were

stronger than all appearances, or all things seen, heard, or felt!

No matter how impossible it appeared, I knew God's PROMISES were stronger and mightier than appearances or circumstances. I knew that and believed it. I trusted in it, implicitly. I couldn't see HOW it was possible for God to do it—but I didn't need to see how. Others said, "I can't see how it's possible"—and quit believing—but not all others, for some believed as I did. Meanwhile, I did everything in my power to do my part. I was literally "on my toes," alert, tense, trying to overlook nothing—and all the while wondering whether God would use ANY of the lines of activity I was employing, or provide the need some altogether different way. Well, the way He did it was totally unexpected—BUT HE DID IT! That's all that matters, isn't it? I didn't do it, HE DID IT! He kept His promise—HE ALWAYS DOES!

In my personal experience, we have seen the answer come instantaneously, and we have had to endure the trial of faith, and be patient. While God *instantly* healed my wife in the instance mentioned above, and has done it also at other times; while He immediately sent that dime, there have been other times when some member of our family was healed only after we endured the test of faith, and where the supplying of financial need seemed long delayed. God often tries our patience. But He has *never* failed me, and He *never* will fail YOU—if you will obey, and can BELIEVE, unwavering!

If the answer seems delayed in coming, remember, "the *trying* of your faith worketh PATIENCE!" (Jas. 1:3). And the development of PATIENCE is one of the very purposes of your existence! So if God puts you to the test, and TRIES your faith, rejoice and praise Him for using this experience to create in you more enduring faith, greater PATIENCE—two very high points of holy CHARACTER! Instead of grumbling, doubting, see the loving hand of God in it, and be thankful!

If God has PROMISED, that's all you need! If God delays, HE HAS A REA-

SON! It's *only* a delay, not a refusal. So TRUST HIM! Keep on trusting Him. BE PATIENT! The answer is SURE!

Arise! from your bed of doubt, and WALK the walk of FAITH!
(To be continued)

Will YOU Be Deceived by ANTICHRIST?

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vention in world affairs to the person and the workings of Antichrist!

Christ is the One who is AGAINST IDOLS! Christ is the One who will show how perverted this world's "Christianity" has become—that it is a FALSE RELIGION! *Christ* is the Lord of the Old Testament whose day of worship is the seventh day, INSTEAD OF SUNDAY! CHRIST is the One who *gave* the Ten Commandments in their ORIGINAL FORM, and will restore them. CHRIST IS THE ONE WHO WILL RAISE THE DEAD AND REWARD HIS FOLLOWERS... HE IS GOD, AND THERE IS NONE LIKE HIM!

So we see here the diabolical plot hatched by this professed "Christian" leader. Here is the age-old attempt of Satan the Devil to arrogate to himself and to his deceived minions the OFFICE OF GOD; while he attributes the intervention of the True Christ in his returning glory to the PERSON AND ACTION OF ANTICHRIST!

This charges the office and work of the Holy Spirit as having its origin as a WORK OF THE DEVIL, AND CONSTITUTES UNPARDONABLE SIN!

These diabolical thoughts, ensconced in the fear-ridden minds of completely deceived human beings, WILL BE DIFFICULT TO DISLodge! You will need all the power God bestows on you as His born son to do the job He will give you to do.

Peace At Last!

Egypt is an *example* of all the nations who refuse to come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles, to recognize God as the Ruler of the earth. Then we see the last rebellion put down as those from the far corners of the earth up in Siberia, and in the provinces of China—the farthest spot on earth from

Jerusalem—will swoop down upon in a vain effort to take away the great riches that God has bestowed on His peace-loving people. A thousand years of peace and prosperity, health and happiness stretch beyond that time that cannot be imagined in your mind.

And think of it, brethren, YOU have been called to help God bring His peace to this earth! You are offered a sonship in the Kingdom of God to teach other people how to become God! By overcoming yourself daily. By getting close to God in prayer and Bible study. By learning how to live *yourself*. By setting a Christian example in overcoming the petty sins that weight you down.

As one last illustration of the reality of this fact please turn to Isaiah 19, and begin reading in Verse 16, "In that day shall Egypt be like unto women: and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the Lord of hosts, which he shaketh over it... In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: whom the Lord of hosts shall bless, saying, BLESSED BE EGYPT MY PEOPLE, AND ASSYRIA THE WORK OF MY HANDS, AND ISRAEL MINE INHERITANCE!" (Isa. 19:23-25.)

This is real, brethren, and you need to realize it!

THE REWARD OF THE RIGHTEOUS IS NOT ETERNAL RETIREMENT, BUT A REAL, DOWN-TO-EARTH, 24-HOUR-A-DAY JOB... EMPLOYMENT FOR ETERNITY, JOYFUL WORK!