

MARCH, 1968

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding



Our Awesome UNIVERSE

What our READERS SAY

Unfinished Revolution

"Thank you for the December PLAIN TRUTH. The article and pictures from Doctor Hoeh put me back to 1943 when we, in the Second World War, left Russia. It hasn't changed very much since then, according to the pictures. I was born and lived (or existed) there up to the age of 35. But I never looked back to "Egypt." I am just thankful to be able to take my children with me. Well, that's behind us, now we are looking forward."

Mrs. Anna F.,
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Christmas

"I am reading the December issue of *The* PLAIN TRUTH. The article about Christmas was very interesting. I had never really given any thought about it being according to scripture or not until I heard one of your programs about Christmas. Since then I have been surprised to learn what you said was true... *The* WORLD TOMORROW program has been very encouraging. We check the things we have been taught more closely and are shocked to find that so much that we have learned is not the way the Bible teaches."

Garland C.,
Springfield, Oregon

New Reader's Comment

"I read all of a friend's magazine, the December issue, and it certainly is remarkable. What an excellent insight into the goals of communism, the space race, and Britain's economic problem! What a remarkable answer to those believing in both God and evolution. What an inspiring article on success! That magazine is the best I've ever read. And I am just amazed and would be very pleased to have your magazine in my home."

David J.,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

• Many of our readers seem satisfied to look over someone else's shoulder — but if you want your own free, prepaid subscription — just ask!

"I am an Italian girl of twenty-two, who in her journey back from London to Rome, has had the chance of finding a copy of your magazine on the train. I have been in London studying for only seven months, and as you can see my English is not perfect. But I am lucky enough to understand this language very easily. So I started reading your magazine. I enjoyed it all during the journey! It was a lot of time that I had not found a publication full of such interesting things. I am sure that your magazine though giving me the opportunity of improving my English, it would help me to find a truth I have been looking so long and I am still looking for."

Marina B.,
Roma, Italy

Evolution

"I must confess that I did believe almost wholeheartedly in the evolutionary ideas drilled into me in school. It now seems almost ridiculous that I once accepted it without question. Thanks to your wonderful articles, I see how unscientific and atheistic the theory of evolution really is. Your last two articles especially, have been absolutely nothing less than brilliant."

E. H.,
Cornell University,
Ithaca, New York

Science Teacher Speaks

"I am a junior high science teacher and am very interested in your magazine called *The* PLAIN TRUTH. If it is possible, I wish you could put me on your mailing list. I found out about your magazine through my students using your articles for their current events each week."

Jerry J.,
Houston, Texas

Autobiography

"Please send me your free Volume I of the Autobiography of Herbert W.

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Personal from the Editor

JUST WHAT IS BACK of *The PLAIN TRUTH*, *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast, and Ambassador College with its three campuses in California, Texas, and England?

WHY do we have colleges? WHY do we broadcast (and now also *The WORLD TOMORROW* on TELEVISION)? WHY publish a magazine of more than a million copies circulation? WHY worldwide?

Just WHAT are our objectives, our goals, our purposes? As one sensational newspaper, attempting to discredit and smear, asked, "Just what are they up to?"

Those of us close to, or directly connected with this fast-expanding worldwide publishing, broadcasting, educational activity, customarily designate the multi-phased operation by the term "*the Work*."

Just WHAT, then, IS "*the Work*," and WHY?

I feel sure that many of our readers do not fully understand. Many, especially among our comparatively small but growing family of Co-Workers who voluntarily have desired to have a part in the support of the Work, themselves speak of the activity by that term, yet do not fully grasp just what is "*the Work*." One, not quite comprehending, wrote asking, "WHY do you operate colleges? WHY do you need new college buildings? Why don't you sell those college properties and put the money in the Work? Why not sell that experimental farm in Texas, and put the money in the Work?"

I think our readers should know just what IS "*the Work*," its PURPOSE, what is back of it, how it operates, how it is financed — just *why* we do things the way we do.

I shall try to make the answer PLAIN.

When we speak of "*the Work*" we mean God's Work. Very often we use the entire term, "God's Work," or, "the

Work of God." But more often we speak of it, simply, as "the Work."

So let me make it plain. There is a difference between man's work, and God's. God marked out, and gave us, six days of every week for our own work. He said: "Six days shalt thou labor, and do all *thy* work" (Ex. 20:9). We understand well enough what we mean by "our work," or "man's work." We mean his labor, job, business, profession, occupation, enterprise. GOD'S Work, then, is God's activity, enterprise or mission.

But we do NOT mean, as we use the term, God's great supernatural CREATIVE activity which He, alone, does by His own limitless creative power. We mean that activity or Great Commission which God purposes to accomplish *in the world, by and through human instruments* whom He calls and uses.

So *what*, then, IS that Work, and WHY? What's its PURPOSE? How did it start, and HOW does GOD carry it on through human instruments today?

Jesus came for the purpose of *starting* God's Work in the world.

To understand fully, we need to review, in brief, the FACTS of prehistory *that explain* the whole condition of the world today — its civilization, its governments, its problems. Actually, there is no such thing as "prehistory" so far as recordings of historians are concerned. Yet Biblical passages *reveal* occurrences prior to any recorded from human observation.

There is not space here for details. This surprising, eye-opening factual truth is made plain in the free article "Did God Create a DEVIL?" which you may have on request.

But in briefest summary, the Bible reveals the presence of the devil, named Satan, and of his origin as the former super archangel Lucifer, a topmost cherub, perfect as God created him. He

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Photo: California Institute of Technology and Carnegie Institute of Washington

OUR COVER

The ANDROMEDA NEBULA was first photographed by famed astronomer Edwin Hubble in 1924. Andromeda is a separate galaxy approximating the size of our own — the Milky Way galaxy.

Our cover, taken with the 48-inch Schmidt telescope, shows Andromeda's tilted position (in relation to earth) with its two satellite elliptical galaxies appearing as bright spots above and below center of central hub.

As viewed from telescopes on earth, Andromeda appears as a flat circular plate tilted on its axis some 15°. We view it nearly edge on.

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 1)

had been at the very throne of God, Headquarters of the Government of the entire vast universe. He had been trained in administration of GOD'S GOVERNMENT. Prior to the creation of man, he was placed on a throne in Eden, on this earth, as earth ruler to administer GOD'S government over angels which then populated the earth.

It is revealed in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 that he allowed vanity and greed and jealousy to fill his mind. He deliberately became an aggressor, influencing a third of the angels to follow him in rebellion against God's Government — to ascend, as a warring army, above earth's clouds to attack God on His throne, and to attempt to seize the government of the entire universe.

He desired to *replace* God as supreme Ruler. He was not satisfied to be God's ruling INSTRUMENT. He wanted to be IN PLACE OF God. He was not satisfied to rule *only the earth*. He set out to CAPTURE HEAVEN and occupy it.

Much of the details of this "*pre-history*" is revealed in various parts of the Bible, both Old and New Testaments. You'll get the intriguing details in the free article, "Did God Create a DEVIL?"

God is SUPREME RULER, *Head of the Government* over the limitless universe. His power is SUPREME. So Lucifer and his angels were cast back down to earth where God had placed them, now *disqualified* to administer GOD'S Government. Yet, until a successor was QUALIFIED and inducted into the office, Lucifer, his name changed to Satan, must remain in office, even though now an ADVERSARY to God's Government.

Thus the proud Lucifer, which name means "Morning Star," or "Bringer of Light," was changed to Satan, which means "adversary" or "rival" or "competitor." The super archangel became the devil. His angels became demons. They had become warped, perverted in

their thinking, their reasoning, their knowledge.

They had changed from GOD'S WAY of love, outgoing concern, desire to help, serve, share, to THE WAY of vanity, lust, greed, jealousy, envy, self-centeredness and hatred. From desire to GIVE, to lust to GET, to TAKE.

As a result of this supreme FALL of Satan and his demons, physical chaos happened to the earth. The word "was" in Genesis 1:2 is elsewhere translated as "became," and has that meaning. The original Hebrew words which Moses wrote, translated "waste and empty," are *tobu* and *bohü*, otherwise translated "chaotic and in confusion." In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. It was PERFECT. The angels shouted for joy (Job 38:1-7). God is not the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:33). But Satan is!

Then in six days God RENEWED the face of the earth (Psalm 104:30), causing the sun and moon to shine through, dividing land and sea, creating the present flora and fauna, and, lastly on the sixth day, creating MAN in the very form and shape of God. Not with mere animal brain and instinct, but with MIND and potential spiritual CHARACTER like GOD.

He created man of MATTER, with the *potential* of being begotten, and then BORN of SPIRIT composition, immortal, into the very family and Kingdom of GOD!

But now, UNDERSTAND THIS! *You never heard this before!*

God deliberately put within mortal material MAN the very spiritual character of Satan, as man's NATURE — *human nature*. That nature is merely an invisible PULL toward self-centeredness, vanity, lust, greed, jealousy, envy, hatred, rivalry — desire to GET rather than GIVE. It is the nature of HOSTILITY against AUTHORITY! God also put another PULL in man's human nature — inordinate desire of the FLESH — unrighteous desires of the five senses.

Angels were created with MIND power, with perfect KNOWLEDGE, and with free moral agency — right of free choice. But there was no PULL toward evil, such as exists in human nature. No evil nature to resist and fight, such

as man finds within himself. Angels are individually created beings of great knowledge, created holy and righteous, and with no PULL to sway them in the wrong direction. They KNOW the CAUSES of desired results, and the causes of evil results. If they, like Satan and the demons, CHOOSE the evil way, there are NO extenuating circumstances — there is NO justification — there is NO rectification of the evil RESULT they deliberately and without excuse choose to inflict on themselves.

With MAN it is different. Man was created IN THE IMAGE OF GOD, with the potential of being begotten and BORN of God as God's own CHILD, then having God's own DIVINE NATURE (II Peter 1:4), elevated to the GOD plane high above angels.

But GOD is responsible for the fact man has to resist HUMAN NATURE, and, being responsible, GOD has provided rectification for rebellious, sinning MAN. By giving His own Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the penalty of man's transgressions of GOD'S GOVERNMENT — (the penalty is DEATH) — in man's stead, God makes reconciliation available to all humans; and freely offers, then, His GIFT of eternal life.

Understand two things about human nature. The psychologists are utterly ignorant and without understanding in postulating that human nature is essentially GOOD! (1) Human nature DESIRES to BE good — but (2) it desires more to DO evil. Human nature resents being told it has done wrong — denies it — justifies it. Or blames the wrong on another!

It is in human nature for the human MIND to have an attitude of hostility to GOD'S GOVERNMENT. Even as Satan deliberately and without excuse chose rebellion to the Government of God, so man starts out with a natural attitude of hostility to God's Laws and to God's AUTHORITY over his life.

Man desires the GOOD RESULT of obedience to God's Laws. But he naturally tries to obtain that result while *breaking* God's Laws in a natural spirit of rebellion against divine rule — OR ANY RULE — over his life.

It is NATURAL for man to SIN — and

sin is defined (I John 3:4) as transgression of God's Law. God GOVERNS *by His Law*. Does that mean that man HAS TO SIN? That no man could prevent sinning? NOT AT ALL! Jesus Christ was born as a human, of a human mother—tempted in all points as we are, which means subjected to the *pulls* of human nature—YET WITHOUT SIN! Yet no other man ever did live without sin. It is NATURAL to sin—*natural* if we follow the inclinations and impulses and desires of human nature, to go THE WAY of Satan, *not* THE WAY of God. And ALL *have* sinned (Rom. 3:23).

So back, now, to the creation of man.

Adam was created with human nature. God created all things BY Jesus Christ (Eph. 3:9; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16). It was the *One* of the God Family who later became Jesus of Nazareth in human flesh, who was ADAM'S MAKER.

He completed the creation of the man and woman just before sunset on the sixth day of that week, for God counts the ending of a day at sunset.

Here, then, were an adult man and an adult woman, with the *pull* of human nature, and with human MINDS, as yet unfilled with knowledge. But their minds were capable of *receiving* knowledge, reasoning, choosing, and acting according to *will*.

At sunset that 6th day of the week, God ended His WORK which He had made (Gen. 2:1) but He did not end *creating*. He now created His Sabbath day BY REST. And on this first Sabbath day, God, in the Person of the WORD who later became Jesus, INSTRUCTED THE MAN AND WOMAN in GOD'S WAYS—in GOD'S GOVERNMENT—in the CAUSES of desired blessings and abundant well-being, as well as the CAUSES of curses, evils, pain and suffering, unhappiness, and DEATH.

But as soon as God's Sabbath was ended, and the Eternal One had finished instructing the man and woman in RIGHT WAYS, along came Satan, on the first day of the next week—the day the world today calls Sunday, and began instructing, first the woman, in SATAN'S RELIGION—saying that man is an IMMORTAL soul, and that God's

LAW—GOD'S GOVERNMENT—is WRONG—unfair—contrary to man's good—a yoke of bondage. He taught our first parents to reach out and TAKE—*not* to give, share, help, serve.

So, the woman reached out to TAKE. She rejected REVELATION. She performed the very first "scientific" experiment. Rejecting God's revealed knowledge, she used reason. She reasoned the forbidden tree was GOOD for food (Gen. 3:6). God had said it was BAD—poison—would result in DEATH (Gen. 2:17). Ever since, humanity has desired as the choicest of food delicacies that which God reveals is NOT good for food (Leviticus 11). It appealed to her vanity—"desired to make her WISE"—appealed to illegal desire of the sense of sight—"pleasant to the eyes"—what did she do? She experimented, to see the result for herself. SHE REACHED OUT AND TOOK that forbidden fruit. (God says nothing of its being an apple.)

Adam was NOT deceived, yet he allowed his wife to lead him, and he, too, obeyed Satan, DISOBEYED God.

Therefore Adam DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF to succeed Satan as Administrator of GOD'S GOVERNMENT over the earth.

Ever since, mankind has followed the deceptions of Satan and of human nature. Only two are mentioned as following God's ways before Noah—Abel and Enoch. Noah *alone* was obedient to God after some 1,900 years.

Next recorded as being righteous was Abraham. God chose Abraham's descendants, 430 years later, for GOD'S service. He made them His NATION, set up His GOVERNMENT over them, under Moses. But they were actuated by human nature. They rebelled. They demanded HUMAN government, with a human king like other God-rejecting nations (I Sam. 8:4-7), when GOD had been their King.

Then, finally, God sent His own begotten Son, JESUS the Christ. And men rejected Him and crucified Him. Jesus came to START *God's WORK* through humans, in this world.

But before beginning that MISSION, Jesus had to be subjected to THE TEST, to *prove* that He would QUALIFY to ADMINISTER THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD

TELEVISION

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

*KWHY—Los Angeles—Channel 22, 10 p.m. Mon., 7 p.m. Wed.

*KNTV—San Jose, Calif.—Channel 11, 1 p.m. Sun.

*KLTV—Tyler, Texas—Channel 7, 5 p.m. Mon., 10:30 p.m. Thurs.

*ZFB-TV—Hamilton, Bermuda—Channel 8, 5:30 p.m. Sun.

* Asterisk indicates new station or time change.

over all nations of the earth, and thus REPLACE SATAN as *earth's Ruler*.

As God had allowed Satan to test Adam, He now allowed him to test Jesus, after Jesus had fasted 40 days and nights. Under the most extreme conditions of temptation, Jesus resisted Satan, resisted the EXTREME PULLS of hunger and human nature, quoted and obeyed Scripture, obeyed THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.

He PROVED in this most titanic struggle ever staged between two Personages, that He was LOYAL and FAITHFUL to GOD'S GOVERNMENT, and that NOTHING could move Him to defy or disobey it.

Jesus *qualified* to become KING over GOD'S Government, administering God's Government over all nations, IN ONE SUPER WORLD GOVERNMENT. But Jesus was not, then, inducted into office.

First, God had a WORK to be done in the world, to PREPARE for world rule by GOD'S GOVERNMENT.

Jesus had qualified. He was now ready to *begin* His own *Personal* phase of THAT WORK.

Just what DID Jesus then do? *HOW* did He, in Person as a human, *start* that Work? What is the PURPOSE of that Work? *WHY* was it necessary? How did God carry it on through human instruments, after Christ's ascension to heaven? Are the many CHURCH denominations and organizations doing it? Is it *really* directed and motivated by GOD?

Now you have the background, without which neither TODAY'S WORLD CONDITIONS, nor God's WORK could be understood. Space does not permit the astonishing answer in this number. I shall continue it next issue.