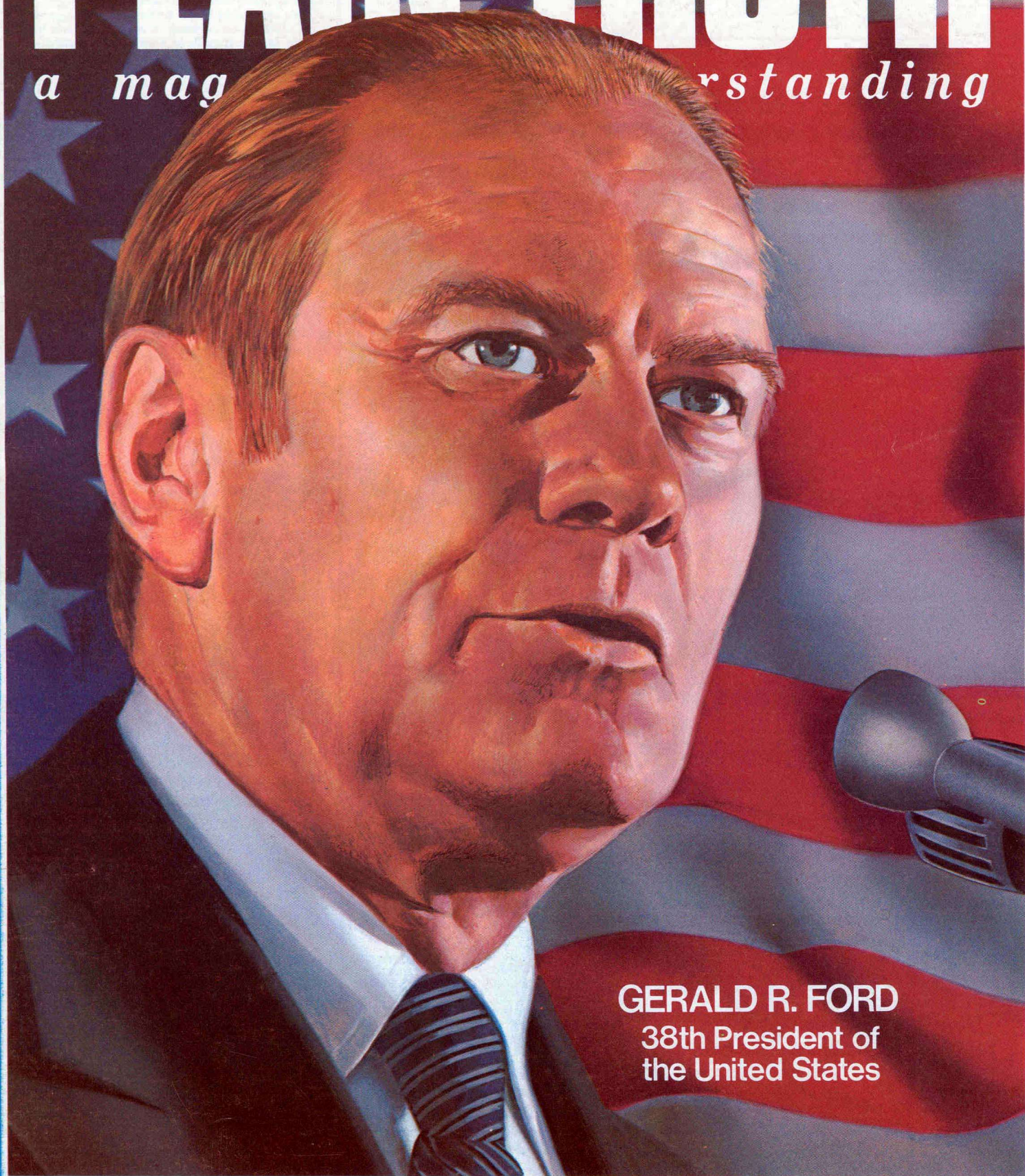


# PLAIN TRUTH

a mag *understanding*



**GERALD R. FORD**  
38th President of  
the United States



**Y**ES, NOW, it strikes HOME! I've been telling our readers how, like falling dominoes, governments of nations have been toppling all over the world, one after another.

Perhaps it didn't seem very significant to some of us in the United States! It did to me, because in government after government, I was at least indirectly involved, personally!

Now, for the first time in United States history, our own government has been affected — right to the very top. The 37th President of the United States, due to the vicissitudes of human frailty, has been forced to turn the power of government over to another — and he, a man not in office by vote of the people. He was selected by Mr. Nixon, who had also selected his predecessor, also driven from office due to unfitness.

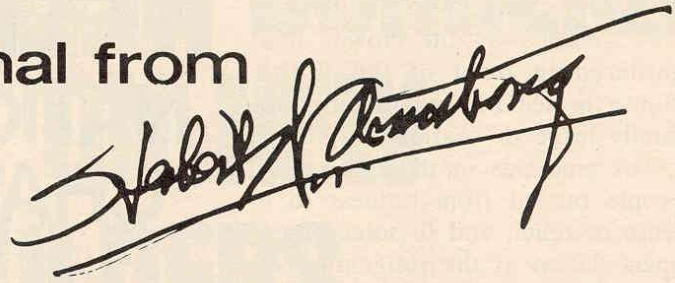
And now the United States will have a new vice-president chosen, not by vote of the people, but by the 38th President Gerald Ford, himself chosen by the man forced by his own misdeeds to resign.

For six years now, I have been privately discussing their problems and world conditions with heads of state all over the world — presidents, kings, emperors, prime ministers, others high in government — problems too weighty for human solution. If you had sat in a chair beside me in these many private discussions, you would realize that human problems, troubles and evils are beyond human ability to solve. But when you add human nature and its temptations and mistakes, you have a situation where we simply cannot put trust in human government.

But let me tell you, again, why these continuous topplings of governments strike home so thunderously to me.

I've written you how I was invited, in March of last year, to visit the king of Afghanistan and the emperor of Ethiopia. Before I could fit a visit to Afghanistan into my schedule, the government was over-

Personal from



---

## NOW— IT STRIKES HOME!

---



**PRESIDENT** Gerald R. Ford is sworn in by Chief Justice Warren Burger as the 38th President of the United States, August 9, 1974.

thrown and the king fled in exile. I did visit Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia in June of last year, and again this past January. But since then his country has been virtually overthrown by a military uprising. The emperor, however, is still on his throne. I had photographers in

Addis Ababa last month, taking preliminary television footage for a TV program and for my coming public appearance there, but had to call them out, because those officials we had contacted were in prison.

Then, you remember I was in  
*(Continued on page 26)*



Personal from



(Continued from page 1)

Santiago, Chile for a meeting with President Allende, August of last year. Three weeks later he was assassinated and the government overthrown in a military coup d'état. At that time I was in Lebanon, in the Arab world, and three weeks later the Arab-Israeli October war started. At that time I was in Bangkok, and three weeks later that government was overthrown by a massive 200,000 student uprising and revolt. The rector of the university who had attended my speech at a dinner in Bangkok was appointed by the king as the new prime minister. Again, this past May 21, this prime minister's cabinet resigned and walked out and the prime minister with them. I was in Bangkok when it happened. The king asked the prime minister to stay on; that same evening, and the next day, the most crucial day of his life, the prime minister gave me more than a half hour of his time in a personal private meeting.

There was also another major government crisis in Athens, Greece, last year. Now see what's been happening JUST LATELY!

July 24, the Greek military government QUIT, asking the political civilian government to come back. When the military regime overthrew the Greek government in 1967, I was in Athens that same day.

July 16 a military coup d'état overthrew the government of Cyprus and drove out Archbishop Makarios, the president. The Turks started a war, landing troops and paratroops on Cyprus. U.N. and United States pressure brought a "cease fire" which, as usual, did not cease immediately.

There was the recent overthrow of the government of Portugal. In Japan, Prime Minister Tanaka, with whom I have had three private

meetings, just barely avoided seeing his government toppled. There was the Willy Brandt debacle in West Germany, and a new government in France. There was the recent ousting of the Conservative government in Britain. And on and on the overthrowing of governments goes.

Then July 24, the Supreme Court of the United States issued its unanimous decision that President Nixon must surrender another 64 White House tapes. That decision, in my judgment, is what toppled Mr. Nixon from power. Among *those* tapes, undoubtedly, was the real evidence Mr. Nixon was hoping would never be seen. This, undoubtedly, was the evidence that would have made certain his impeachment by the House of Representatives and his conviction by the Senate.

On Monday, August 5, President Nixon made the public statement of guilt that made inevitable his release of the reins of power.

Of course when a government falls, it is immediately replaced, and another takes over. But when governments topple like dominoes, it ought to soberly WARN US that things are wrong on earth — that, truly, we are now in the end-time of this present world and its civilization, so filled with evils.

I would like to ask our readers, as did our new President Ford in his acceptance speech, that you pray earnestly for the new President. I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

And, as Mr. Ford also asked, I ask our readers to pray for ex-President Nixon and his family. They have suffered beyond what you know.

I should like to say here that, in my discussions with heads of state and high government officials around the world, the subjects of Watergate and President Nixon do occasionally come up. On the Watergate matter, I usually sidestep

it as an internal, domestic problem within the United States. But I have found that Mr. Nixon has been highly respected in most countries as a President who did an outstanding job working for world peace. Certainly I have always tried to uphold the United States and put our country in the most favorable possible light in the eyes of other governments. That very effort was largely responsible for my receiving from the emperor and government of Japan the decoration of the highest honor ever conferred by them on a non-official alien.

This fall of the Nixon administration ought to sober us — ought to strike home to our people in the United States, and all the world as well, that the entire world's civilization is FALLING APART AT THE SEAMS!

There has been, of course, the tendency to ignore or make light of sobering biblical prophecies picturing this very world plight, and, more important, revealing the CAUSE — and the CURE! That is a very foolish and foolhardy tendency.

The handwriting is on the wall. The wise will recognize it.

Nations are toppling. Crime is rampant and escalating worldwide. Families and home life are crumbling — and a solid family structure is the basis of any stable society. Divorces and broken families are on a most alarming increase. Morals are in the cesspool. Nudity and pornography are not only being tolerated, but also gaining acceptance. Permissiveness reigns among juveniles. Even nature is angry — droughts, floods, tornados rampage. Famine spreads alarmingly. The poor get poorer, the hungry hungrier, and starvation significantly increases. Violence fills the earth as in the days of Noah.

*There is of necessity a cause!*

That CAUSE is the MISSING DIMENSION IN KNOWLEDGE! Our Creator revealed himself and the needed basic knowledge to our first parents. They, and humanity ever since, rejected that basic knowledge.



They rejected the knowledge of WHAT we are, knowledge of WHY we are — the PURPOSE for which the human race was put on this earth — the knowledge of man's transcendent potential and PURPOSE, the knowledge of the WAY to that purpose, and the knowledge of the WAY to PEACE, universal plenty, happiness, abundant well-being.

This is knowledge science has never discovered — never can.

It is knowledge all religions have FAILED to reveal.

It is knowledge hidden from the institutions of higher learning.

It is knowledge I am revealing to those in the high places of governments — knowledge outside the realm of science and religion — knowledge that is true.

This is the END TIME — the end of this AGE.

It is the signal, for those whose eyes are willing to see, of the imminent direct and forceful intervention in world affairs by the all-powerful Creator God! It has become evident to those of sound mind that the world's only HOPE lies in a RIGHT universal WORLD GOVERNMENT over all nations. But not the government of man. Six thousand years have demonstrated man's inability, with human nature, to rule or achieve world peace.

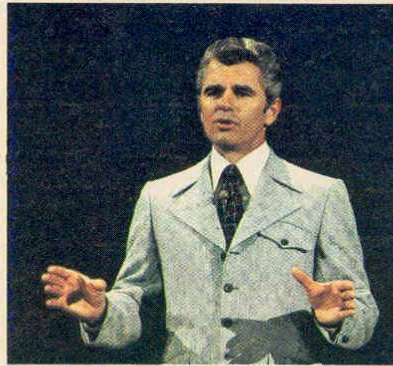
It isn't necessary that you believe it. It won't require your vote. God is about to do it to us — to FORCE humanity, if necessary, to be happy, to have peace, and universal abundant well-being.

The ANSWER, believe it or not — I'm not asking, I'm *telling* you — on supreme AUTHORITY — is the government of the living God!

SOON!

"As I live, saith the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you. . . . And ye shall *know* that I am the Lord, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings. . . . saith the Lord God." □

## Garner Ted Armstrong



invites you to attend  
**Personal  
Appearance  
Programs**

### Proclaiming Hope for a Better World Tomorrow

You are invited to *personally* hear Garner Ted Armstrong or one of his associates explain the meaning of today's chaotic world conditions and the *way* to happiness and world peace.

They will be appearing in more than 40 cities in 1974. There is no admission charge. Watch for one of these unique appearances near you.

#### COMING APPEARANCES:

Victoria, British Columbia  
August 24-25, Dean Wilson

Toronto, Ontario  
Sept. 5-6, Leslie McCullough

Paris, France  
October 11-12, Dibar Apartian

Martinique, West Indies  
October 18-19, Dibar Apartian

Nashville, Tennessee  
October 25, 26, 27  
Garner Ted Armstrong

Columbus, Ohio  
Nov. 1-2, Sherwin McMichael

Sponsored by  
*The Worldwide Church of God.*

## GAMBLING (Continued from page 14)

— a concept I don't believe in. . . ." he says.

Every activity should be measured by what it produces. Gambling has led to broken homes, drunkenness, theft and even murder. The mantle of legality seems certain to bring on an epidemic of gambling even bigger than we see today. If the past is any example, an increase is coming in the miseries now plaguing millions who "just want to get even" and who follow the dream of the "big one" forever.

#### Employing a Wrong Principle

Talk to the average person and he will readily admit that you do not get something for nothing. Numerous books have been written by successful people telling of the need for working your way up, the satisfaction it brings, etc. These are opposite principles to those of gambling.

The biblical injunction is to be industrious and enjoy the results of your work. The easy come, easy go principle is wrong: "Wealth hastily gotten will dwindle, but he who gathers little by little will increase it" (Proverbs 13:11, RSV). *The Living Bible* paraphrases this verse in an interesting way: "Wealth from gambling quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows." When you have worked hard to achieve something, you take better care of it. Money that you have had to earn by diligence will not be thought of lightly. "He who tills his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows worthless pursuits will have plenty of poverty" (Proverbs 28:19, RSV).

The apostle Paul admonishes his readers to work at an honest profession so as to be able to help those in need. It's time to reject the "something for nothing" philosophy and accomplish honest work that will bring the results of "hitting it big" without bringing headaches tomorrow. □