

the
PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

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The other day our managing editor, Brian Knowles, who was in my office to go over some *Plain Truth* copy for future articles, asked: "Would you mind if I gave you an idea or two which I thought our readers might enjoy in one of your 'Personal' articles?"

"Shoot!" I said. "I'm listening." I'm always looking for new IDEAS. Maybe you didn't know I was once the "idea man" for the country's largest trade journal—traveling constantly over the eastern two-thirds of the United States—just looking for IDEAS that could be worked into articles for the magazine. That was in 1913 and 1914.

"Well, here's a typed sheet full of suggestions," he laughed, handing the sheet to me.

"How the world has changed in your lifetime" was one of them. I, too, thought you might like to read that.

But you won't believe it! Just in my short lifetime of 85 years, the CHANGE in this world—and how it has changed our lives—is almost unbelievable.

But that, as they say, is only the tip of the iceberg! *Nearly all* the change—or "advancement," as we like to call it—since Adam and Eve has taken place since the birth of my maternal great-grandfather Elon Hole, whom I well remember. And more than *half* of all the world's "advancement" since Adam has been made *in my lifetime*.

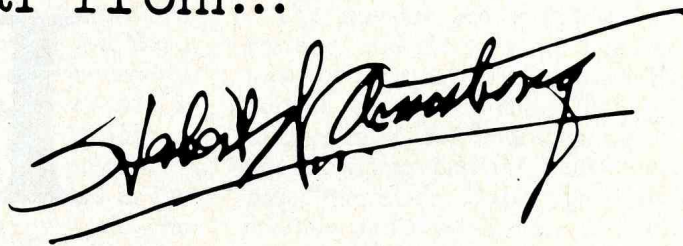
Up until my generation, there was practically no transportation—people weren't going anywhere. People in England knew little or nothing about Russians or Chinese. There was virtually no communication even between towns—let alone between countries.

How did the prophet Daniel know that until the last days (we are NOW in the LAST DAYS) people would not be able to understand what he wrote then? He said: "...shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the *time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased*" (Dan. 12:4).

Daniel couldn't write, "Many shall drive fast cars and fly to and fro around the world from country to country at 600 miles per hour."

The railroads were invented and

Personal from...



You Won't Believe It! Where This World Has Come Just in My Own Lifetime

first used not long before I was born. The "dinkey" streetcars were just replacing the horse-drawn cars when I was a boy. When I was eleven, we still called the first crude automobiles "horseless carriages," and Orville Wright flew the first plane about a city block. There were no paved roads between towns and cities. Only the main downtown streets were paved. And some towns of 5,000 people or larger had no street paving even downtown.

Radio and television? Send sounds and pictures instantaneously through the air? "Are you CRAZY?" one would have asked had you suggested such a thing.

Beginning at eighteen years of age I was an advertising man—but we didn't sell "commercials." We sold "space" in newspapers and magazines. Radio and television had not come yet. And come to think about it, even the printing press was invented only about 500 years ago.

Most of the great leaps forward in knowledge, most inventions, and most of what we call "progress" came *since the printing press*. Before

that books had to be written *by hand*—with pen and ink—one at a time. There weren't many books. People couldn't afford them. There was no diffusion of knowledge until about 100 years after the invention of the printing press. It took about that long to produce more presses, to write and print more books, to train teachers and organize schools. Of course, there were schools on the ancient Platonic model.

Only a FEW—mostly the rich—were "educated"—and they by private tutors. Until knowledge began to spread—until IDEAS could be disseminated and imparted *in print* to the many instead of the very few—how *could* our kind of civilization advance?

When I was a boy, only a small percentage got as far as graduation from high school. And less than five percent of high school graduates went on to college. Today nearly all graduate from high school in the United States, and in California, 95 percent of high school grads apply for college or university admission.

We know little of the first ap-
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HOW FAR CAN YOU GET FROM BEING

“A Prophet of Doom”?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

In the April 11th issue of People, a weekly magazine produced by the publishers of Time, appeared a feature story on my son Garner Ted Armstrong. It was headlined “Prophet of Doom Armstrong.” Listen now to what Garner Ted and I proclaim worldwide, and tell me, how could we possibly proclaim a message farther from one of doom?

How far away from a “gospel of doom” could one possibly get? Sure, we proclaim what the Bible says. That includes the prophecies—and about a third of the Bible is prophecy. But did you know that the doom foretold in the Bible is the doom of all *this world’s* evils? But, more importantly, beyond that, the Bible tells of world peace, universal happiness, joy, and abundance for all. That’s the happy WORLD TOMORROW that we do proclaim. And we announce that it’s coming in this very present generation!

But we go much further—because the BIBLE does. It portrays a fantastic, seemingly incredible human potential *beyond that*—greater, more wonderful, more awesome than your mind probably can conceive.

Read here the essence of what we proclaim to this world—to kings, emperors, presidents, prime ministers; to those at and near the top of governments, the professions, business and industry; to those at the grass roots of the world’s nations—

and tell me how we could possibly get farther away from what *People* magazine headlined “Prophet of Doom Armstrong.”

There may be “prophets of doom.” If so, we are not among them. And after that slanted and misleading headline, I think you deserve to know precisely what message of hope, of assurance, of happiness and peace we do proclaim to the millions worldwide.

What Really Is Prophesied?

Of course, if you mean the DOOM of evil; if you mean the DOOM of all this world’s sufferings, unhappiness, poverty, sickness, troubles and wars, you may be sure the Bible foretells the DOOM of those evils.

But if you mean the DOOM of MANKIND, then you’d better blow the dust off your Bible, and see with your own eyes what it really *does* say about the actual and real potential of man.

Just how far from doom can you get? Well, it’s probably a lot farther

than your mind can grasp—but that’s what Garner Ted Armstrong and I proclaim to the world: the most fantastic, incredible extreme opposite of what an uninformed and careless press assumes and accuses.

The Bible foretells—prophecies—the most fantastically wonderful potential for man that the human mind can conceive and the real purpose for which man was placed on this earth. In this article I’ll tell you what it is—and I won’t pull any punches.

But did you ever stop to wonder *why* humanity was put here on earth? Was there *purpose*? Purpose with a fantastic, awesome *potential*? Or did we simply HAPPEN? Did we evolve from a single-celled amoeba, without purpose, without intelligence, without planning; did we just happen by blind, purposeless *chance*? Was the human mind developed by resident unintelligent forces less powerful than the mind they developed?

We do not believe that. Nor do

we believe we were put here on earth for the purpose of being obliterated in a final *doom* of human-kind.

What, then, DO we believe? Nothing is so important for you to read and KNOW! What DO we proclaim—yes, even to kings, emperors, presidents, prime ministers; to educators, men at the top of their professions, heads of commerce and industry; to common people all around the world?

This we know! We live in an unhappy world. Over 50 percent of mankind is illiterate or nearly so. Over 50 percent of all humans are living in or close to abject poverty, filth and squalor. We live in a world filled with violence. All is competition, strife, trouble.

WHY?

We recognize the conditions around us. The heads of state, the great and the near-great I meet around the world, know of the problems—problems greater than human minds can solve. They listen to me—and they do not listen to a forecast of *doom*, but of *hope* and of *assurance* more certain than either life or death.

It is all outlined in biblical prophecy—the causes of today's world conditions and where we are going from here! And it is NOT DOOM! Not for humanity!

But if we begin to learn what the Bible *does* reveal—what the wonderful, almost incredible *human potential* really is—by starting with today's conditions, it is like tuning in on a movie or entering a theater about ten or fifteen minutes before the end of a one-and-a-half or two-hour show. Not knowing what went before—what led up to the present conditions—one is only confused, bewildered.

A Jigsaw Puzzle

The human body has a skeletal structure that supports the entire body—yet we don't see it. It's covered up. Every modern skyscraper has a skeletal framework of steel and concrete, erected first, but covered completely in the finished structure.

In a sense not many realize, *the Bible is like that*. The real basic structure that holds it all together

has been overlooked, glossed over, or else deliberately rejected and left out of just about all religious teaching. It starts with prehistory and leads to the present. It reveals purposes, causes, beginnings—the MASTER PLAN—and the way it is going to *end*: in world peace, happiness, joy, universal abundance! But it is like a jigsaw puzzle which must be assembled piece by biblical piece (“here a little, there a little” [Isa. 28:13]).

That is the “doom” we proclaim—the doom of all that stands in the way of that final happy world—the doom of all misery, suffering, unhappiness.

But science has never discovered this basic truth. Religion has glossed over and failed to reveal it, though it's plain in the Bible. Education ignores it—because education doesn't know it. Education is in ignorance of it.

Jesus Christ came and proclaimed it—announced it (it is yet to come)—but, of the thousands upon thousands who heard His gospel message, only 120 believed it (Acts 1:15). And since before A.D. 70, it has been entirely *suppressed* (Gal. 1:6-7). God told it in person to Adam and Eve (Genesis 2), but they didn't believe what their Creator told them!

Would you believe it, even though God Almighty or Jesus Christ in person came and announced it today? *Would you?*

In the Beginning

I'll give you the briefest summary. You may believe it or not—but it is NOT a forecast of DOOM for mankind, but the very farthest you can possibly get from that. And believe it or not, it is TRUE!

In briefest synopsis, here is what religion has glossed over; science has never discovered; education, in ignorance, fails to teach.

The real beginning of the Bible is NOT Genesis 1:1, but in the New Testament, John 1:1-4.

In the beginning existed two all-knowing, all-powerful, all-perfect Superbeings. Each possessed supreme MIND and CREATIVE power. One is called “the WORD.” The other, superior only in authority, is called “GOD.” But the Word, it states, was also GOD—though a sep-

arate personage. Garner Ted is also Armstrong, though a different and separate person from me.

There existed at first *only* these two Superbeings—no matter, no other beings or life forms, no physical universe.

The *supreme accomplishment* is *creating*, and the supreme achievement of creation is righteous, holy, perfect character. They thought; they planned—for how long we do not know, ages perhaps. Being composed themselves of spirit, their first creative undertaking was to create *angels*—also spirit beings, somewhat like, yet somewhat lesser, than themselves. The Creator, of necessity, automatically remains greater than what He creates.

But the big problem, and therefore the chief objective, was the creation of righteous, holy and perfect *character* within these angel beings. And this, these two supreme Beings knew, could not be done automatically and instantaneously by fiat—else the created beings would be nothing more than mindless automats, like man-made machines that must perform as their maker designed and *set them* to perform, with no mind, reasoning power, thought or decision-making power of their own.

Therefore this character (whether good or evil) must be developed in separate entities possessing thought processes and minds able to think, to know, to reason, to make independent conclusions and choices. And that risked development of *evil* character. Actually, this righteous, holy and perfect character must of necessity come *from* the original perfect Beings, yet as a result of the thinking, reasoning, knowing, and actual choice and desire of the recipients.

That process required *time*. God's thought and planning stage, prior to any actual creation, required time. Aeons of time could have gone by—perhaps hundreds, perhaps billions, of years.

Remember God was supreme in authority, yet He and the Word were in all other respects equal. In mind they were in complete harmony and agreement. God created all things by and through the Word,

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Do you know how to live fully—abundantly? In this article you will learn how you may taste the joys of real abundant living.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

THIS IS THE LIFE!

Real Abundant Living

Why do religious people often seem to feel that their religious life must be one of giving up all the fun and the enjoyment of living—that in order to please God, they must endure a life of morbid gloom?

Sin to many of these people consists of things that many other people consider to be most desirable. To them, sin is going contrary to a number of “don’ts.” “Don’t smoke.” “Don’t dance.” “Don’t play cards.” “Don’t go to the theater.” “Don’t ever touch a drop of alcoholic beverage.” “Don’t do this!” “Don’t do that!”

What’s Wrong With Religion?

A prominent lawyer’s wife once said to me, “I couldn’t ever become a Christian. Why, if I had to give up smoking, dancing, card playing, the theater, and all the pleasures of life, what would there be left to live for anyway?”

A world-famous philosopher, editor, and lecturer whom I knew—and

who also had no use for religion—said that he did not desire to be repressed or to live a life of painful penance. “I desire,” he said, “to be radiant, cheerful, friendly, and to meet people with a smile.”

Apparently he assumed that such a happy life could not be a religious life.

But strangely, none of these people **KNEW HOW TO LIVE.**

Very few have ever found or tasted the true abundant life.

Now the Creator, who gives you the breath that you breathe, does

not desire for you to live an empty, depressed, or an unhappy life. You never please the Eternal by giving up happiness or anything that is good for you.

God Almighty has never given you a single “don’t,” except those things that are going to harm you, tear you down, bring on unhappiness later. Oh, of course, some of these things give you a thrill, or a little kick out of life temporarily, but there is always a boomerang. They exact a great penalty later, and the price is too high. It isn’t good business.

God forbids those things that are bad for us, the things that are going to bring on unhappiness, and bring on a life of emptiness and gloom. But never does God Almighty forbid one single thing that is for your happiness, your welfare, your real well-being.

I’m reminded of an elderly man who was of the “shouting kind” of religion. He rose up one time in a church meeting and he shouted out a question to those assembled. He

EDITOR’S NOTE: *Mr. Armstrong’s series of articles on healing is being temporarily discontinued with this issue. It may resume at a later time. In this issue we are reprinting one of his earlier articles which has proven very popular over the years. We hope you enjoy “This is the Life!—Real Abundant Living.” It is available in reprint form.*

said, "Brethren, are you enjoying it, or are you only enduring it?"

Some people endure a solemn, stiff, and formal church service. And some, emotionally inclined, will go to the kind of church meeting where there is much shouting, and much emotional response, merely to have a good time during the meeting. The rest of the week religion doesn't seem to have a great part in their lives.

Others feel that if they become, as they call it, "saved," they must forever after live a gloomy life of giving up everything that they formerly enjoyed, and that their solemn, unhappy lives will somehow please their Creator. Of course, that kind of religion is more or less a superstition!

Christ Brought Abundant Living

Let's get this matter straight. The founder of the Christian religion, Jesus Christ, said that He came to this earth for a purpose. "I am come," said Jesus, "that they might have LIFE, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Jesus Christ came to bring us the "ABUNDANT LIFE." Do you know what that is?

God Almighty intended the real Christian life to be one of joy.

Do you know that if you have the real Christian life, if you have the Spirit of God within you, it's going to bring about this result? It's going to, as we say, "produce fruits." Now what kind of fruits will be produced in a real Christian life? Not the morbid, unhappy life. Here is the fruit. Here is what will emanate from a real Christian life. It is found in Galatians 5, beginning with verse 22. "The fruit of the Spirit"—this is the Spirit of God. This is the Holy Spirit that God imparts only to those who are truly converted. "The fruit of the Spirit is LOVE"—first of all is love—and the second is "JOY." Joy is happiness, brimful and running over.

That doesn't sound like an unhappy, empty, morbid life, does it? Here's love that will just flow, spontaneously, out from you!

The first "fruit of the Spirit of God" is LOVE. Love will mean that your face is beaming. It's going to

mean that you are really giving out. It's going to mean that you are radiant and happy. Love results in JOY, the second product of the Spirit of God. The third is "PEACE." Instead of going around quarreling, resentful, bitter, unhappy, and arguing—that's not peace, that's a kind of war—you'll be at peace in your mind and with your neighbor, and with your God!

And the next is, in the King James Authorized Version of the Bible, "longsuffering," which in more modern English is "PATIENCE." Impatience makes more people unhappy than almost anything else! If you can really learn the lesson of patience, you're learning one of the things that will make you happy, and make life worth living.

The next is "gentleness," and then "goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." That is the fruit of the Spirit. It will spontaneously spring forth from you. That, you will be emitting from yourself, radiating from yourself, all the time, if you are a real Christian.

But Most People Are Not Christians

You read in Romans 8:9 that unless you have received, from *without*, the Holy Spirit of God, you are not any of Christ's! You are not a Christian.

There are millions of people that profess Christianity that are not Christians according to God's definition. They're not Christians at all!

Of course, in a Christian life, there are troubles. There are going to be even persecutions. Jesus Christ was persecuted. He said, "If they have persecuted me, they will persecute you." That comes from without. That's something that comes from other people. That doesn't necessarily need to disturb you inwardly. And the person who does have this inward peace, the person who has this joy and this love and this patience—and who has this tolerance for other people—isn't going to be too much disturbed because other people don't agree, and perhaps persecute.

Yes, you're going to face problems and trials. Those things are good for us. They come upon us for

a purpose—to help us develop character. And a real Christian understands. It doesn't make him unhappy.

We All Have Trials

We are going to have troubles, problems and trials just like everybody else. They come to test us. They come to strengthen, to build our character. And that's the very purpose of our being—to make us like God. We, like Jesus Christ, can be born into the Kingdom of God. Notice I Peter 4:12-13: "Beloved [this is speaking to real Christians], think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you."

Some people, when some of these trials and these problems come, think nobody else has ever had anything come upon them like that. It's some strange thing that is peculiar to them. That is not true! Every other person on earth is having problems. Everyone is having troubles. They have things to meet and to overcome, solutions to work out, the same as you do. It's not strange. And so here is the teaching of God. He says: "But REJOICE," yes, rejoice inwardly in these things, "inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings."

Christ suffered, but Christ also said to His apostles: "My joy I leave with you." "I am come," He said, "that you might have life, and that you might have it more abundantly." He came to give us THE ABUNDANT LIFE. He had that kind of life. He was happy. He was filled with joy, even though at the same time He was a man of sorrows—and why?

Because He LOVED all human beings, and He saw the way they were going. He saw how they were destroying themselves, how they were bringing unhappiness and emptiness, fear and worry, poverty, sickness, disease and sufferings on themselves. He thereby shared their sufferings. He was a man of sorrows. He was sorrowful for them. But He was a man who was happy *inside*. He was setting us an example of the kind of life that we should live. So we read here: "Rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's suffer-

ings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

Why We Can Always Be Happy Inside

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled" (I Pet. 1:3).

There isn't one person in 10,000 professing Christians who really knows and understands what that incorruptible inheritance really is. It is far greater—filled with far more splendor and glory, and far more happiness—than you probably ever imagined. That is what is in store for you if you will surrender your life to God. It's up to you!

Peter continues, saying that we are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready "to be revealed at the last time." That means a time yet future, ahead of us just now, only a few years future in our time, at the second coming of Christ. Jesus Christ is coming back to this earth once again!

"Wherein," continues this scripture, "ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations" or trials and troubles that come upon us: "that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth"—because this trial of our faith is developing character that will never perish. It's more valuable than gold.

When a trouble comes upon you, instead of griping, grumbling, moaning, and being unhappy and miserable about it, realize that something is come upon you to try you, to develop character, to develop something real and genuine in you that you will carry with you for all eternity.

But when troubles come, do you rejoice in them? Do you realize that something is come that is more valuable to you than a great sum of gold? Or do you grumble and complain and wish that such things had never come?

Jesus Christ came so that our lives

should be *changed* from what they are. They are to be changed from drifting, going the easy way, acting according to impulse—which builds no character, which is putting nothing into us that we can take with us, nothing that is real, that is lasting and permanent—to the life that finds the true values. He gives us a life that does meet and overcome obstacles and temptations, a life that is just filled with happiness, brimful and running over with joy, the real abundant life. We realize what is being accomplished, where we're going. You have a goal if you are Christ's. You have an objective. You know where you're going; you see the progress you're making. It gives you a thrill of happiness.

Material Blessings, Too

And, incidentally, if your life is the right kind that God desires, which is for your good, if you seek first the Kingdom of God, which is your objective in life—or should be—and His righteousness, the right ways of life, He says that all these material things shall be added.

God, perhaps, may not add material things early in life. He may not add them right away. It may be some little time, but He will give you all the material goods and necessities that you really need, and even a great many of the luxuries, if your life pleases Him. Yes, you can have those things when you know how to possess them and how to use them.

What is an abundant life? What is abundance? Here is the definition: "possessing an overflowing fullness." It means great plenty—great plenty of life and real living. It means exuberance. It means abounding. That's the kind of life that Jesus Christ came to reveal that we could have.

Not very many people understand it. Not very many people understand what real Christianity is. Not very many professing Christians know what a real Christian life is. They're making themselves so unnecessarily unhappy.

The true Christian life, then, possesses an overflowing fullness of the things that are the fruits of the Spirit of God—an overflowing fullness of LOVE (it's *God's* love, it's a genuine,

spiritual love), a fullness of JOY, and of PEACE, and of *faith*, of *meekness*, of *temperance*. Does YOUR life possess those things? Have those things come into your life to fill you?

I know that you fall a great deal short of all of that. Everybody does. *We all* still fall short. But that's our goal! That is the life that we shall live in the Kingdom of God. That is the life that we should strive for, and with God's help, we can gradually grow more and more into it.

That is the challenging life we grow into, the life of God's Spirit within us—that is the HAPPY life, that is the JOYOUS life, and the ABUNDANT life.

The abundant life must be a life that has abundant RESOURCES. If you have these resources, they have to come from somewhere, because if you look within, you will find that they are not there! We have some resources within, but they fall far, far short from the kind of abundant living that Christ reveals and I'm telling you about. You don't have this kind of resources within and you can't obtain them from the "around."

Look around you. You can't obtain them from other people because they don't possess these things either.

God Above Is the Source

We can have abundant resources if we know where to go to obtain those resources. But material wealth does not give anyone those resources. It can only add to them.

You don't have them *within*. You can't get them from the *around*. But you can receive them only from the *above*, from God Almighty. God Almighty is the great Giver, not only of life, but of life more abundantly. God is the Giver of the great resources. He is the Almighty.

God Almighty has a great deal of power to give you, to impart into you. You can receive from Him abundant FAITH, the resource of POWER, faith to drive out fear and worry, faith to drive out discouragement before obstacles, to know that it's going to work out every problem; *power* where you are now weak, to give you love to cover up

and to drive out the bitterness and the resentment when other people do you wrong.

The LOVE of God will cover all of that and drive it out. God will give the resource of WISDOM that you now lack. God has all knowledge and all wisdom. God says if any man lacks wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally. And if you really believe, it *shall be given*, and *understanding* too! And then *zeal* and *energy*—real living, driving energy that is needed to do the work that you must accomplish.

It Can Happen to You, Too

I am going to mention something personal. To conduct this work I lead a very busy, driving life, and expend a great deal of energy. A physician friend of mine once asked me: "Mr. Armstrong, I don't see how you do it. Where do you get this energy? How do you keep going so long and under so many hours of strain and stress, and still have that driving energy?"

I told him, "It's one of the resources that I get from above."

Of course, I find it necessary to observe the laws of health and practice moderation in all things. It requires self-discipline.

You, too, can have these resources that make you happy. These are the things that we all need. These are the resources that can come only from God. And these are the resources that will produce those fruits of love, and joy, and of peace, and of patience.

Most lives today are empty, absolutely *empty!* They are filled with boredom, with frustrations and fears.

It is as you read in Isaiah 55:1: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

Everyone is really thirsty for the good things of life, for the happiness, the pleasant things and, to some extent, even exciting and thrilling things in life that we could and should have. But most lives seem empty. The well is dry, and they're thirsty.

"Wherefore do ye spend money

for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not?"

What do you drink in? Jesus said that if you drink of Him, "He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of *living water*"—not stagnant water, but living water, sparkling water. "*But this spake he of the Spirit*, which they that believe on him should receive"—the Holy Spirit of God.

The Holy Spirit of God is pictured as living water. It comes into you. You go to Christ to receive it. You don't bottle it up and put a cork on it. It flows out from you. The Holy Spirit flows out in love, peace and joy, radiating *from* you. There is no other way to find these resources. There is no other way to live a happy life.

The laws of God are a way of life. The Bible in its whole is a way of life. Jesus Christ said that we must live by every word of God. If you live by every word of God, you will live according to the way of life that God has laid down in His book, the Holy Bible. It is the way of life that is the *abundant* life. It's the way of the happy, the cheerful life that simply *radiates*. It radiates sunshine and happiness, and it's always happiness within. The well is not dry. It's filled!

Now here is what this kind of life will mean. It means that you will be RADIANT. It means that God's Spirit in you will radiate cheerfulness and smiles, friendliness toward others, love, sincerity, vigor, calm courage, goodwill, and interest in others, instead of being so self-conscious, with so much overinterest in your own self.

If the Spirit of God is *in* you, you will be plain and simple, you will put on no airs. There will be no posing, as most people do in the world. You will be natural, and not pretending. You will be honest and frank and unaffected, clean in mind and in body. You will be humble. There won't be *self-confidence*. There will be *faith in God*, instead.

You will be humble, but you will have THE FAITH and THE POWER OF GOD, whose power is unlimited. You will be strong through this faith of God. There will be no weakness,

but great strength. You will have wisdom, and you will have courage. You will have everything, every resource you need.

You will be ready always to say "I don't know," if so it be. You will be ready, always, to admit error when it is so proved, to confess wrong and to *change* to what is right, wherever you are wrong. You will be ready to accept correction and reproof, and to act upon it no matter how humiliating or painful. You will diligently study to learn the right way and to live it, and you will study the Bible to find it. You will face every obstacle that comes along—every difficulty, every problem and trouble—unafraid, in the full faith of God, looking to Him for wisdom and knowing that He will guide you and deliver you out of it.

The Attitude of a Christian

Here is the kind of attitude you will have. You will wish others to live their lives, too, up to their highest, their fullest, their best. You will be concerned for their welfare.

You'll try to help others every way you can, never to hurt or to injure. You will never meddle. You will never dictate, interfere, or give unwanted advice, or speak ill of, nor give gossip about others. Never will you go around griping, complaining and murmuring things that make you and others unhappy.

You will always be willing to help others by giving them a chance, and mainly you can help others by helping them to help themselves, by encouragement, by setting a good example, by thus inspiring and uplifting others, giving advice only when it's welcomed, and when they want it and are willing to open their minds to receive it.

You will hew to the line of the one supreme goal of life which should be to inherit the Kingdom of God, to be really born of God into the very family of God. You will be relentlessly pursuing this goal with zeal, with enthusiasm, with drive and with energy fired by godly ambition, with hope, with faith, living by every Word of God. The Bible will be the authority that you obey,

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Prophet of Doom

(Continued from page 3)

and this mighty Word is the personage who, much later, became Jesus Christ (John 1:14). They were of complete togetherness of mind, intent, and purpose. It was through the Word as actual Maker that God created the angels.

Supreme Purpose

Now the tremendous supremacy of mind possessed by these two great God-beings (for the Word was also God) was exhibited at this point. They had in mind a tremendous objective for the angels—a purpose supreme. This required the creation of a new substance, MATTER, which comprises the whole vast physical UNIVERSE.

So now we come to Genesis 1:1. Genesis originally was written by Moses, as God inspired him. The word translated into the English word "God" there was *Elohim* in the Hebrew in which Moses wrote it—a uniplural name such as "family," "church," or "team"—MORE than one person forming *one* single FAMILY; more than one person, but only *one* single CHURCH; more than one player, but forming *one* single TEAM. There is but ONE God, but God is composed of more than one person and includes the Word, who also was "God" (John 1:1).

So the uniplural GOD now created the entire physical universe—including this earth. The Hebrew words imply a perfect creation. The angels shouted for joy because it was to be their abode (Job 38:1-7).

Now in matter are many properties—gravity, force and energy, power, electricity—the properties known to physicists and chemists.

Just as the creation of angels was not completed all at once, but in two stages—the second being the development of character, whether good or evil—so with the earth and all planets. God purposed that the angels utilize the raw materials and the many properties within the matter of the earth to COMPLETE its creation—for God is the author of beauty, harmony, peace, joy, perfection, and glory.

God gave them this assignment,

this WORK to do, plus the development of their finished character—either good or evil, as *they* chose—to complete *their* creation. But their mission on earth required them to work together in peace, harmony, oneness of purpose.

That is to say, it necessitated the *government of God* over them. The government of God is a WAY OF LIFE. It is the way that develops righteous, holy, perfect character. It is the way that produces peace, harmony, happiness, joy, abundance. It is the way of LOVE. And love is always outgoing, never incoming. It is love to God in implicit *obedience*, adulation, worship, reliance, and faith—knowing God Himself is LOVE! It is the way of giving, serving, helping, sharing—always outgoing!

So God established on earth a throne to administer His government. On it, He placed a superarchangel named LUCIFER (Isa. 14:12-13). This great Lucifer (the name means "shining star of the dawn," or "bringer of light and truth") was perfect as created. Next to God, this superangel was the most powerful and most mighty being that was possible for God to create. He was *perfect* in all his ways until iniquity (lawlessness) was found of his own free choice in him (Ezek. 28:15).

Rebellion of the Angels

This Lucifer led his angels (one-third of all the angels—and it is possible that it was this same third of all that populated the earth under Lucifer) into SIN—transgression of the laws of God's government.

Thus the angels SINNED (II Pet. 2:4). They rebelled against God's way. They deliberately formed within themselves *evil character*. They turned from God's government to vanity, lust and greed; jealousy and envy; competition leading to strife, violence, war. They resented any rule over them. They wanted to choose *their own way*, not God's way.

Thus the government of God was rejected, removed from the earth!

The creation of the angels was now complete. They had formed evil character. The angels became *de-*
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Abundant Living

(Continued from page 13)

the authority that you look to for everything in your life.

You will be overcoming your own human nature and the world, resisting Satan, drawing nearer to God by constant daily Bible study and by prayer, and by occasional fasting and prayer. *That* is the Christian life. It's the *happy*, the *abundant life*.

It's yours for the asking. It's yours for the willingness to confess your sins to God and to repent of breaking His laws. It's yours if you're willing to do what He says. □

JOHNNY

(Continued from page 26)

Brian Sutton-Smith, a developmental psychologist and children's play authority, sees global implications in the games people play. "Survival of our civilization," he says, "may well depend on the leadership of more and more people with a more highly developed sense of play."

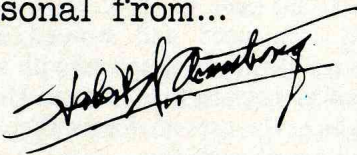
We can put competition into perspective if we remember that it's not what Johnny does to the ball that counts. Rather, it's what the ball does to Johnny. The game must never be allowed to become more important than the player. Winning is *not* the only thing.

Yes, Johnny does need to win. But he needs to win more than medals and trophies—more than doting and fawning on the part of coaches, parents, and peers. Johnny needs somehow to win self-confidence and self-respect. He deserves warm acceptance for having done his best, no matter what the scoreboard reads.

Every Johnny *must* become a winner. He can if he gets guidance and good examples from caring adults—adults who can teach him to lose without bitterness and to win with grace and compassion. □

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Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

proximate 1,900 years since the creation of man on earth. But here again, to UNDERSTAND what's going on in our lives today and what's *been* going on in this world, we need to keep in mind the background—prehistory—what CAUSED the Eternal to create MAN and put humankind on the earth. WHY has what we call “progress” so suddenly sped up—and what of the *climactic* CRISIS we are now heading into?

Once again, remember God created angels first—spirit beings less than God. They were to be used in FINISHING the creation of the planets throughout the entire universe. But first, even their own creation could not be completed until CHARACTER, either good or evil, had been developed in them. Character, I repeat, CANNOT be instantaneously CREATED by fiat. That required time, and their own reasoning and decision-making process.

For this purpose—the completion of the creation of this earth and the development and creation of their character—God placed over the angels HIS GOVERNMENT, with the supercherub Lucifer placed on the earthly throne to administer the government of God. Lucifer's jurisdiction was the whole earth. He led his angels into SINNING (II Pet. 2:4), rejecting God's government based on His law (the way I call “GIVE” to simplify it).

They turned to the opposite way of “GET,” which is vanity, lust and greed, envy and jealousy, competition leading to strife and violence, and resentment of God's authority. God's way of “GIVE” is giving to God obedience, adoration, worship, trust and faith, and a return of the LOVE which HE gives us.

Angelic sin brought physical destruction to Lucifer's entire jurisdiction—the whole earth—and I think it is indicated it brought waste and decay to the planets of the entire UNIVERSE, since that was the *potential* jurisdiction of Lucifer and the angels.

Of all spiritual beings, this left ONLY GOD (*Elohim*, ONE God consisting of “the Word,” who later became Christ, and GOD) to renew the face of the earth (Ps. 104:30) from the physical chaos and destruction caused by the angels' sin and to reform the earth for MAN.

On this renewed earth with sea life, bird life and animal life, God created MAN, male and female, out of MATTER from the ground.

God's transcendent AWESOME purpose was reproducing HIMSELF into, finally, billions of God-beings like Himself, with perfect, holy and righteous CHARACTER. It was the most ambitious, majestic, supreme project even the GREAT GOD could conceive and accomplish.

Angels, composed of spirit, could not be CHANGED, once their creation was completed with their own CHARACTER set in them.

MATTER, on the contrary, is *changeable and always* CHANGING. If man sinned, he could either: 1) be granted and voluntarily accept REPENTANCE—that is, CHANGE from the “GET” to the “GIVE” way—and completing a life of spiritual growth and character development, be made immortal; or, 2) be put to DEATH—become as though he had never been—if, on being offered forgiveness by God, he chose rebellion and the “GET” way.

First, God talked to Adam and Eve, the first and originally created humans. Through the reproductive process they were to become parents of all humanity. God freely offered them ETERNAL LIFE (the tree of life), if they chose the “GIVE” way—the GOVERNMENT OF GOD.

But then Lucifer—his name now changed to Satan—got to Adam through Eve. This first human pair then chose—without having experienced life under either of the two WAYS—the “GET” way of Satan. They rejected the government of God and flagrantly disobeyed God in TAKING of the forbidden fruit; *taking to themselves* the knowledge of good and evil; deciding for themselves what was right and what was wrong.

Adam cut himself and mankind off from God, and from contact with God, who alone has eternal life to give.

Anticipating this, God had designed a fail-safe 7,000-year master plan for working out His purpose here below. The first 6,000 years He sentenced man to carry out what Adam had demanded for the human race: to go its OWN WAY, cut off from God.

Satan had tempted and misled Adam into SIN. Satan, the former Lucifer who had the EARTH as his domain of government, must remain on his throne where GOD placed him UNTIL a successor has QUALIFIED to restore the government of God and been inducted into office.

So mankind started on his first 6,000 years with Satan actually ruling him, not directly and outwardly, but by deception. Man didn't know it, but he was subtly deceived into acknowledging Satan as the “god of this world” (II Cor. 4:4).

God had said to man, in effect: “Go, then, your own way. Form your own governments, your own religions, your own society and civilization. I will adopt a hands-off policy for the next 6,000 years — *except* that where it suits my purpose, I shall intervene in certain ways and on certain occasions. But YOU, mankind as a whole, are cut off from access to me.”

That is why Jesus said plainly, “NO MAN CAN COME TO ME, except the Father . . . draw him” (John 6:44). Except when God does intervene by *calling* one to repentance and salvation, NONE can come to Christ. WHY do not men understand that? Because they have accepted their own man-made religions!

I realize that the human mind is inclined to reason about WHY God does things *as He does*. Some might question: “WHY would God deliberately adopt a hands-off policy toward the whole human race (with the few exceptions where He has purposely intervened)?”

The answer, apparently, is that it was God's PURPOSE to PROVE, once and for all time, by 6,000 years of human EXPERIENCE that the “GET” way contrary to God's government is NOT good for those who follow it, and can result only in unhappiness, discontent, suffering, pain, discouragement, frustration, and utter complete FAILURE—just the OPPOSITE of

what man really WANTS. Too often, that which looks good may be very dangerous, harmful, UNDESIRABLE.

Apparently only a third of all the angels were involved in the SIN. Perhaps God wanted to prove His point to the other two-thirds of all the angels, as well as to mankind; to show what we shall become when changed into immortality in His Kingdom; to teach, by 6,000 years of EXPERIENCE, that only the holy, righteous and perfect CHARACTER of God based on His law and on His way of LOVE is really good for us. God had a reason for allowing man to so punish himself for 6,000 years under the delusion he was going the better way!

We know little of how man, CUT OFF from God (except for those God Himself called), developed prior to the Flood.

Man seems to have had *some* knowledge of God. Abel was called righteous by Christ; Enoch walked with God. Noah was perfect before God—yet it was God who called and chose Noah.

Cain built a city. Jabal headed a tribe that dwelt in tents and dealt in cattle. Jubal, his brother, was the father of those that handled the harp and organ. Tubal-cain was an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron. Cain was a farmer, and Abel a sheep-raiser. That's about all we know of the first approximately 1900 years (Gen. 4).

But God had no "soul-saving crusades" going.

Soon after the Flood, Nimrod rose up as the world's first despot, forming a government, and building a wall around his capital city. His mother-wife, Semiramis, according to profane history, founded the world's mother pagan religion—other pagan religions in ancient Egypt, Assyria, and even Greece and Rome, springing from it.

But for thousands of years humanity stumbled along with little change—little or no progress or development in material advancement—until, as I said, the printing press was invented.

Meanwhile, contrary to generally accepted religious belief, God made no effort to save the world—spiritually. Rather, the world had CUT ITSELF OFF completely from God.

Satan plied his cunning work of DECEPTION, and the WHOLE WORLD—ALL NATIONS—were deceived (Rev. 12:9).

Some 4,000 years after Adam, God sent Jesus Christ into such a world as a MESSENGER, bearing a message of hope and good news for mankind. It was the good news announcement that the government of God would, after all, be RESTORED by the KINGDOM OF GOD, which would be composed of the BORN family of God, ruling the whole world under His highest authority. Christ came with the good news that those called by God may be born of God and become God's own children, ultimately CHANGED from material to SPIRIT composition. But of MANY THOUSANDS who heard this message from Christ in person, only 120 believed what He said (Acts 1:15).

Jesus called and taught His twelve disciples His message of the coming Kingdom, and sent them out as apostles to ANNOUNCE to a world cut off from God the good news. But before A.D. 70 that message was SUPPRESSED by the fast-rising FALSE church and was never again proclaimed to the world until God started proclaiming it over radio through me, first in October 1933.

Finally, the world came to the development of technology and industry. Nearly all this modern development has come in the past 200 years, and far more than HALF of ALL the world's technology and scientific and industrial development has come in my lifetime!

I have lived through the machine age, the age of mechanized agriculture, the nuclear age, and the space age. I have seen the development of the railroad, the automobile, the gigantic transoceanic vessels, the airplane, radio, television, and a thousand and one kinds of labor-saving devices. Today millions of workers sit at machines, going through the same motions all day long. We have WONDERS in mechanical development—almost every kind of labor-saving device and every kind of entertainment and amusement. But, when we stop to think about it, IS IT GOOD FOR US?

Someday soon, we shall realize how BAD it all has been.

It has been the DAY OF MAN, subtly influenced and swayed by an invisible Satan endowed with superpower next to that of God Himself which He uses to foster the "GET" philosophy of life.

All this world's "progress" and development has been along the lines of SELF-CENTEREDNESS: "Get the best of the other fellow."

This present civilization is a colossal monument to VANITY, LUST and GREED; the spirit of competition—beating out the other fellow—which leads to destruction, violence, war and murder; jealousy and envy; resentment against real or imagined affronts; resentment against authority.

The DAY OF MAN has built a world of supreme UNHAPPINESS, DISCONTENT, NEEDLESS SUFFERING. It is a SICK world. It is a world of medical "science" that has doubled in medical and technical knowledge each of the past two decades, yet we have more sickness and disease than ever before. The medical establishment gets a few diseases, such as tuberculosis and smallpox, almost stamped out, only to be plagued with onslaughts of heart diseases, diabetes, cancer, and other ailments that puzzle and confound medical science.

Once again, as in the days of ancient Noah, we have come to a POPULATION EXPLOSION.

And for the first time, man has come in the past three decades to the development of means of MASS DESTRUCTION that can wipe all human life from this planet—probably in less than 24 hours—UNLESS there is an almighty great GOD who will step in and prevent human cosmocide and save humanity ALIVE!

Now, at last, we see how 6,000 years of HUMAN EXPERIENCE, of God-rejecting MAN going *his* own way, taking to HIMSELF the knowledge of what he SUPPOSES is good and what is evil, has PROVED that ONLY GOD'S WAY is GOOD—and *good for us!*

Also we see that man, left to HIMSELF, has finally become proof of the greatness of God because of the design of the human MIND. Man has been able to design and produce marvelous things OUT OF MATTER—intricate machinery, the fantastic

computer—and send men to the moon and back.

Yet, at the same time, this 6,000 years has PROVED that man's mind, without God's Holy Spirit, is confined to physical and mechanical things. His systems of education have become wholly materialistic, and all his motives have been based on the attitude of "get." He cannot live in harmony and peace with his neighbor. He is missing totally the greatest possible blessing during human life: a CLOSENESS with his Maker and his God, the warmth, satisfying PEACE, and ASSURED SECURITY of contact with God. That is why the human race as a whole is discontented, unhappy, harboring feelings of insecurity, suspicion and frustration.

God gave man—even God-rejecting man—the wonderful human MIND by giving him the human spirit, which imparts intellect to the physical BRAIN. Whale brain, elephant brain, dolphin brain—all larger than human brain—are almost identical to it, as are chimp and other smaller brains, but they lack the human spirit which adds intellect to the brain. What a marvel!

God formed and made it! But it is confined to knowledge of the PHYSICAL. God made the human brain to need *with it* another spirit—the Holy Spirit of God—to add SPIRITUAL comprehension as well as spiritual life and love. Without God's Holy Spirit, which Adam rejected, man is of all creatures most miserable!

For 6,000 years God sentenced MAN—at man's own choice—to live his own way, with PHYSICAL COMPREHENSION ONLY. THAT is why he is smart enough to go to the moon and back, but can't get along with his neighbor. He lacks the spirit of GOD'S LOVE. But even man's materialistic and mechanical development started slowly, gaining MOMENTUM, until more than HALF of all his "progress" has come in my lifetime.

For 6,000 years God's Holy Spirit has been withheld from mankind; given only to the infinitesimal FEW whom God has selected, called, and given His Spirit for a special Work which God wants done.

Spiritual salvation will be opened to ALL humanity after Christ comes

to take over the throne of the earth and RULE ALL NATIONS, and Satan shall be removed.

THANK GOD! We are now in the very last generation in this 6,000-year period.

Remember, this 6,000 years, NOW ENDING, is to be followed by 1,000 years of happy and joyous UTOPIA: WORLD PEACE in our PRESENT GENERATION; happiness, joy, universal abundance; universal right education for all; eternal salvation—with eternal life offered to all! No Satan around to plague and deceive us!

As I have indicated, God called only "righteous Abel" (Matt. 23:35), Enoch and Noah to have contact with Him and receive His Holy Spirit during approximately the first 1900 years. He specially called Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. He made the slave descendants of Abraham a special nation, called Israel, but never offered them spiritual salvation or His Holy Spirit. From then to Christ, only the prophets were given His Holy Spirit, in order to empower them for THE WORK He called them to do, almost altogether within Israel.

More than 1,900 years ago, he sent Christ, but of the unnumbered thousands who *heard* the GOOD NEWS announcement of His coming Kingdom, only 120 believed (Acts 1:15). He called and instructed His apostles to announce His gospel, but that gospel was *suppressed* and replaced before A.D. 70 with a false one which denied His Kingdom. He raised up His Church in A.D. 31 to back His apostles and make His Work through them possible, but persecution dispersed and sent the Church underground, as it were. From then the true gospel was not heard by the world, and even the Church, when I first came among them in 1926, had lost most of it.

Today God is adding to the Church until it has become larger than in all history to get done the greatest WORK in history. Today He gives us of His Church His Holy Spirit, first, to help me get out the ANNOUNCEMENT of His Kingdom, and second, to build within ourselves the CHARACTER to rule with Christ on His throne—and He gave the first as THE MEANS of attaining to the second.

We have reached the very last generation of this age—the generation when THIS world of man will END and the Kingdom of God will take over. We reached it when I was 40 years old. As God called Moses at 40, so He called me at 40. That was 45 years ago. Time is short, and getting shorter every day!

Jesus' disciples asked Him what would be the sign of the END of this present world of MAN. Jesus answered: "He that shall endure UNTO THE END [of this age], the same shall be saved. And THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and *then* shall the END come" (Matt. 24:13-14).

I began preaching it locally in 1933, and to the world in 1953.

A few verses later Jesus said: "For then shall be GREAT TRIBULATION, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved [alive]; but for the elect's sake those days SHALL BE SHORTENED"! (Verses 21-22.)

I am announcing the coming of Christ the Messiah to cut short those days, and usher in the WAY OF "GIVE"—the restoration of the government of God by the Kingdom of God.

After the millennium and Great White Throne judgment, there will be no more sickness, no more pain, no more unhappiness, no more poverty or ignorance, no more stealing—no more locks on doors or keys to carry around, no more discontent or getting feelings hurt!

Mankind is going to change from the way of "GET" to the way of "GIVE."

Some of us already have. How about you? □

RECOMMENDED READING

What is the kingdom of God? Is it the church? Is it something "set up in the hearts of men"? Is it "the good within you"? Is it "the millennium"? Each of these is widely taught—yet none is right! The shocking truth is made plain in the booklet *Just What Do You Mean . . . Kingdom of God?* Be sure to request your free copy (address of our office nearest you is on inside front cover).

Prophet of Doom

(Continued from page 33)

mons. And the great Lucifer became Satan the devil.

But Lucifer's jurisdiction under the government of God was this entire earth. A kingdom must never be without a head. Therefore Lucifer, his name changed to Satan, although now disqualified to rule God's Kingdom, must remain on the throne where God placed him—that is, *until* a successor *qualifies* to restore the government of God, and is inducted into office. That is why Satan the devil is still, today, the god of this world, the prince of the power of the air, the deceiver of all nations, as the Bible reveals.

We need to backtrack just a trifle at this point. Remember that God created the angels with independent minds. He gave them freedom of thought, reasoning, decision-making. Therefore God *could not know in advance* what kind of character they would choose to *complete* their creation. Therefore He (with the Word) had provided a fail-safe alternative, just as manufacturers of airplanes do in case one of the plane's systems goes wrong.

God knew that *if* the angels chose evil character, it left Him as the only being in existence who could be positively relied upon NEVER to deviate from His government, its laws, and its way of life.

Second Phase of God's Purpose

So now we come to the second major step or phase in working out God's overwhelming grand purpose. We have come to the stage where the government of God—the means of building and instilling righteous, holy, perfect character—was abolished from the earth.

Now the *second phase* of God's supremely *great purpose* must be initiated. God *alone* possessed the perfection of character that could activate the billions of beings to complete the finishing stages of the creation of the entire universe.

God must have said, "There just are not enough of me." He needed millions or billions of perfect and righteous beings, governed by His government, to complete in all their

beauty, majesty and glory not only the other planets of our solar system, but of our galaxy, and the countless other galaxies of the limitless vast *universe!*

So now came the next phase of God's overwhelmingly grand purpose: REPRODUCING HIMSELF into billions of GOD-beings!

Angelic sin (II Pet. 2:4) brought destruction and decay to the planets of the universe and to this earth (Gen. 1:2, the Hebrew words *tohu* and *bohu* properly meaning "destruction," "confusion," "waste" and "decay"). The indication is that the same condition of waste and decay happened simultaneously to all planets of the universe.

Because of this, GOD CREATED MAN!

So in six days God RENEWED the

The Bible foretells the most fantastically wonderful potential for man that the human mind can conceive and the real purpose for which man was placed on this earth.

face of the earth (Psalm 104:30) for MAN (Gen. 1:26). Man was made after the image and in the likeness (same form and shape) of God. But, remember, God is composed of spirit, not matter. And the angels were composed of spirit. Once the creation of the angels which followed Lucifer was *complete* by the development of their character, which was evil, *they could not be changed!* Matter, however, is ALWAYS changing.

If man, composed of matter, first made the decision to follow Satan's way (and since man is a free moral agent, God knew he might), he could be CHANGED.

This fail-safe master plan had been thought out before the world was, as the Bible plainly says.

If man sinned, being composed of matter, *he could die*. So for man, the penalty of sin would be DEATH—nonexistence!

It must have been even before the physical universe was created that the Word offered to divest Himself of His mighty eternal glory and be born of a human woman *so that he would die* (Heb. 2:9). Being the actual MAKER (John 1:3-4) of all humanity, His life was of greater value than the sum total of all human lives, and thus His death would pay the penalty for ALL HUMANS. For, being God made human, being God as well as man, Jesus *knew* in advance He would be able to live *without sin*, even though tempted in all points like the rest of us.

Matter DOES change—it always is changing.

In six days God RENEWED (Psalm 104:30) for man (Gen. 1:26) the surface of the earth from devastation (Gen. 1:2) caused by angelic sin. Man, by process of reproduction (Gen. 1:27-28), was to fill the earth with humans.

Adam Rejects God's Government

As God first instructed the angels in their awesome potential, He now talked in person to the man and woman He had created; told them this potential could be theirs; outlined to them His government as the way of life that would bring that potential, and as a by-product, peace, universal happiness and abundance, joy, health and wealth.

But like Lucifer and earth's angels, Adam and Eve disbelieved God and preferred Satan's way of "GET"—vanity, lust and greed; envy and jealousy; competition, strife, violence and war—rebellion against God and His government.

They did not believe what God said!

Without having *experienced* living either under the government of God, *or* Satan's way of "GET," Adam rejected the government of God, took to *himself*, along with his wife Eve, "the knowledge of good and evil"—that is, rejected the law of God as the way of life, and determined to decide for himself what was right and what was wrong.

In other words, Adam, fountain-head of the whole human race, simply said to his Creator: "God, get your nose out of my affairs. I'll run my life my own way."

Thus he cut not only himself, but

the whole human family off from God and all contact with God! He brought DEATH (the first death) upon all humans (I Cor. 15:22).

Hands-Off Policy

Thereupon God had adopted a 7,000-year master plan for reproducing Himself through HUMANS. The first 6,000 years God turned man over to his own devices; God adopted, as it were, a HANDS-OFF policy toward humanity. For 6,000 years mankind would go *his own way*.

Of course, God knew man would adopt Satan's way—I call it the way of "GET" for brevity—actually the way of vanity, lust and greed, of jealousy and envy, of competition and strife leading to violence and war, of resentment and bitterness against every fancied wrong, of the desire to "get even," of rebellion against authority.

God knew Satan would sway mankind in this way—though Satan is so subtle, being invisible to human eyes, that man would not know he was really obeying Satan's rule!

In other words, God deliberately *sentenced mankind* to 6,000 years of this evil way of life, to form his own governments, religions, society; to prove, by 6,000 years of human unhappiness, discontent, suffering, violence, murder, war, and death, that Satan's way of "GET" is the *wrong way*, and leads to the unwanted wrong *result!*

So for 6,000 years, up to now, God has kept hands off mankind's affairs. Mankind has been cut off from God, by his own choice. God has made but a few exceptions, where necessary for His purpose.

During this 6,000 years, God has made no effort (contrary to nearly all religious teachings) to "save mankind" spiritually.

For example, none had contact with God for the first 1900 years except Abel, Enoch, and Noah. Then God called Abram, changed his name to Abraham, made all the promises of eventual human salvation to him. He dealt with Isaac, Jacob and Joseph.

Then, 430 years after Abraham, God called his descendants, then probably more than three million,

led them by miracles out of Egyptian slavery, offered them the greatest material and national blessings (but no spiritual salvation except to Moses and the prophets) for being His nation on earth, obeying His laws. They promised to live under His government, but rebelled utterly and ended up in captivity again.

Christ Brings Good News

Some 4,000 years after Adam, Jesus Christ came in the likeness of human flesh. He came with a MESSAGE—the gospel. What was that? It was the GOOD NEWS of GOD'S Kingdom and the ultimate grand potential of man, so great it surpasses the power of the human mind to conceive.

Christ qualified to replace Satan (the former Lucifer) and to *restore*

We recognize the conditions around us. The heads of state, the great and the near-great I meet, know of the problems—problems greater than human minds can solve.

the government of God to earth, this time over man. Then He proclaimed the good news of that coming Kingdom—the *extreme opposite* of "doom." He called His apostles, and taught them His tremendous announcement of this unsurpassable *human potential*. Then He died for our sins, was resurrected, and rose to God's heaven to be our high priest *until* He comes as King of kings to rule all nations of earth with the government of God.

The apostles went forth proclaiming this good news of the vast human potential. This started in A.D. 31, the year Christ was crucified and His Church raised up. But out of the remnants of the ancient Babylonian mystery religion, rose up in A.D. 33 in Samaria this pagan religion professing CHRIST, calling itself CHRISTIANITY, and persecuting and martyring all true Christians. Beside the *name* "Chris-

tian," they appropriated the doctrine of "grace" from Christ's apostles, turning it into license—permission to disobey—saying the laws of the government of God were done away.

Thus, we find that by A.D. 69 *another gospel* had gained public acceptance (Gal. 1:6-7). The good news—Christ's gospel—of the Kingdom of God was no longer publicly proclaimed to the world!

Few today know what Christ's real gospel was! Your Bible says all nations have been deceived (Rev. 12:9). Of course, most of you reading this do not believe that, because a deceived person does not know he is deceived, else he would not BE deceived.

Christ in person preached this good news to many thousands. But how many actually *believed what He said?* Only 120! (Acts 1:15.)

Today, the Bible outsells all books. The Bible is the Word of God—it is what God says. Yet millions who own Bibles never read them.

Other millions read the Bible at least once in a while, but scarcely any of them *believe what God says in it!* They do not know that the Bible foretells the DOOM of all ways that are *causing* our troubles, our woes, our evils.

Humanity right now is at the doorstep of the supreme crisis. It has reached the point where man now has the weapons of mass destruction to erase all human life from the earth. And, UNLESS the Great God that Garner Ted and I proclaim does intervene supernaturally and END this hellish state of affairs man has brought on himself, there most surely soon *would* come the *real* DOOMSDAY!

But because our God *will* intervene and save man from himself and set up the KINGDOM OF GOD—one WORLD GOVERNMENT ruled in love and justice by Jesus Christ—*there will be no doomsday!*

What Prophecies Reveal

Now open your eyes to some of the prophecies that foretell a little of the transcendent potential that really is man's.

Under the invisible influence of Satan, man is bringing on himself

the FINAL CRISIS of the 6,000-year day of man. Jesus' apostles had asked Him how we humans might know *when* the end of this present world, Christ's coming, and the beginning of the happy, peaceful WORLD TOMORROW would happen. Jesus answered that when "this *gospel of the kingdom* shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations . . . THEN shall the END [of this age] COME" (Matt. 24:14). The very message Garner Ted and I are preaching and publishing (Mark 13:10) worldwide follows in verses 21 and 22: "For then shall be great tribulation [man-caused], such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved [alive (Moffatt translation)]; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."

Man, swayed unknowingly by Satan, is already *beginning* to bring on this greatest time of *world trouble and chaos*, but GOD will step in and CUT IT SHORT, and save humanity ALIVE. WHY? For the most wonderful, transcendent human POTENTIAL you could possibly imagine!

Christ will come!

Satan will be bound! (Rev. 20:1-2.)

Then will follow 1,000 years of peace—WORLD PEACE—happiness, universal prosperity!

Then, after that thousand years will occur what the Bible calls the "great white throne judgment." At that time, all humanity who ever lived up to the beginning of Christ's reign shall be resurrected mortal. They will be given time to look back over the human anguish caused by *Satan's way*, which man chose, and given the opportunity to turn to *God's way*. Remember, they will be resurrected *mortal*, human, made of matter—and matter can change! Those who do change (and I believe that will be about 99 percent) will then, having learned the lesson of the right way of life, be given spiritual salvation—eternal life—changed from mortal to IMMORTAL, composed then of SPIRIT.

Just a prophetic glimpse or two into that time: "The WHOLE EARTH is at rest, and is quiet. . . . Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the ce-

dars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou [Satan] art laid down, no feller is come up against us" (Isa. 14:7-8). Then, speaking of Christ's rule over the whole earth in that day (and within our generation): "And the spirit of the ETERNAL shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and *understanding*, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the ETERNAL . . . But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth . . . And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins" (Isa. 11:2-5).

Man's Only Hope

Many world-renowned scientists have said the ONLY HOPE of saving mankind alive on this earth is a

God has kept hands off mankind's affairs. Mankind has been cut off from God, by his own choice. God has made but a few exceptions, where necessary for His purpose.

single world government—with only one army. But in the same breath they say it is impossible. With men it is. WHO would rule such a government? A human? He would rule for his own pleasure and profit. A committee? A committee would rule with a constant struggle for top power among themselves.

But THINK of a world ruled by the Christ described above!

Carry this prophecy further: "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the . . . [other wild animals shall be tame] . . . for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the ETERNAL, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:6-9).

Then, after a thousand years with the whole earth ruled by the Kingdom of God, comes the *greatest, most stupendous good news of all!*

Here are some brief glimpses into it: "And God shall wipe away all

tears from their eyes; and there shall be NO MORE DEATH, neither sorrow, nor crying, NEITHER SHALL THERE BE ANY MORE PAIN: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for THESE WORDS ARE TRUE AND FAITHFUL" (Rev. 21:4-5).

UNDERSTAND THIS: For 6,000 years the Creator God has kept hands off man's activities and ways of life. Our first parents made a decision for themselves and their posterity—all humanity.

What will stagger the reader most of all perhaps, because he has been so deceived and blinded from God's *plain truth*, is that God has made no effort to redeem or spiritually save the world from that day of Adam until now—that is, except those specifically called. Satan wants you to believe God has been making a desperate effort to save all humanity, while Satan stands aside, injects within all people the "GET" attitude, and laughs at God, saying, "You see, God, I am mightier than you. I am keeping about 99.99 percent of the world 'LOST.'" This popular belief makes religion ridiculous and represents Satan as more powerful than God.

World Under Satan's Sway

So humanity, cut off from God—but NOT cut off from Satanic influence working within human minds—has for 6,000 years formed its *own kinds* of governments, its *own* religions, its *own* educational systems, its *own* systems of business, commerce and industry, financing and exchange, and its *own* society. And DOOMSDAY is indeed what humanity is bringing itself to. But God will intervene to PREVENT THAT!

Meanwhile, God has made His Word and His purpose known. Until Moses, He made His will known by word of mouth, speaking with certain ones such as Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. Beginning with Moses, God made His will and His purpose known in *writings* that finally have been compiled together, called the Holy Bible.

In it God has made known that He has Himself chosen certain ones

for certain purposes through the ages. They have been predestinated, and, in due time, called into the service of God.

Man's Awesome Potential

Now we come to the final, most AWESOME, TRANSCENDENT potential of man—the *farthest possible away from one of DOOM*.

It was mentioned first by King David in the eighth Psalm.

David was inspired to ask: "WHAT IS MAN, that thou art mindful of him? . . . For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet" (Psalm 8:4-6).

But David probably did not, in his early days, realize the FULL EXTENT of that glory and that dominion. It is explained in more detail in Romans and in Hebrews in the New Testament. And lest you think my imagination is running away with itself, I quote this direct from the Bible.

Begin with Hebrews 2:5: "For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection *the world to come, whereof we speak*." The theme here—the context—is "the world to come"—not this present evil world. The implication is that angels *have been* in subjection over a previous world.

Continue: "But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? [here quoting Psalm 8] . . . Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put *all things* in subjection under his feet. For in that he [God] put ALL in subjection under him [man], he [God] left NOTHING that is not put under him" (verses 6-8). The "all things," appearing also in Hebrews 1:3, is properly translated in the Moffatt translation as "*the Universe*." God has put—ultimately, but not in this life—the entire endless universe *under subjection to man*. But finish verse 8 of chapter 2: "But now we see NOT YET all things [the universe] put under him [man]."

Oh, NOT YET! But after the thou-

sand years of peace under Christ, and after the "great white throne judgment." After ALL humans ever born have been called, granted repentance if they will repent, and believed—and finally changed from human to DIVINE!

But continue on. What DO we see now, already? "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels *for the suffering of death*, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are *all things* [the universe], and BY WHOM are *all things*, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings" (verses 9-10).

In Hebrews 1, the Moffatt translation shows Jesus Christ even NOW

Man, swayed unknowingly by Satan, is already beginning to bring on this greatest time of world trouble, but God will step in and cut it short, and save humanity alive.

is sustaining the entire universe by the word of His POWER!

Notice again, carefully, verse 10. "For it became him [Christ], for whom are all things [entire universe], and *by whom* are all things [God the Father created the universe by Jesus Christ], in bringing many sons unto glory . . ." We HUMANS are those sons, who become *through* Christ HEIRS of all God has and CO-heirs *with* Christ; become actually BROTHERS of Christ, now, "in [His] bringing many sons unto glory." You see, Christ is the CAPTAIN (verse 10) of our salvation. In other words, He who was the first-born (Rom. 8:29) among many brethren—first to be BORN of God by a RESURRECTION (Rom. 1:4)—simply is our PIONEER who has gone on before the rest of us into this great and supreme glory. We see NOT YET the whole universe under man, but we DO see it all UNDER

CHRIST, and sustained by the word of His power (Heb. 1:3).

Glorious Liberty to Come

Now to Romans 8. This fantastic awesome potential of man is made even clearer in the book of Romans. I shall use the Revised Standard Version, for the King James is not accurate—apparently the translators in the year 1611 simply could not believe the Greek original COULD mean what it plainly says. Can you create in your imagination a HOPE as great as this?

The apostle Paul is inspired to write, beginning verse 18, Romans 8: "I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not worth comparing with the GLORY that is to be revealed to us. For the CREATION [universe] waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God [at the resurrection, when we shall become composed of SPIRIT]; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from *its bondage to decay* and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption [our resurrected birth] as sons, the redemption of our bodies [from mortal flesh and blood to immortal spirit]. For *in this hope we were saved*."

What a wonderful, majestic, tremendous hope!

That, and NOT DOOM, is what Garner Ted Armstrong and I proclaim to this world!

There may be "prophets of doom"—*but we are not of them*. No one else—but NO ONE—proclaims the full truth you have read here. It's ALL IN THE BIBLE—and the Bible is THE WORD OF GOD.

It's the most WONDERFUL HOPE your eyes ever read! Not DOOM—but qualifying to remake and beautify the universe! I believe it and look forward in joyful anticipation to it. Thousands today believe it and are grateful for the opportunity to have a part in helping us spread this message of real hope. No one else does! □