

the
PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXVI, NUMBER 7

JULY, 1961

GERMANY after World War II, with munitions-producing Ruhr to be internationalized. Now read lead article about the new German-led United States of Europe.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missed Autobiography

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I missed the Autobiography in the May issue. Don't ever see many letters commenting on it in the letter section. Maybe modesty prevents this. I don't know if many other readers fall into this category or not but that's the *first* article I *look* for. It would surprise you how much benefit one can derive from little seemingly insignificant problems mentioned by you, *and how they were overcome*. It helps strengthen us out here in the wilderness to learn of the persecution and problems you and yours endured while building up this work. It also helps me realize that all of this did not come too easy."

Man from Vinita, Oklahoma

(*Editor's Comment:* The Autobiography did appear in the June issue. We receive numerous comments about the autobiography, but in the past we have hesitated to publish many of them in the "Letters to the Editor" section.)

Autobiography Appealing

"I have just finished The PLAIN TRUTH, every word of which I have enjoyed greatly. I find your autobiographical sketches of particular interest and appeal, making me heartily wish I could make regular and liberal donations toward the advancement of the cause for which you have labored so long, suffered so much and brought to such worldwide appreciation and power."

Retired school teacher from La Verne,
Calif.

Tragic Childbirth

"The article about 'Joyful Birth' rang a bell. An experience I had last December giving birth to my fifth child was similar to the stories told in the 'Ladies Home Journal.' The woman who delivered right before I did was made to hold back her baby when it was ready to be delivered. While she begged for delivery they gave her ether and held her legs because her doctor wasn't there. My doctor was, and could have delivered her. When it came time for me to be delivered I was made to wait while the doctor was eating even though I was

having hard pains. When, finally, I was laid on the delivery table the baby crowned. But the doctor pushed the baby's head in because he wasn't quite ready. I was told to breathe in sharply. I had been praying and I asked God to keep back the pains until the doctor was ready. He did! The other woman's baby died that night from breathing in the birth water. Though my baby is now a roly-poly, four-month-old 'doll,' I won't forget that my story could be as tragic as that poor woman's."

Woman from Truxton, Missouri

Yes, You're Right!

"Yes, you're right about telling about how the hospital does when babies are born. My daughter had her baby in the hospital. The nurses held her legs down because the doctor wasn't there at the time."

Subscriber from Missouri

Not A Fairy Story

"Thanks for sending me The PLAIN TRUTH as usual. How much good it does one to read the truth! What a great help it is to me now, and also the booklets you send me! You have proved to me that the Bible is God's book of truth, and in it are the rules to a happy life, and this again you have proved to be a fact and not a fairy story."

Man from Wales, Great Britain

Reads Bible for First Time in 20 Years!

"We listen to your program every night and are very interested. In fact for the first time in 20 years my husband is picking up the Bible and reading it. He is very interested in your outlook on all affairs."

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Can You Prove There Is A God?

"Thanks to you and your son, I have begun to wonder about many things I have always taken for granted. It was only yesterday I found out that one of my classmates is an atheist. I started to ask her 'Can you prove there is no God?', but I happened to think, 'I cannot prove there *is* a God, even though

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VOL. XXVI

NO. 7

Published monthly at Pasadena, California; London, England; and Melbourne, Australia, by Ambassador College. © 1961, by Radio Church of God.

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SECOND CLASS POSTAGE paid at Pasadena, California.

BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new addresses. IMPORTANT!

NOTICE! We are now broadcasting "The World Tomorrow" at 8 p.m. every night on KFRE—50,000 watts—Fresno, Calif. Since returning from Europe, Mr. Armstrong has had to visit radio stations nation-wide and has been unable to complete the Autobiography this issue.

Now! New Power Bloc Stronger than Russia!

For 27 years we have warned, while others scoffed. Now the public press sees it coming. But here is what the world does not see!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

IN THE May 15th "United States News & World Report," page 122, you may have read this item about Great Britain joining the European Common Market:

"President Kennedy is counted on to persuade De Gaulle to let Britain in. . . . The United States will pay a price, if Britain joins the Common Market, . . . President Kennedy realizes and accepts this. The Common Market already comprises a sheltered market of 160 million people. Interior tariff walls are being torn down. Nothing less than a United States of Europe is building up."

It's "Building Up"

Notice—NOTHING LESS THAN A UNITED STATES OF EUROPE IS BUILDING UP!" Do you realize the frightful implications of this?

This Common Market started merely as an economic co-operation between SIX nations, in the general territory of the old Roman Empire. For 27 years *The Plain Truth* has said that the ancient ROMAN EMPIRE is in our time going to be resurrected. We have said it will be joined, ultimately, by TEN nations—or at least ten dictators or newly-crowned kings—as a full EMPIRE—political, military and religious, as well as economic.

We have said—as the prophecies of your Bible say—that when this symbolic prophetic "BEAST" fully emerges from its "bottomless pit" it will require the affiliation with the Roman Catholic Church as the "Supreme Authority" which alone shall be able to weld together in political and military union these ten nations.

It is significant that it started as an economic cooperation with SIX nations. There is a certain Biblical significance in numbers. SIX is the number of MAN—usually as apart from and hostile to GOD!

This whole system, prophecy indicates, is to be introduced subtly. Actually World War III has started—not as a hydrogen-bomb military invasion, but as an ECONOMIC war!

And while RUSSIA is making gains everywhere—in Laos, as stepping stone to domination of all South-eastern Asia; in central Africa; in Japan; in Cuba as stepping stone to all South America—while RUSSIA is capturing the news headlines with these gains and space-flight spectaculars—it is this European Common Market that is *fast* winning the world TRADE WAR! It is being done in a way America doesn't realize. The United States seems sound asleep to this danger.

But this news magazine recognizes that a complete United States of Europe—as the resurrected Roman Empire may be called—is *now building up!* It says specifically that what is building up is *nothing less than that*—not merely a co-operative TRADE association.

Your Bible Says This

Prophecy uses the symbol "Beast" to identify the old Roman Empire and its medieval successor, called the Holy Roman Empire. (Compare Revelation 17 with Daniel 2 and 7, and Rev. 13.)

In Revelation 17:8 you read: "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go unto perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall WONDER . . . when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

How shall this ancient mighty Empire be revived? Europe is like a "crazy-quilt"—a conglomeration of many nations speaking different languages, having different customs and aspirations. HOW could they be joined together? Only by some SUPREME AUTHORITY which all would accept in leadership.

But the French would never accept a Hitler, or even an Adenauer as their ruler. The Germans would never accept a De Gaulle. WHO is to be the Supreme Authority?

The first verse of this 17th chapter of Revelation reveals it: It speaks of "the great whore that sitteth upon many waters." The symbol of "many waters" is clearly explained in verse 15. It means many peoples, or nations, speaking different languages.

Verse 2 says this great fallen woman has committed fornication with "the kings of the earth"—more than one king. In verse 3 she is sitting upon this "beast"—the Roman Empire. In Biblical symbol a "beast" denotes an Empire, and a "woman" denotes a CHURCH (Eph. 5:23-32; II Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:7). Here is a church, posing as the affianced bride of Christ, not waiting for Him to take the reigns of world government, but committing fornication by a church-state relationship with human political rulers of *this* world, which Christ's Church is forbidden to do.

Ancient Israel was both church and state. As a Church (Acts 7:38) Israel was called the Congregation of Israel. But Israel was untrue to the Eternal, her "Husband," and committed ADULTERY by political intercourse with gentile kings of *this* world. The word "adultery" means unfaithfulness on the part of a *married* person. The same illicit relationship on the part of an unmarried person is "fornication." Always the Bible speaks of Israel as having committed "ADULTERY"—never "FORNICATION." Therefore, Revelation 17:2, speaking of "FORNICATION" is referring to a GENTILE Church.

The Unifying Power

Now notice verse 3 of Revelation 17: This fornicating woman, having politi-

cal relationship with worldly kings, is *sitting on the Beast!* In verse 1 she sits on—rules over—many nations speaking different languages. In verse 3 she sits on this Roman Empire. Such nations, to be "sat upon"—ruled over—by one church power would of necessity be many contiguous, adjoining nations, speaking different languages. Verse 3 identifies it as EUROPE—seat of the old Roman Empire.

Notice verse 5—she is symbolically named "BABYLON," and she is a MOTHER Church. She has daughter churches, who may have come out of her in protest, calling themselves "protestant"—but who will be forced to reunite. Her name "Babylon" identifies her as the *daughter* of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. The Empire she is to rule is the direct succession from the Babylon of 600 B.C. It was succeeded by the Persian Empire, and next by Alexander's Greco-Macedonian Empire, and it by the Roman Empire (Dan. 2 and 7). The Roman Empire was restored by Justinian in 554. From then until 1814 the popes of Rome ruled the entire succession.

Now it is once again to be revived to life. And once again, the only UNIFYING Authority which the coming TEN nations of Roman Catholic Europe can accept is the Pope of Rome!

Pope Pius, shortly before he died, publicly offered his good offices for the joining together of the nations of Europe. Pope John is working toward that end.

The nations of Europe *want* to go together. Yet they are competitive against each other. They distrust each other. The Common Market is knocking down the chief competitive barrier—trade.

Another serious barrier has been religion. Protestants have been unwilling to submit to the authority of the Pope. But that barrier, too, is fast crumbling. Recently there has been a constant pilgrimage of high personages from European countries to the Vatican. De Gaulle visited the Pope. The Archbishop of Canterbury, chief prelate of the Church of England, recently visited the Pope, and took prominent part in other Catholic-Protestant ceremonies, making speeches favoring re-union. Both Queen Elizabeth, titular head of the Protestant Church of England, and Princess Margaret, submitted to papal requirements, and donned the prescribed black cloth-

ing for audiences with Pope John XXIII. Everywhere there is a relaxing of Protestant opposition against the Roman Catholic Church. The United States elected a Catholic President.

Today, both economic and religious barriers to a United Europe are greatly weakened. The Pope is the one political leader who can demolish the political barrier. The stage is set. All that is needed is a new fear for their common safety from Russia.

The Russia-U.S. War

Russia has been at war against the United States for several years—Communist-style war. It has been called "Cold War." It has been propaganda war. Russia has been constantly winning—the United States losing.

Russia turned China Communist. Stalin outsmarted Franklin D. Roosevelt at Yalta and Harry S. Truman at Potsdam, and annexed all of Eastern Europe. Russia has a toe hold in Laos, the springboard to taking all Southeastern Asia, and then Australia. Next will come India and Japan.

Russia has made inroads in Central Africa and taken over Cuba, as a base for communizing South and Central America.

How does this look to Europeans? They are adjoining the Russian frontier. How do events make them feel? They have relied on United States power to hold back Russia from rolling over their countries.

Now they see United States power faltering, retreating, backing down at every turn. American prestige hit an all-time low last summer and autumn, when Khrushchev killed the Summit Conference and publicly insulted President Eisenhower. Then Japanese Communists were allowed to insult the American President and cancel his visit to Tokyo after Khrushchev, having visited the White House, made the President unwelcome at the Kremlin.

Young President Kennedy has allowed American prestige to be sunk deeper in the mire! After a "tough" speech about Laos, and parading U.S. Naval power off its borders, Mr. Kennedy backed down and settled with a ceasefire that leaves the Communists in control of half of Laos—the springboard

to all Southeast Asia. He failed to show a firm hand in Africa and took the most disgraceful and face-losing defeat of all in the Cuban invasion debacle!

How does this look to Europe?

It looks like United States power is nil against Russia! It looks like Russian power is supreme! It looks like they can no longer rely on American power to hold Russia off their land!

EUROPE IS BECOMING FRIGHTENED!

Next, Berlin!

Mr. Khrushchev has cleverly held back his trump card—Berlin! That will come soon.

In terror, Europe is going to rush to unite—to arm fully on grand scale for all-out world war, if needed to protect their countries.

Recently President Kennedy visited President De Gaulle of France and Mr. Khrushchev. He found President De Gaulle uncompromising, firm. Except for President Kennedy's pledges to defend Berlin, even if it means war, there were no results. France is throwing in her lot with the other nations of EUROPE today, not with America.

If Mr. Kennedy does remain firm in regard to Berlin—if he can really *convince* Khrushchev there will be WAR if the Communists take over West Berlin—then Khrushchev will back up. In that event, the Berlin crisis again will be postponed—still held in abeyance.

But only *one thing* will convince Khrushchev President Kennedy really means it—especially after his retreat at Laos and Cuba. That is an actual show of FORCE! Khrushchev laughs in contempt at "strong talk." He respects only actions, and force. And he knows Mr. Kennedy's past experience has been as a talker and debater, not as an executive or a man of dynamic and forceful action.

Berlin is the immediate key. Very soon, in one manner or another, the Russians are going to test President Kennedy on West Berlin. If Mr. Kennedy then reverses his record on Laos and Cuba—if he now calls their bluff and starts real and unmistakable *action*, with overwhelming power and *FORCE*, the Communists will back up *for now!*

In that event—and let us HOPE that
(Please continue on page 14)

WHAT is the Best Age for MARRIAGE?

Recently in Principles of Living Class in Ambassador College, England, this question was asked of Mr. Armstrong. Thousands of our readers would like to know the answer. Here it is.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

NOT long ago I officiated at a wedding in stately Memorial Hall at Ambassador College in England. My next-to-youngest grandson, Richard David Armstrong II, age two and a half, thought the ceremony so very nice, he said,

"Mommie, I want to get married!"

"Well!" answered his mother, a little shocked—a little amused, "and whom do you want to marry?"

"Karen," replied little Dicky promptly.

"But Karen has just been married. She can't marry anybody else, now."

"Well then," decided Dicky, "I'll marry Sheila." Sheila is a very nice Irish colleen, a student in the college.

"But Sheila is grown up now, and in college," protested "Mommie". "What if she won't have you?"

"Then I'll marry you, Mommie," came the quick decision.

Marriage is not for Children

We may smile at the idea of two- or three-year-olds getting married. It *would* be a bit irregular! Marriage is not for children! Marriage is for ADULTS. Marriage is pretty serious business!

Marriage entails the assuming of very serious responsibilities. Children do not realize this, of course. Marriage is a lot more than romance. It is more than day-dreams about a "Prince Charming," or floating around on Cloud nineteen, or being in a lover's arms.

But when do we become adults?

Are not boys and girls adults at around age 14? No. Far from it! Let's understand WHY!

Age for Acquiring Knowledge

Human beings know *nothing* at birth. We have to learn, or be taught—EVERYTHING! Without any knowledge, or with erroneous knowledge, we are help-

less—as new-born babes. But there are some things many fail to learn. One of these is the right age for marriage.

Whatever an adult knows, true or false, has come into his mind since birth.

It may sound surprising or incredible, but a person actually learns more during his first year of life than in any succeeding year. If a one-year-old baby could talk plainly with complete and adequate vocabulary, you'd be completely amazed at how much he has learned that first year!

The second year he learns a trifle less than the first, and the third year a little less than the second. Gradually, his capacity for learning decreases year by year, if only slightly. This is hard to believe, for the simple reason that a two-year-old *adds* his second-year acquisition to what he learned the first year, the third to that, and so through the years his *total* store of knowledge increases continually.

But a person past 60 cannot learn something new in a field new and strange to him as readily as a young person of 22 or 23. Does this mean that a well-educated man of 60 knows less than a young man of 22? Of course not. Other things being equal, he knows infinitely more—because he has the accumulated knowledge of all those years since age 22 *added* to what he knew then—and he has learned much by *experience*. That is one reason wisdom comes with age!

But a two-and-a-half-year-old cannot delve very deeply into the study of advanced mathematics, philosophy, nuclear fission, business administration, economics, or child rearing. He would have very different ideas on the latter than he probably will have when he becomes a parent!

The first five or six years of life are, so we believe from experience, most

profitably spent in learning the basic things of infant and child learning—how to walk, talk, eat, run, and play—knowledge about lots and lots of things. The little child learns what an automobile is—an airplane—he learns about animals—many things.

He may even be taught to count, and part or all of the alphabet. However, the kind of knowledge taught in school (kindergarten excepted) seems most effectively taught beginning age 6. At that age the child can learn to write, to read, and to spell simple words. In some countries he begins to learn a second language at that age. For the next ten years he acquires gradually all the foundational elementary knowledge, and during the last two of the ten perhaps a bit of preparatory knowledge for higher education.

All these years the normal individual has been learning rapidly. There is a great deal to know before maturity, and he is not mature *yet!* Of course, by age 16, the juvenile may think he *knows it all*. Many, in their own minds, know more than Dad or Mom. You see, what they do not yet know, they don't *know* that they don't know! But there is still much to learn.

But by age 16 the average normal young person of good mind is ready to *begin* a little more advanced study into more solid fields.

When Bodies Mature

But along in these early and mid-teen-age years, usually 12 to 14, the physical body suddenly speeds up its growth and development. The teen-ager at this point sprouts up much taller within a single year, with *bodily* changes from child to man or woman.

Suddenly the young person feels "grown up"—adult. He usually does not
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RADIO LOG

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BED82 Chiayi 1460 kc.;

BED79 Kaohsiung 1220 kc.

—18:00 T.D.T., Wed. and Fri.

RADIO LOG

(Continued)

RADIO OKINAWA — KSBK — 880 kc. Sundays: 12:06 noon.

ALTO BROADCASTING SYSTEM — PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:

DZAO, Manila — 620 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

DZRI, Dagupan City — 1040 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

DZRB, Naga City — 1060 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday

DXAW, Davao City — 570 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

2KY — Sydney, NSW — 1020 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:45 p.m. Fri. and Sat.

2AY — Albury, NSW — 1490 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.

2GF — Grafton, NSW — 1210 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2GN — Goulburn, NSW — 1380 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2HD — Newcastle, NSW — 1380 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

2KA — Katoomba, NSW — 780 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2KM — Kempsey, NSW — 980 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

2MW — Murwillumbah, NSW — 1440 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

3AW — Melbourne, Vic. — 1280 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Sun.

3BO — Bendigo, Vic. — 960 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and Sun.

3CV — Maryborough, Vic. — 1440 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon thru Fri. and Sun.

3HA — Hamilton, Vic. — 1000 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3KZ — Melbourne, Vic. — 1180 kc. — 10:45 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:15 p.m. Fri.; 10:30 p.m. Sun.

3MA — Mildura, Vic. — 1470 kc. — 3:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sat.

3SH — Swanhill, Vic. — 1330 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3SR — Shepparton, Vic. — 1260 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3UL — Warragul, Vic. — 880 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3YB — Warrnambool, Vic. — 1210 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

4AK — Oakley, Qld. — 1220 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:30 p.m. Fri.; 9:30 p.m. Sun.

4BK — Brisbane, Qld. — 1290 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Thurs.; 10:30 p.m. Fri.; 9:30 p.m. Sun.

4CA — Cairns, Qld. — 1010 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

4TO — Townsville, Qld. — 780 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

4KQ — Brisbane, Qld. — 10:30 p.m. Sun.

4WK — Warwick, Qld. — 880 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

6GE — Geraldton, WA — 1010 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 9:30 p.m. Sun.

6KG — Kalgoorlie, WA — 860 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

6PM — Perth, WA — 1000 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.

6AM — Northam, WA — 980 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.

7AD — Devonport, Tas. — 3:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

7SD — Scottsdale, Tas. — 4:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

2XM — Gisborne, New Zealand — 1180 kc. — 10:00 p.m. Sat. and Sun.

TO LATIN AMERICA

In English—

RADIO SWAN—Swan Island—1160 kc.—6:00 p.m., Sundays.

RADIO AMERICA—Lima, Peru—1010 kc.—6:00 p.m. Saturdays.

HOC21, Panama City—1115 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

HP5A, Panama City—11170 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

HOK, Colon, Panama—640 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

HP5K, Colon, Panama—6005 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.

In Spanish—

RADIO SWAN—Swan Island—1160 kc.—9:00 p.m., Sat. and Sun.

RADIO LA CRONICA—Lima, Peru—1010 kc.—7:00-7:15 p.m., Sundays.

RADIO COMUNEROS — Asuncion, Paraguay—970 kc.—8:30-8:45 p.m. Thursdays.

RADIO SPORT — CXA19 — Montevideo, Uruguay—11835 kc.—4:00-4:15 p.m., Sundays.

RADIO CARVE—CX16, 850 kc., and CXA13, 6156 kc.—Montevideo, Uruguay—3:30 p.m., Saturdays.

In French—

RADIO CARAIBES—Santa Lucia, West Indies—840 kc. Time to be announced.

become a father or mother years before he or she is qualified to assume the responsibilities of parenthood.

But, suddenly becoming taller and physically developed, the boy or girl feels mature. A new awareness of the opposite sex is present. What the child of this age does not yet know, I repeat, he usually fails utterly to realize.

The attraction of the other sex acts as a magnet. The girl dreams of her Prince Charming, desire is awakened in the boy to hold an attractive girl in his arms.

The girl often falls in love with love, a certain boy being the focal point of her fantasy. Of course she only sees this particular boy as she imagines him to be, not as he really is. She is dead sure she is in love. And no one can awaken her from this entrancing dream. There are many facts of reality about this puppy-love affair of which she is totally unaware.

But, again, what she doesn't know that her parents see so plainly, she simply doesn't know that she doesn't know! She simply has to outgrow it! The very fact that she is not mature enough to recognize her immaturity is proof that she is still too immature for marriage.

At this stage, the parents have a problem on their hands, and need great wisdom to deal properly with it.

I repeat, marriage is not for children.

The Preparatory Years

But when does a child become an adult? When is one ready for marriage?

Marriage is in itself a career. One is not ready to enter upon any profession or career until after full preparation. This preparation may be divided, roughly, into three stages. First, that of infancy, preparing the child for school. Second, elementary and preparatory schooling prior to, thirdly, more advanced education and specialized training for the adult life's work.

There are really three stages, roughly, of mental development that parallel these stages of preparation. First, the change from babyhood to boy or girlhood around age six. Then the mind as a rule has absorbed enough elementary and semi-mature knowledge by age 16 to begin more mature thinking and

Best Age to Marry?

(Continued from page 5)

realize that at this stage the body makes a rather sudden leap toward maturity, while the mind makes no corresponding advance! The mind continues on at only the same year-to-year gradual development. The mind is still more child than adult. Its interests are still mostly

"having fun," games, entertainments. Sexual maturity is suddenly reached, long in advance of mental, emotional, and spiritual maturity.

A human being is not a mere body. The married state needs maturity of mind, emotions, and spiritual qualities as much as physical adulthood.

A boy or girl is physically able to

learning. Age 16 is a crucial year in mental development.

Prior to age 16 the average youth has little awareness of the seriousness of life, of world conditions, of human problems or the purposes of life. In our American public school system, he enters senior high school, or the last two years of preparatory school at about this age.

But the mind does not really mature, on the average, until age 25. At age 25 a more definite adulthood of mind, attitude, interests, is reached. The mind becomes more "set" in its ways.

The years between ages 16 and 25 are the *vitally important* years of adult preparation for life's work. These are the *crucial* years of *PREPARATION*. During these years the mind is capable of *acquiring* faster than at any other stage of life the advanced knowledge needed *before beginning* one's adult career—whether it be business, profession, occupation, or marriage. Before age 16 the mind has not acquired the basic elementary knowledge needed as a foundation for entering more advanced study—and the mind has not developed in serious comprehension to the level of advanced knowledge. After age 25, the mind which has stagnated since age 16 finds it difficult to enter upon more mature study.

Before age 16 the mind simply is not mature. At age 16 it is merely prepared to *begin* acquiring the more mature *preparation* for either career, business, or marriage.

It should be borne in mind I am speaking of average ages. There are, of course, exceptions to all rules—but in my experience about 99 in 100 follow this pattern.

Another stage of maturity seems to be reached at about age 30. I have noticed that, although most young people reach a certain mental maturity at age 25, a far more complete maturity of mind, personality, performance, and influence on others is reached at age 30.

By age 30 the man or woman has added five years of practical *experience*, in addition to further study, to the preparatory knowledge and final reaching of mental maturity attained at 25. Prior to 25, the young man is often called just that—"young man"—by older men. I can remember how, in my

carnal preconversion vanity, I smarted under being spoken to as "young man" by business executives I dealt with. This expression simply meant they did not accept me, yet, as a fully mature man, and I knew it.

Somehow, the vanity in a young man of 18 and older makes him want to be considered *mature*—as a completely adult, fully experienced MAN. He wants to be considered older than he is. But as soon as young women are past 20 to 25 female vanity causes them to want to be considered *younger* than they are; that is, until they reach a grand old age like my Mother, who enjoys letting people know that she is now past 95! But let me hasten to say I believe my Mother is entitled to that pleasure. Not many ever achieve the accomplishment of reaching 95, *and still really ENJOYING life*—happily looking forward to joyful eternal life in God's Kingdom!

The Right Age for Marriage

The fact that a man attains a more complete maturity of personality, leadership and influence by age 30 seems fully recognized by the Eternal God. In ancient Israel the Levites were ordained to full priesthood at age 30—although they were put into physical *service* at age 20.

Jesus Christ, our Example, did not begin His active ministry until age 30. All years prior to that were years of learning and preparation.

Yet in ancient Israel men *began* actual service, adult work, and even military service, at age 20. This, however, does not mean that they were fully and completely educated at that age. Actually, their first years of service were those of apprenticeship—training, preparation. They probably were not accounted fully prepared for adult responsibilities until 25, though the exact facts are not given.

Apparently God has not given specific and direct instruction or command as to the proper age for marriage. God did not even count people in the census, as adults, until age 20. While there appears to be no punishable prohibition against marriage prior to age 20, there is every indication that on God's instruction juveniles were considered children until 20. At 20 they were considered "of age."

This by no means implies they were expected to marry by age 20! Rather that they were expected not to marry *until* at least 20—OR MORE!

Based on actual experience, my judgment—and I think it is sound judgment guided and approved by God—is that until out of the "teens" a boy or girl is too young to marry! And it is also my judgment—and I think it is sound and approved by God—based on life-long experience counselling on marriage problems of hundreds of people—that even 20 is too young to be *the best age for marriage*.

Two factors are the major causes of broken marriages, or of unhappy problem marriages, in the hundreds of cases that have come to me for advice and counsel: sex ignorance and marriage prior to age 20. Quite often these two are merged in the same case. A majority of all unhappy or broken marriages that have been brought to my attention were those of people *who married too young!*

Only too well I know that teen-agers who *think* they are in love will not listen or heed. That very *FACT prove* they are too young for the responsibilities of marriage. Marriage is so much *more* than romance, necking, love-making and immature emotional bliss. Thousands of young people have gone ahead heedless, and been sadly disillusioned to learn that lesson—*TOO LATE!*

But in my judgment, except in rare cases or circumstances, even twenty is too early an age for marriage. I can only give my judgment. But it is based on experience. It is based on facts and knowledge. It is based on what Biblical revelation God has given us. It is based on hundreds of case histories.

But here it is, and young people will do well to heed it—and later be glad they did! The *best* age for a man to marry is around 24 to 26, after he has devoted those *top aptitude years* between 16 and 25 for mature education, experience, and preparation—*after* he has acquired the knowledge, preparation and preliminary experience to assume adult responsibilities—*after he is able to assume the responsibility of supporting a wife—and family!* And the *best* age for a girl to marry is between 23

(Please continue on page 18)

HITLER'S SEVEN FATAL BLUNDERS

WHY the revived interest in Nazi Germany?—in the Eichmann trial? Never have so many books on Germany been available to the public as today. Now—16 years after World War II—people are looking back on Hitlerite Germany for clues to German destiny! HERE IS WHY!

by L. E. Torrance

WORLD famous historians clearly recognize that Hitler could have won World War II! The world's great military analysts now openly admit that it took a "miracle" to save England from "certain defeat." They shudder when they realize how perilously close Adolf Hitler came to winning the war.

These careful analysts prove that Hitler had everything in his favor, the *military power*, the *air force*, and the *brilliant generals*. He guided Germany from victory to victory until all Europe lay prostrate at his feet. There was nothing to stop him. His enemies were usually peace-loving people and were unprepared for war.

You are alive today **ONLY** because the **CREATOR** caused Hitler to make an *incredible blunder* each time he had "certain victory" within his grasp.

There is a mighty important **REASON** why God kept Hitler from **CONQUERING** the world in 1940. But before we explain why, let's notice the **SEVEN FATAL BLUNDERS** which Hitler made.

The Record of History

At daybreak, September 1, 1939, Hitler made his *first* **MAJOR** blunder.

He ordered the German panzer divisions to storm across the Polish frontier and to converge on Warsaw from the north, the south, and the west. German warplanes savagely bombed and strafed Polish troop columns and the fleeing masses of **HELPLESS** people. Death and destruction screamed down from the skies. Thousands died!

Yet what Hitler believed to be an overwhelming victory proved to be—in the end—his *FIRST* major blunder.

Hitler hoped Britain and France

We have asked Mr. L. E. Torrance, Professor of English at Ambassador College, and a student of history, to write this surprising article. He was a prisoner-of-war of the Japanese during World War II for 3½ years.

would not *dare* to go to war over Poland. But Britain and France, *shocked* at the **SAVAGE** and **UNPROVOKED** attack upon Poland, dared to declare war on Germany. Thus began the bitter resistance to Hitler that eventually led to his defeat. Hitler's first fatal blunder was to start World War II.

The battle fronts remained strangely quiet until the spring of 1940. France and Britain gained time to plan a defense. But it was already too late!

Blitzkrieg—Lightning War!

At dawn, May 10, 1940, German Blitzkrieg struck France. Superbly trained Nazi soldiers smashed through the "impassable" Ardennes Forest, north of the Maginot Line, and quickly overran the nine divisions which defended this sector.

The French and British were astonished at the power of German Blitzkrieg. Fighter planes and Stuka dive bombers came screaming out of the skies—bombing, strafing—spreading flame and terror everywhere. Tanks by the thousands broke through the defending French Army, smashed their way toward the English Channel. Self-propelled, rapid-firing cannons rolled forty miles an hour across French countryside.

Even the infantry moved with incredible speed as millions of men on "motorized wheels" raced forward at

breath-taking speed, capturing vital installations—command posts, even whole divisions who had not yet been issued guns and ammunition by their slow-moving French commanders.

General Guderian's swift-moving panzer divisions reached the English Channel only ten days after having stormed across the French frontier. This successful drive to the sea established a German wedge between the British Army in Belgium and the French forces still fighting in southern France.

The Belgians and the Dutch hastily surrendered to the advancing Germans. The British Expeditionary Force suddenly found itself in an alarmingly dangerous position. A German Army stood between them and their Allies, the French.

The British desperately tried to escape impending doom by breaking through the German wedge, intending to join what remained of the French Army in the South. They *could not!* The Germans held, they were too strong. The British found themselves in immediate peril of being surrounded and trapped. They discovered that German forces were between them and the coast. Death or captivity—or both—was imminent.

Hitler had "certain victory" within his grasp. He was now in a position to annihilate the remaining Allied forces. His Armies were fast closing a ring of steel around the beleaguered British Expeditionary Force. Von Rundstedt's panzer forces were racing southward out of Belgium, while Guderian's tanks were pushing northward to meet him—thus they planned to trap the British Army and destroy it while it was still twenty-five miles from the coast.

Advance patrols of these two German



—Wide World Photo

Hitler addresses German Reichstag upon commencing war against Poland. This was Hitler's first fatal blunder!

Armies were only nine miles apart. The jaws of the trap they were about to spring upon the British were closing at frightening speed. Guderian's and Von Rundstedt's panzer armies were closer to Dunkirk than were the British. There was *absolutely* NOTHING to stop this *pincer movement* from closing tight the "gap" and surrounding the British Army. This "ring of German steel" would then have cut off the badly battered British Army from the Port of Dunkirk and would have made it impossible for them to escape across the Channel to England.

The position of the British Expeditionary Force was *hopeless*.

Then Hitler suddenly made his *second major blunder*.

"Miracle at Dunkirk"

Hitler issued the most amazing order ever recorded in all military history. He ordered General von Rundstedt and General Guderian to stop their fast-succeeding drive to surround the helpless British Army. The British troops escaped into Dunkirk under the silent muzzles of the German guns.

Hitler's order read: "Dunkirk is to be left to the Luftwaffe" (Guderian, *The Panzer Leader*, p. 439).

Then God intervened!

The English channel became as smooth as glass. Fog closed in. Battleships, destroyers, cruisers, ocean liners — *motor boats* — *row boats* — *rafts* —

ANYTHING that would FLOAT, moved across the English Channel under the protective cover of dense fog. This "Miracle of Dunkirk" Hitler did not order!

The German Chiefs of Staff watched in helpless fury as the Royal Navy and "swarms of miserable little boats" began evacuating the cream of the British Army to England.

Brauchitsch wept, "The bad weather has GROUNDED the Luftwaffe and we must now stand by and watch countless thousands of the enemy get away to England right under our noses."

Von Rundstedt complained, "My hands were tied by direct orders from Hitler himself. While the English were clambering into the ships off the beaches, I was kept useless outside the port, unable to move . . . I sat outside the town, watching the English escape, while my tanks and infantry were prohibited from moving" (Shulman, *Defeat in The West*, pp. 42-43).

In all of history—has there ever been the equal of this incredible blunder? If Hitler had not made this blunder the entire British Army would have been destroyed. England certainly would have fallen. Hitler and Japan could then have been free to attack the United States itself.

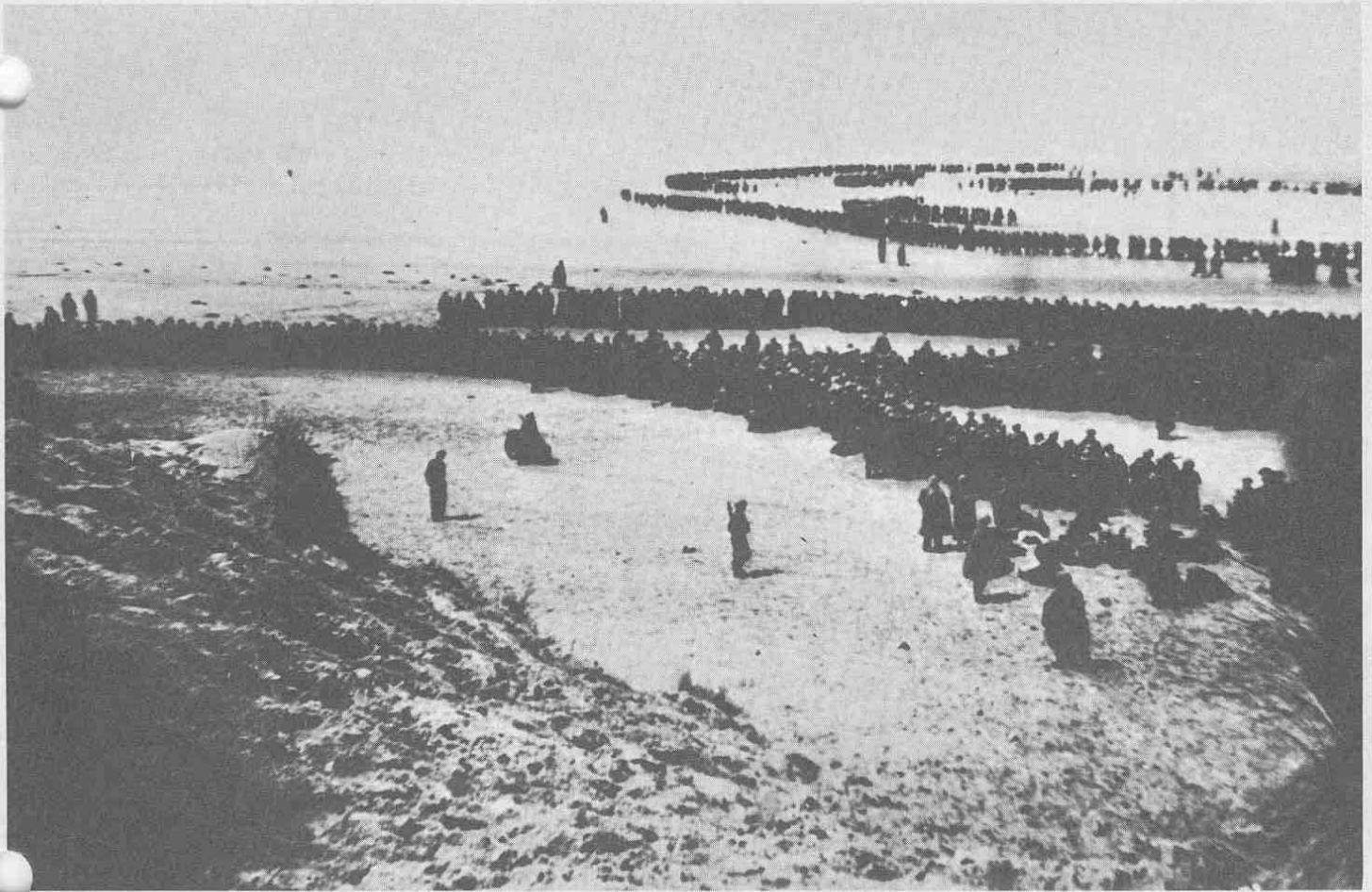
Why Hitler Made Such a Blunder

General Halder wrote a letter on July 19, 1947, to William L. Shirer, revealing that Goering talked Hitler into stopping the fast-advancing German Army. Goering wanted the German Air Force—the *Luftwaffe*—to destroy the British Expeditionary Force and thereby receive the credit for victory in the eyes of the German people.

Goering *emphasized* to Hitler that if the great victory in battle were to be claimed exclusively by the German Army generals—some of whom were not Nazi party members—the prestige of the Fuehrer in the German homeland would be damaged beyond repair. (William L. Shirer, *The Rise And Fall of The Third Reich*, p. 733.)

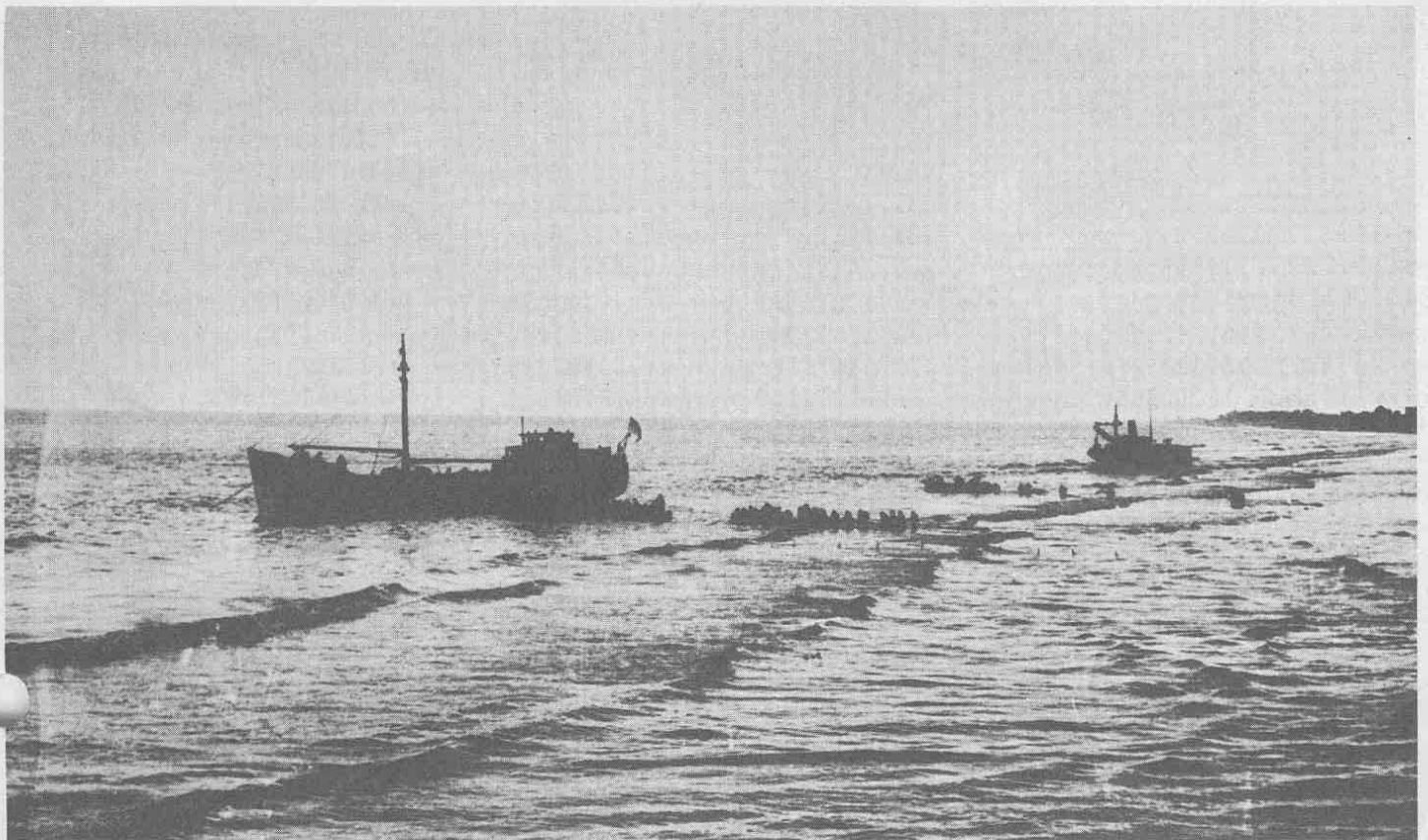
The Luftwaffe miserably failed!

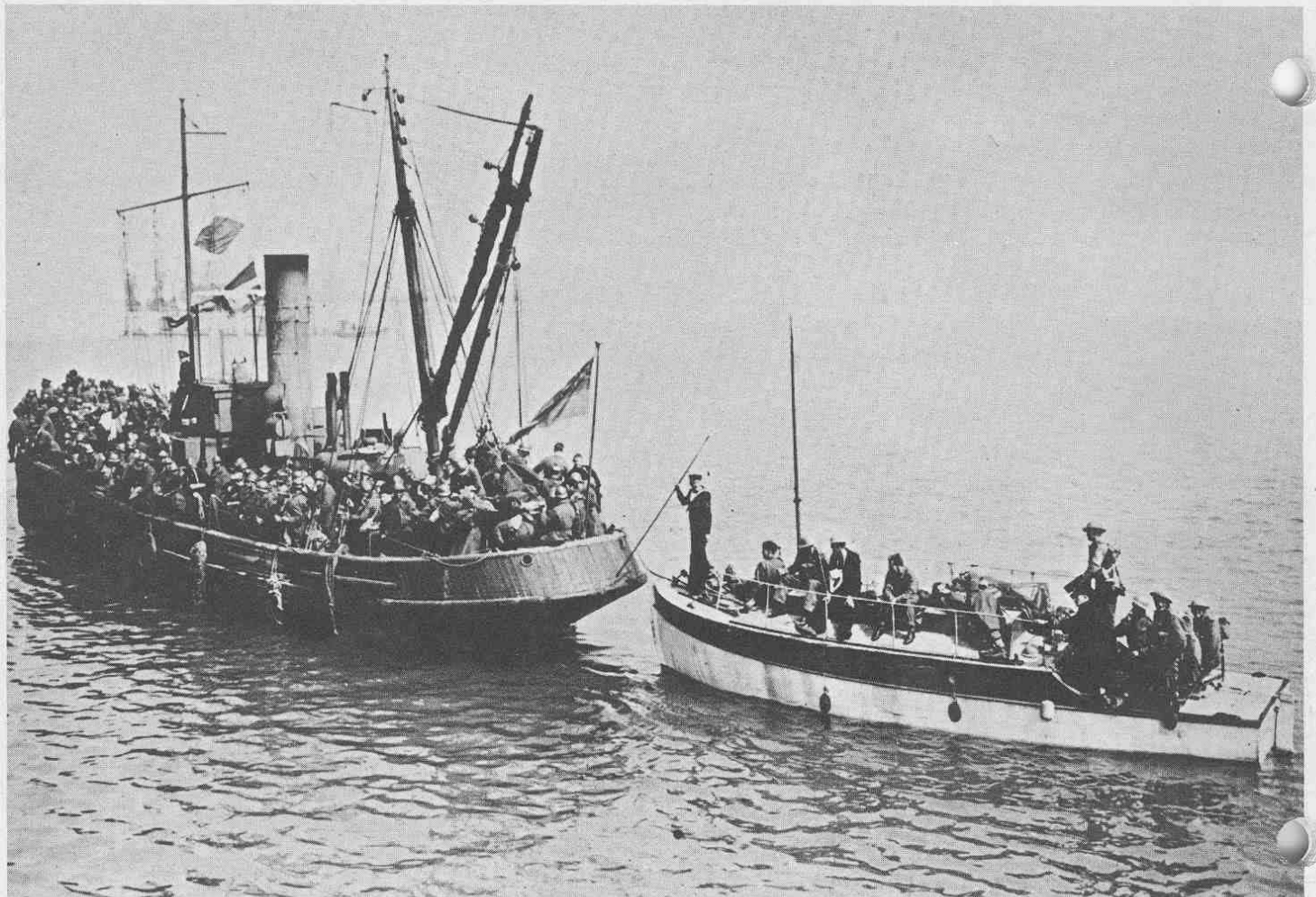
God used *vanity* and *fear* to cause Hitler to make this INCREDIBLE blunder. "This assembly shall know the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for



—Wide World Photos

British troops line shores at Dunkirk, above, and wade out to the waiting vessels in the channel, below.





—Wide World Photos

Many little ships were used to ferry English troops to safety from Dunkirk. The weather protected them from German bombing.

the battle is the LORD'S" (I Sam. 17:47). What happened in the weather at Dunkirk was a divine miracle.

The Battle of Britain

Hitler could still have won World War II, if he had not made an even greater BLUNDER—his third!

The British were still at Hitler's mercy. They had sent every division they had across the English Channel in a desperate gamble to help France stop the German Blitzkrieg.

France had collapsed. The British fled the continent. They left *all* their military equipment on the beaches of Dunkirk.

They had gambled ALL to help save France, and had lost. ALL that England had left to fight an invasion force—was a hundred tanks, and two or three poorly equipped divisions, a mere handful of men (Shulman, *Defeat in The West*, p. 50).

The German Intelligence Service de-

clared that the German Army could land and keep supplied forty-five divisions in the initial landing on the coast of England. They also believed that they could supply an additional sixty-five divisions as soon as *air superiority* was established. The Germans would have had more than a thirty-to-one superiority in men and equipment. Defenseless England could not have withstood such a POWER. Even the stubborn British could not have stopped the belching "fire and brimstone" from cannon's mouths with pitchforks and clubs.

Prime Minister Churchill said that "... in 1940 an invading force of perhaps 150,000 picked men might have created mortal havoc in our midst" (Secret Session Speeches, London, 1945, p. 52).

At the dizzy height of success, terrifying fear again entered the German picture. The German High Command decided that they must destroy the Brit-

ish Air Force BEFORE they *dared* risk the invasion of England.

The Luftwaffe began the operation to wipe out the R.A.F. by bombing the airfields, the aircraft factories, the *twelve* radar outposts, and the *seven* "sector control centers."

Goering did not realize how vital these radar outposts were to Britain's

British searchlights scan for Luftwaffe raiders.



defenses. He soon stopped attacks on them.

The sector centers were another very important key to the defense of England. They worked hand in hand with the radar outposts. By September six of the SEVEN all-important sector stations were knocked out. The entire communications system was on the very verge of destruction.

This was Britain's darkest hour. "The scales," as Churchill later wrote, "had tilted against our fighter command—there was much anxiety." Another week or two of this and Britain's fast dwindling Air Force would have *disappeared!* Conquest of England would have been a certainty! DISASTER for Britain was imminent.

A miracle was needed to save Britain!

"Not by Power . . ."

Winston Churchill said of that hour, "The odds were great; our margins small; the stakes infinite."

In a desperate move he decided to *strike back* at Germany. He sent a fleet of British bombers over Berlin the night of August 28, killing ten German civilians and wounding twenty-nine others. The Nazi leaders were furious. Headlines blared—"COWARDLY BRITISH ATTACK!" "BRITISH AIR PIRATES OVER BERLIN!" Hitler ordered his air force to RETALIATE by wiping out London.

Why, just when complete victory was again within his grasp, *did Hitler stop the fast-succeeding plan of destroying the aircraft factories, the fighter fields, the sector stations, and the Royal Air Force?*

To "get even." "They'll pay for the bombing of Berlin," screamed Hitler! And this was Hitler's THIRD FATAL BLUNDER.

What did the British gain? *Time!* Time to rebuild their battered air force.

This third blunder caused Hitler to postpone the planned invasion of England until the spring of 1941. He threw away a never-to-be-repeated chance to knock Britain out of the war. Do you see that, as in days of old, ". . . our God, whom we serve, is ABLE to deliver us . . ."? (Dan. 3:17.)

Hitler's Fourth Major Blunder

Hitler still could have won the war



—Wide World Photo

Wreckage in London from the "revenge bombing" senselessly carried out by Hitler and Goering.

if it had not been for blunder number four.

The German General Staff planned to capture the Mediterranean area and cut the "British life line" and starve out the Island of Britain.

Three army groups were to be used in this offensive. The first group, led by Field Marshal von Rundstedt, was (with Spanish assistance) to capture Gibraltar. "The attack on Gibraltar had been so fully prepared," said Goering, enthusiastically, "that it could not have failed" (Shulman, *Defeat in The West*, pp. 57-59).

The second group, under Field Mar-

shal von Bock, was to move through Italy into Tripolitania (Northern Africa).

The third army group, under Field Marshal List, was to drive through Greece and the Balkans to capture the Dardanelles and Ankara, Turkey—then it was to continue on to the Suez canal and capture the Near East oil fields (Shulman, *Defeat in The West*, pp. 57-59).

But Hitler had other ideas!

Hitler rejected the General Staff's carefully made plans to conquer the Mediterranean. He decided that he

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Now! New Power Bloc Stronger than Russia!

(Continued from page 4)

happens—this entire European uniting on a political and military basis will be deferred, slowed down. In that event, it could run even a few more years before we fully see the prophesied United States of Europe.

Third Power Bloc

And because the Eternal Ruler of the entire Universe *is, in fact*, holding back the fury of World War III long enough to allow time for HIS OWN GOSPEL to go in great and multiplying POWER as a last WARNING to the world, *before* God allows calamity to strike, this postponement is entirely possible.

But, within a few years at least, it is positively certain! At present, West Berlin is the key that could trigger the sudden emergence to life of the ROMAN EMPIRE once again—probably called The United States of Europe this time.

In fright and terror of Russia—in total loss of confidence in United States determination to protect them from the Russian hordes—they will appeal to the Pope at Rome to use his good offices to

unite them. Ten nations will join in a political-military-economic-religious EMPIRE.

And when they do, you will KNOW the second coming of Jesus Christ to set up supreme WORLD GOVERNMENT—to save mankind from itself—to restore PEACE and happiness—is very near. For this European combine will not hold together. It will endure but a very SHORT TIME. And it will be *ended* by the coming of the all-powerful Christ!

Meanwhile, what of Britain? They are attempting to join the economic combine. But in all probability they will *not* be part of the United States of Europe. France probably will—and two or three others of the democracies of northwestern Europe. One phase of God's warning is to them—"COME OUT OF HER—[Babylon, or the United Europe]—MY PEOPLE, that you partake not of her sins and receive not of her plagues!" (Rev. 18:4.)

If you want full information of the prophecies on this "Beast" write for free booklet on the subject.

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

I believe and trust in Him.' That is why I am writing for the booklet 'Does God Exist?' and the article 'Seven Proofs God Exists.'"

Man from Watha, North Carolina

(*Editor's Comment:* Many people fall into this category. Can you prove God's existence? or have you always taken it for granted? If so you should write for our free booklet "Does God Exist?" today.)

Motor Company Employees Listen

"Many of my fellow employees are listening to The WORLD TOMORROW. I work at Ford Motor Company which employs around 2,000 men on the day shift. The WORLD TOMORROW precedes the UAW-CIO program which comes on at 5:30 a.m. One of the head union committeemen, whose job it is to wander around the plant and keep a check on

the men and talk to them, stopped to ask me if that was my church's program. I replied, 'Yes.' He told me that I would be surprised to know how many of the men in the plant were listening to it. Some of the comments about the program from men are: 'Mr. Armstrong is really sharp.' 'Mr. Armstrong has some good points, but I don't agree with everything he says.' 'Mr. Armstrong uses very good English and has a good speaking voice.' Another head union man says he would not miss the program."

Man from Kansas City

Coal Pile Gets Bigger!

"Since tithing now for over two years I have really prospered. When I first started I was burning oil lamps. I now have light, refrigerator, fan and a warmer house. My coal pile lasted so much more, every one of my neighbors said

they believed my coal pile was getting bigger all the time instead of going down. I had fuel to give to some of my neighbors and still had a lot left over and plenty to start on next winter. All I have is my husband's pension check once a month and always have money left over. It sure pays to listen to God."

Woman from Kessinger, Kentucky

Correspondence Course Helps

"A man cannot know how foolish he is until he studies the Bible Course and sees himself as he is. I beg that you and followers pray God to forgive an old man that has reared a family without teaching them the truth about God."

Man from New Orleans, Louisiana

Breaks Bad Habit!

"About three weeks ago you sent me an article 'Should Christians Smoke?' After reading the article I have not smoked one cigarette since, nor any tobacco. I am very grateful to you that I have been able to break this very bad habit. Apart from saving money going up in smoke, my general health is much better, and I no longer suffer with coughing first thing in the morning."

Man from Sussex, England

(*Editor's Comment:* Anyone who has this problem should write for the article on smoking. Many people have been encouraged to quit smoking after reading it.)

Delighted With Bible Story

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Today we received our copy of the Bible Story by Basil Wolverton and are delighted with it. I found the time to view all of the illustrations and to read the descriptive matter of each. They are indeed superb. As an artist, Mr. Wolverton really has a style. We consider it both a privilege and an honor to receive a fine book of literature and art. We sincerely thank you both."

Couple from Fallbrook, California

(*Editor's comment:* We regret that many American and Canadian readers who asked for the "Children's Bible Story," Volume I, have not yet received their copy. The response was so great we are having another edition printed. Please be patient and you will receive your copy.)

Just What do You MEAN— SALVATION?

Do you realize not one in a hundred knows what it is—how to get it—when you receive it? Don't be too sure you do! Here, once for all, is the TRUTH made so plain you will really UNDERSTAND it!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

COULD you, yourself, answer these questions? If someone asked you to open your Bible and show him exactly *where* the Bible says salvation means *going to heaven*—could you do it?

Is salvation a *place*, a *destination*, a *condition*, a *reward*—or *WHAT?* . . . and *where* would you turn in your Bible to find it? Are you sure?

Could you open your Bible and show a questioner where it tells you *when* you receive salvation? Do you actually get it *now*, when you die, when Christ returns—or at some other time? This article will show you plainly.

Are you, at conversion, an inheritor, an heir to inherit, or what—and just what *does* one inherit?

Suppose you were asked what connection there is between salvation and that *whole third* of the Bible devoted to prophecy. Could you explain it? Another third or more of the Bible is taken up with history. Can you explain the connection of this vast amount of Scripture with *salvation*? Can you believe *MOST* of the Bible is totally unconcerned with the matter of salvation?

Let's Make it PLAIN!

Religious people talk about "getting saved." Yet even most religious people understand no more of what the Bible teaches about salvation—the real meaning of the *word* "salvation"—than a certain young man did about another religious expression.

He said to me, "I gave my heart to the Lord at the revival meeting last night."

"Well," I said, "Just what do you *mean*—you gave your heart to the Lord? Just how did you do that? Did you reach in your hand, take your heart out, and actually hand it to the Lord—

WHY

do some misrepresent, saying we teach "salvation by WORKS"? *They know better!* This surprising article will make the TRUTH not only *plain*, but tremendously INTERESTING! You'll see how millions have been deceived into a FALSE salvation.

and was He really right there, in Person?"

"Well, uh—uh—" he stammered, confused, "uh—well, no, I didn't do that."

"Then just what *did* you do? *How* did you 'give your heart to the Lord'?" He stammered some more, then guessed he didn't know.

That's the way it is with a lot of people who say "I got saved." They don't really know what they mean by "getting saved."

Do YOU know what the BIBLE teaches about salvation? Millions of sincere people have *supposed* they knew—yet have been deceived into accepting a FALSE SALVATION.

It's about time to get to the plain WHYS, WHATS, HOWS, and WHENS, so you can see it clearly, plainly, right in your own BIBLE! *Why* should the most important thing in life be a vague, mysterious, superstitious, ethereal, meaningless thing?

I'm going to make it PLAIN—in your Bible! So prepare yourself for a SHOCK! And don't believe me—BELIEVE THE BIBLE!

What Salvation Is

While the real truth must come from the Bible, the dictionary definition may help a little. Webster defines "salvation" as: "1. The saving of man from the

spiritual consequences of sin; especially deliverance from sin and eternal damnation. . . . 2. Preservation from destruction, failure, or other evil."

Now we need to learn the Bible definition of SIN, and to see what the Bible reveals the spiritual CONSEQUENCES to be. Whatever the CONSEQUENCES, Webster says salvation is to save you *from* it—and in this the Bible shows Webster was right. Also salvation means PRESERVATION—and in this, we shall see the Bible affirms the definition.

But why would you *need* to be saved from the spiritual CONSEQUENCES of sin? And WHY, if you are an immortal soul, do you need *preservation from destruction*? What has this to do with YOU?

Suppose you say, "Look, I don't go to church. I don't pretend to be religious. Why should I be concerned with all these religious words like 'sin' and 'salvation' and 'spiritual consequences'?"

Does this concern *only* religious people?

WHY You Are Concerned

God Almighty, who designed, created, and sustains human life—including *yours*, says this: "ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23).

That involves YOU!

Right now you probably have no conception of what is meant by "the glory of God" you have come short of. You'll *really* open your eyes in astonishment when that is made plain to you.

But, whatever SIN is, *you have sinned*. ALL humans have! Christ, only, is excepted. *You are involved*. And since salvation is saving man from the *consequences* of sin (and the Bible affirms this, as we shall see), let God's Word tell you what the *consequences* are.

It is plain and simple. Here it is: "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

But why have you heard—and possibly believed—just the opposite? *Look at that*—read it in your own BIBLE! *Notice!* The wages you are going to be paid for having sinned is DEATH! Then why do so many religious people teach exactly the opposite of the Bible—WHY do they teach that the wages of sin is ETERNAL LIFE in hell?

Look at that again, in your Bible! On the one hand, the penalty is DEATH—on the other hand, the gift is ETERNAL LIFE. The two are contrasted—it is one or the other—DEATH, or ETERNAL LIFE.

Right here let me make VERY PLAIN one thing THE BIBLE teaches. A few persecutors have accused us of teaching "a salvation by WORKS"—that is, that our "works" *earn* salvation. Let it be made clear and plain right here that your "WORKS"—your *evil* works—*do earn something*—but it is NOT SALVATION—what they *earn*—the WAGES they earn—is DEATH, and *not* salvation!

Further, let's get this point straight and plain right here—ETERNAL LIFE is *not* something you can *earn*, it is GOD'S GIFT through Christ! That is the plain teaching of YOUR BIBLE! You earn wages. The only wages you can earn is DEATH. Your Bible says that. We say that. But our accusers actually teach the very thing they accuse us of teaching!!!—they teach that ETERNAL LIFE is the wages you EARN by your works—even though it is eternal life in hell fire!

Again—Your BIBLE says very plainly that "the GIFT of God is ETERNAL LIFE." Now this very verse (and all others in the Bible bearing on the subject agree) says plainly that what you RECEIVE by God's GRACE—as His GIFT, is ETERNAL LIFE. It says that eternal life is something you have to OBTAIN as a GIFT from GOD! Therefore SALVATION actually IS "ETERNAL LIFE"—a GIFT! But do you know the accusers who try to discredit this very work of God DENY THAT? They actually DENY that eternal life comes only as God's GIFT by grace and through Christ. THEY SAY YOU ALREADY HAVE ETERNAL

LIFE. They say you are an "IMMORTAL SOUL"!

Yes, this is amazing!

This is important! This is the crux of the whole question—of life—of the reason for existence! If you have an immortal soul—if you already *have* eternal life—then the Bible is not true when it says plainly eternal life is a GIFT from God. According to the Bible, what the "saved" receive as God's GIFT through Jesus Christ is ETERNAL LIFE. Salvation, then, actually *is* the receiving of something you don't now have—ETERNAL LIFE. And if that Bible statement is TRUE, then our accusers are FALSE!

They try to deceive people into believing they do not need to be saved *from death* by Christ's free grace—by His shed blood. They say you do not need saving *from death* at all. They say, as Satan deceived mother Eve, that you will not surely die—you are—or have—an immortal soul!

NOTICE THIS IN YOUR BIBLE!

It's time to quit believing and following MEN. Look in your own Bible. BELIEVE GOD!!

WHY You Are Helpless

Now does the Bible say anywhere that you are, or have, an "IMMORTAL SOUL"?

For years we offered \$1,000 to anyone who can show any place where the words "immortal soul" are found in the Bible. No one ever found it!

WHY IS IT that religious people speak continually about "your immortal soul," about "going to heaven," about dead loved ones being now "with the Lord," and many other such things supposed to be the BASIC beliefs of Christianity—and yet *never once showing you any such teaching* IN THE BIBLE! They *talk* of these teachings as if they were true. They lead you to take these teachings for granted—to suppose they came from the Bible.

What does the Bible teach about the soul? Will you read it in your own Bible? Don't take my word for it—don't believe me—BELIEVE GOD!

Read it, in Ezekiel 18:4: "The soul that sinneth, *it shall die.*" Yes, again, the wages of sin is DEATH—that soul that sins shall DIE!

That truth about the soul is so important God caused it to be written twice. Turn now to Ezekiel 18:20: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Souls are not immortal. Your Bible says they can DIE!

But the deceiver may say "That's in the Old Testament." Read in the NEW Testament that ALL Scripture—all that Timothy had known from youth, which was the Old Testament—is given by inspiration of God (II Timothy 3:15-16).

Again, in the NEW Testament: Jesus Christ Himself said you should "fear him which is able *to destroy* both *soul* and *body* in gehenna"—a fire that will *burn them up*—cause them to DIE—*destroy* what is burned! Oh, yes, the Bible does teach *that* kind of hell fire—but not the kind where one burns forever and yet never burns up (Matthew 10:28). Let's *believe* Jesus Christ when He says souls can be DESTROYED! They are NOT immortal!

This may come as a surprise: not only is it true that there is no such expression anywhere in the Bible as "immortal soul," but the word "immortal" occurs *only once* in all the Bible—in I Timothy 1:17, where it refers to GOD as being immortal.

Further, the word "immortality" can be found only five times in all the Bible. In Romans 2:7 you will read it is something for us to *seek for*. Of course! It is the GIFT of GOD, who has it to give! You don't need to *seek for* something you already have! In I Corinthians 15:53, and again in verse 54, immortality is something the "saved" shall *put on*, AT THE TIME OF THE RESURRECTION. In I Timothy 6:16 it speaks of the resurrected and glorified Christ, who, *only*, of all who have been born human, has immortality. And finally, in II Timothy 1:10, immortality is something Jesus Christ brought to light—made possible for us to receive—through the Gospel.

So the Bible teaches that the soul is NOT immortal, but is mortal, subject to DEATH as the penalty of sin!

Now where does this leave YOU? Let's get back to YOU!

All have sinned. That includes you. The penalty is DEATH! You do not possess eternal life from natural birth.

Christ said: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh" (John 3:6). So you are only mortal, material FLESH. You are "of the earth—earthly" (I Cor. 15:47). The "life" you were born with is merely temporary chemical existence! You live by breathing air in and out of your lungs—the *breath of life*.

You are only one breath away from death—the cessation of the existence we call "life." If you don't draw that next breath, you can't keep alive or conscious ten more minutes. There is no immortal soul that will keep you alive and conscious. You ARE a soul (Gen. 2:7) that has *sinned*, and so shall DIE, unless saved from it by Christ's grace.

If your heart does not make that next beat, there is nothing in you to keep you alive ten minutes. You exist by breathing of air and circulation of blood—fed by food and water. You have only temporary CHEMICAL EXISTENCE. You are like a clock wound up, and running down. You don't know at what second it will stop!

You can't give yourself any LIFE beyond this running-down chemical existence. There is no eternal life inherent in you. Nothing you can do will produce it, supply it, or EARN it. You can't get it by *your own works!*

What your own works have done for you is earn for you the PENALTY of death. And it is ETERNAL DEATH—*eternal punishment!* You see, everyone has "WORKS"—either good or bad.

GOD—and God *only*—has immortality! Instead of *assuming* carelessly the pagan teaching of "immortality of the soul," turn again to I Timothy 6:16 and read it with your own eyes in your own Bible! The risen Christ, and He only, of all who were born human, has immortality. God has immortality—life *inherent*, in Himself (John 5:26). He has given to the Son, Jesus Christ, also to have LIFE *in Himself*. And only GOD can impart eternal life to YOU! It comes through Christ.

But how are you going to go to God? Your past sins not only have condemned you under penalty of death—they also have put a total BARRIER between you and God. They have cut you off from all access to God!

Read it! See it in your own Bible: "Behold, the LORD's hand is not short-

ened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but *your iniquities have separated between you and your God*, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:1-2).

HOW Seek God?

So HOW, when this barrier stands between you, are you going to GO TO GOD to obtain eternal life?

Again Isaiah answers: "SEEK ye the Eternal while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: *let the wicked forsake HIS WAY*, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: . . . For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Eternal" (Isa. 55:6-8).

So now you SEEK GOD, so you may obtain eternal LIFE from Him. You REPENT! You forsake *your way* of life, and turn to God's way. But you find something is *still lacking!* You find you still are cut off! The barrier is still there! Do you know why?

At this point we need to stop and find out what is meant by that word "SIN."

Haven't you honestly been a bit confused by this religious terminology? You hear people talk about "sin," "getting saved," "under law or under grace," "justification," "sanctified," "heaven," "hell," "predestination," and dozens of other terms. Haven't they been pretty vague to you—rather meaningless? Do you know that most religious people who use all these religious words usually don't know any more than you do what they really MEAN?

What Do You Mean—SIN?

We started by quoting the Scripture "ALL have sinned." We said that included YOU!

But *what is SIN?* Why, when men preach, don't you hear *that* explained, defined, made clear and understandable? WHY are these religious terms used most of the time loosely, vaguely, meaninglessly?

Once, in Springfield, Oregon, a young man with a Bible in his hand accosted me on the street. An evangelist had come to town and pitched a tent. He brought with him a "gospel team" including some eight young men of col-

lege age, who roamed the streets carrying Bibles, stopping people and inviting them to attend the services. One stopped me.

"Well now," I said, "Does your evangelist teach that Christ saves us from SIN?" He assured me he did.

"Well, what I want to know," I persisted, "is what I have to quit DOING—or what I have DONE that you call 'SIN.' Just what *is* 'SIN'?"

"Well," he answered, "Christ died for our sins."

"But that doesn't tell me exactly *what* I've done that Christ had to die for," I insisted. "What *is* 'SIN'?"

"Christ DIED for our sins," came the reply.

"Yes, I know—you said that before. But what *is* this thing, 'SIN,' that He died for? What do I have to quit doing? Can you open that Bible you have, and show me the BIBLE DEFINITION of the word 'SIN'? Is there a place in the Bible where it gives a plain definition—where it says 'sin is—' and then in plain words tells what it is?"

He called to a second of the young men—then a third, and a fourth. Finally, with a large crowd gathering, they called the evangelist himself. But even he could not—or *would not*—turn to the Bible answer! One by one, they all slunk away!

Then I took a Bible out of my briefcase, turned to I John 3:4, and read to the crowd:

"Sin is the transgression of the Law."

But *what* law? This is explained in Romans 7. So next I read:

"What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay I had not known sin but by the law"—or, in the plainer English of the Moffatt translation: "Why, had it not been for the Law, I would never have known what sin meant!" In other words, the Law *defines* sin. Sin is breaking the Law. But *what* Law? Continuing, same verse: "for I had not known lust, except the Law had said, Thou shalt not covet." (Rom. 7:7).

There we are told plainly *what* Law it is SIN to transgress. It is the Law that says: "Thou shalt not covet." That Law IS the Ten Commandments. It is SIN to break the Ten Commandments.

In verses 12 and 14 of this same 7th chapter of Romans you will read that

the Law is *holy, just and good*, and that it is a SPIRITUAL LAW—a law of spiritual principles of living!

Of course the whole spiritual Law may be summed up in the word LOVE. This may be divided into the two Great Commandments, love toward GOD, and love toward *neighbor*. The first four of the Ten Commandments tell us *how* to love GOD; the last six *how* to love neighbor. The WHOLE BIBLE elaborates, showing the principles involved, until it includes the entire RIGHT WAY OF LIFE!

Now notice Romans 3:20. "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

Of course! False accusers to the contrary notwithstanding, THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT WE TEACH. Keeping the law will not justify anyone. We have all sinned. We cannot justify this guilt we have incurred—we cannot avoid the wages we have earned—DEATH—by obedience, goodness, works, or anything we can do.

Let's make that REAL PLAIN! Most women carry a mirror in their purses. A woman takes out her mirror, steals a glance at her face, discovers dirt on it. Does she try to wash off the dirt with the mirror? Ridiculous? Yes, of course. Looking into the mirror won't cleanse the dirt already there. WHY? Because BY the mirror comes the KNOWLEDGE that the dirt is there! Now God's LAW is His spiritual mirror. Your Bible says so—plainly (James 1:22-25). You look into GOD'S LAW. It shows you the spiritual dirt on your heart. To HEAR God's Word, which corrects, reproves and rebukes (II Tim. 3:16) and then DO NOTHING about the spiritual dirt it reveals is like a man beholding his face in a mirror, seeing the dirt—gaining knowledge of it—then forgetting how dirty he is—doing nothing about it.

God's LAW is His spiritual mirror. But keeping yourself from becoming more dirty today does not wash off the dirt already there. So, "By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight"—WHY? Because "by the law is the KNOWLEDGE of sin." OF COURSE!

Sin IS "the transgression of the law." Paul would not have *known* it was sin

to lust, except the LAW had said "Thou shalt not covet." The function of the Law is to tell us *what sin is!* Not to cleanse us of yesterday's sin or last year's sin.

There can never be a LAW, unless there is a *penalty* for its violation. And, where "no law is, there is no transgression" (Rom. 4:15) and could be no penalty—no punishment. If the wages—the punishment—of sin is death, and death is the penalty, then there is a LAW. And if there is no law being broken, there is no transgression and no penalty—and then we need no Saviour—no salvation FROM the punishment.

Now WHERE did the Law come from? Again, through James, God says "There is ONE LAWGIVER" (James 4:12). That is GOD. God set in motion many laws—laws of physics and chemistry among them. The great law of LOVE is a *spiritual* law. It is THE WAY of peace, of happiness—of right relationship with God and with human neighbor. It is inexorable—a *living* law as much fixed and in motion as laws of gravity and inertia. To break it is to turn in the opposite direction from peace, happiness, security, abundance, and toward strife, fear, worry, unhappiness, suffering, death. The final wages you earn travelling that WAY is DEATH!

Yes, the wages of sin is DEATH. But we have HOPE! The GIFT of GOD is eternal LIFE.

So now, where are we? Eternal life can be had only from GOD. So, as stated above, you seek GOD. But you find a tremendous, impenetrable barrier—your sins you have committed. Until they are JUSTIFIED you have no access to God. Isaiah 55:6-8, already quoted, says that IF you would seek God the sinner must forsake HIS WAY, and turn to GOD'S WAY. God's LAW is God's WAY—and sin, the transgression of His Law—rebellion and disobedience—is YOUR way.

So now you forsake YOUR WAY—you forsake SIN or breaking His Law. You forsake breaking it by keeping it—OBEYING it. At least you try—you do it the very best you can.

LAW-KEEPING Won't Justify!

But what do you find? YOU ARE STILL CUT OFF FROM GOD!

Actually, as we shall see in a moment,

you can't keep a spiritual law with a carnal mind. But, even if you could, your OBEDIENCE now is *only what required of you now!* It does not make up for PAST law-breaking. That penalty still hangs over you. As we have seen, by being law-abiding *now*, no flesh shall be JUSTIFIED of past law-breaking! A man convicted of committing murder last month does not erase his sentence by being law-abiding this month.

THAT IS WHAT YOUR BIBLE TEACHES! And that is what *The PLAIN TRUTH* teaches! That is what Herbert W. Armstrong and Garner Ted Armstrong and The WORLD TOMORROW program proclaims to the whole world! GET THAT STRAIGHT! All the good WORKS in the
(Please continue on page 36)

What is the Best Age to Marry?

(Continued from page 8)

and 25, when she has utilized those top aptitude years for preparation, and is prepared to assume the *duties* of widowhood and motherhood—the responsibilities of planning, decorating, arranging a home, keeping it, and being a help and inspiration to her husband.

I sincerely believe, in view of what God has developed, that He brought about circumstances and influences to shape my early life, and also my wife's, as a preparation for a very great worldwide work He willed to accomplish. I believe I was steered and guided by His unseen Hand in ways I did not realize then. And Mrs. Armstrong and I were married when we were both 25. We were mature enough to assume the responsibilities.

Our marriage has been *happy*, and blest beyond words to describe. And, after all these years during which God has blest us with four fine children, equally fine sons- and daughters-in-law, and eleven fine grandchildren, our marriage is still happy beyond words to describe. In fact it is happier now than ever before, because it has grown constantly more and more happy. WHAT A BLESSING!

Wouldn't you like yours to be equally so? Then heed! Use wisdom!

the true meaning of the verses mentioned above. Verses 28 and 29 get to the heart of the matter, and you will find that Peter's vision was simply to show him how he should regard no *man* as common or unclean who seeks to live rightly—regardless of nationality.

No matter what man thinks, says or does about clean and unclean creatures, the fact still remains that the difference is still there. The nature of unclean animals has not changed. They are the same today as they were before the flood, in Moses' day and in Peter's time. Those who obey the Creator in these things receive very definite blessings.

(To be continued next issue)

So You're Parents!

(Continued from page 20)

that feareth the Eternal" (Psalms 128: 1-4).

What, then, is a child? A little baby is an exact reproduction of the two parents, a separate *human being*, who is a *thoroughly selfish*, altogether *carnal* and a completely lovable, laughable, sweet little creature that will steal your heart and your reason, bring you heart-ache and tears, exultation and pride, anxiety and worry, happiness and joy, but who will teach you the real meaning of the word "love."

How a Child Learns

Human beings are creatures of *habit!* Not very many people, it seems, have ever stopped to ask themselves how it is they have come to believe the various concepts, philosophies and doctrines they assume to be true. Each one of us came into existence as a baby, knowing absolutely *NOTHING* at birth.

The human child is the most *helpless* of all newborn creatures. The young colt, the calf, even the baby porpoise and whale are able to stand, walk, leap or swim within hours, even *minutes* after birth!

But they are creatures of *instinct!* A human being does not have *instinct*, but a *MIND!* No one had to *teach* the young colt where to go for its "dinner." It simply went there—*automatically!* But God gave man a mind capable of accumulating knowledge. It is a mind much like the mind of God, though limited in its capacity.

Next issue will explain the surprising way children learn!

TRUE "CHRISTIANITY" Just What Is It?

(Continued from page 22)

But the tremendous decision to yield yourself wholly to God—to *live by His every Word*—to OBEY Him throughout all eternity—such a decision must not be taken lightly.

There Are Some Things YOU Must Do

True Christianity, then, involves a mature decision to *unconditionally SURRENDER* your life to the God of the Bible through Jesus Christ His Son as personal Saviour. It involves your willingness to LIVE by every Word of God—to keep the Commandments of God through the power of God's Spirit within you.

True Christianity means that Jesus Christ is literally *LIVING His life in you* through His Spirit! A true Christian will be able to echo the words of the Apostle Paul: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but CHRIST LIVETH IN ME: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Gal. 2:20). And the *true Christian* knows that Christ will live the *SAME* kind of life in him that He *did live* nineteen hundred years ago—setting us an example (Heb. 13:8).

The decision to make this unconditional surrender to the true God and His will is *totally in your hands!* You are a free moral agent. You must *choose*.

If you have not *REALLY* surrendered your will to God before, and if you

feel that you are ready to make an *unconditional surrender* to God through His Son Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, then write an airmail letter to Mr. Armstrong telling us that you want to be baptized this summer. Each summer, we send out teams of ministers and advanced ministerial students to counsel with and baptize those who are ready to fulfill this command of God. These men will be leaving *very soon* after you receive this article. *So don't delay!*

Get your letter in the mail *immediately* telling us that you want to be on the baptizing list for this summer. Our men will then contact you and arrange to meet you at your own home or in a nearby town or city. Those of you in Britain or Europe, or in Australia, should write either to our London or North Sydney address.

The *practice* of TRUE Christianity is the only way to God's *blessings* and *protection* in this age of potential world suicide. These things are *REAL*. God backs up His Word. May He grant you the understanding and spiritual strength to do *your part*.

What Do You Mean —SALVATION?

(Continued from page 18)

world—all the *LAW-keeping*—cannot *JUSTIFY* you of your past guilt.

Now where do you find yourself?

You are now submissive—obedient to God's Law. Is this necessary? MOST ASSUREDLY IT IS! Does it JUSTIFY you? A THOUSAND TIMES NO! NO!! NO!!! Where are you now? You have forsaken *your WAY*—sin; you have turned to GOD'S WAY—His Law.

AND YOU ARE STILL CUT OFF FROM GOD! Your works—your Law-keeping, while certainly REQUIRED, still has not JUSTIFIED past guilt—has not RECONCILED you to GOD. You still have NO ACCESS WHATEVER to God.

And you have to gain access to HIM in order to obtain His GIFT of eternal LIFE! I am trying to make this PLAIN. I want all to UNDERSTAND it, once for all!

After all this—after forsaking SIN—turning to God's WAY, as He commands—keeping His Law—that DEATH penalty still hangs over you—the PUNISHMENT is still DEATH—and it is ETERNAL punishment—death for all ETERNITY! So your Bible teaches! Don't let anyone tell you we do not teach ETERNAL PUNISHMENT. The BIBLE teaches eternal punishment. We teach eternal punishment. That punishment, YOUR Bible says, is not eternal LIFE in a hell fire of endless torture—not eternal punishing—eternal punishment—it is DEATH for eternity—and God's GIFT is LIFE for eternity! I want to make it PLAIN. Don't ever be confused about what we proclaim to the whole world. The BIBLE is the truth, and we make it PLAIN—*mighty* plain!

The Bible says the punishment is the *second* death—for eternity. It is appointed to men once to die—but after that, the judgment (Heb. 9:27). How? As in Adam ALL die (sinners and saints alike), so in Christ shall ALL be made alive—the same ALL, sinners and saints both—who die the first death (I Cor. 15:22-23). How? By a resurrection (John 5:28-29)—there is to be a resurrection of the just and the unjust—they that have done good, and they that have done evil. Read it and believe what your Bible says! The unjust end up in a hell fire that shall burn them up (II Pet. 3:10; Rev. 20:14-15; Mal. 4:1, 3), until they become ashes under the feet of the saved! Read it. Believe what you read in your BIBLE!

So, where are you? Even with your

Commandment keeping which—make no mistake *God requires of you*—still you are pretty helpless. You can't give yourself eternal life. You are doomed to die—and you are still cut off from GOD, who, *only*, has eternal life to GIVE.

You are pretty helpless, aren't you?

Well you have made a right start, even if you are still helpless.

HOW You Gain Contact

And now you have made this right start, there IS a way you may gain contact with God who has ETERNAL LIFE to impart. God so loved this world of sinners, cut off from Him, that He GAVE His only begotten Son! Remember, God GIVES eternal life through CHRIST!

Notice Romans 5:6-10: "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

Jesus Christ never transgressed God's Law. He said, "I have KEPT my Father's Commandments" (John 15:10). He also said He set us an example that we should do as He did. He never incurred the death penalty. He never cut Himself off from God. When He voluntarily PAID the death penalty, He did not pay it for any sins of His own—for there were none. He gave HIS LIFE instead of YOURS! He paid YOUR penalty *FOR YOU!*

The life HE gave was that of the MAKER of us all! God created all things BY JESUS CHRIST (Eph. 3:9). All things—including all humans—were MADE BY HIM (John 1:1-3). Therefore the life He gave on the cross was greater than the sum-total of ALL other human lives! THAT is the life that died FOR YOU—that paid YOUR penalty FOR YOU!

Now, continue in Romans 5:8-10: "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more, then, *being now justified* by His blood. . . ."

NOTICE! "Being *NOW* justified." HOW? By your works—by your required obedience to God's Law? NO! By the blood of CHRIST! If you have repented, and accepted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour you are already NOW justified!

But right here is where so many go off into error. They simply do not un-

derstand Biblical terms. "JUSTIFIED" does not refer to the FUTURE—it has to do only with your guilty PAST! This term "justified" does not mean "saved" as we shall now see. It does not mean the GIFT of LIFE. It means the GIFT of ACQUITTAL of PAST GUILT! It means the penalty of PAST sins has been paid in full, by Christ, for YOU!

The law stood over you. It claimed your life—you were under it. It took Christ's life in payment instead of yours. The PENALTY STANDS PAID! You are no longer UNDER the Law. It no longer has claim over your life! You are now under GRACE—undeserved PARDON. You are PARDONED from paying the penalty, since Jesus Christ paid it FOR you! This is not YOUR WORKS. It is Christ's SACRIFICE. YOU ARE NOW ACQUITTED—JUSTIFIED—the slate is wiped clean of a guilty past!

IN OTHER WORDS—the BARRIER between you and God has now been removed! You are now, by CHRIST'S SACRIFICE, given contact with GOD—reconciled to HIM!

SAVED By His DEATH?

So, continue: "Much more then, *being now justified* by His blood, we SHALL BE SAVED by Him."

NOTICE IT! You are already JUSTIFIED. Not by works, but by Christ's blood! The PAST is squared up—the penalty paid—the contact with God made. *BUT* are you already SAVED?

LOOK AT IT! It says "we SHALL BE saved." *Not* that we already are saved. It says "being now justified" but it does NOT say "being now SAVED." It says "we SHALL BE"—yes, in the FUTURE—saved. That is still FUTURE! SEE IT with your own eyes. Don't believe ME. Don't believe preachers who say you are already, now, saved! JUST BELIEVE THESE PLAIN WORDS IN YOUR BIBLE!

It IS real plain, isn't it?

Now here comes a surprise. Notice verse 10:

"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son. . . ." Here, again, we WERE RECONCILED—past tense. Not by your works—by Christ's DEATH. When you have truly repented, forsaken your WAY, sought God, accepted Christ as Saviour and *His death* as payment for your past

sins, you HAVE BEEN, ALREADY, reconciled. So the wording here is *we were reconciled*—past tense—to God by the DEATH of His Son.

What was accomplished by Jesus' death? It paid the PENALTY—it wiped out your guilty PAST—justified you of your guilt—reconciled you to GOD. But did it SAVE you? DID IT? Wait—don't just glibly say YES—see with your own eyes what YOUR BIBLE says!

It says, continuing, same sentence: "much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

CAN YOU BELIEVE YOUR OWN EYES? There it is, in your own Bible!

Already reconciled, by Christ's death; but—"we SHALL BE SAVED"—that is FUTURE tense. Not yet *saved*—but we SHALL BE—in the future—saved. Now are you going to be SAVED by Christ's DEATH? Can DEATH impart LIFE?

There is no stronger law in science than the law of bio-genesis which says LIFE COMES ONLY FROM LIFE. Death cannot impart LIFE.

Now HOW shall we—in FUTURE—be SAVED? By Christ's death? NO! Notice! READ IT! "We shall be saved BY HIS LIFE!"

After Christ died, God RAISED HIM BACK TO LIFE. We are saved by His resurrection—by His LIFE—by a LIVING SAVIOUR! Read I Cor. 15:14-23.

What Do You MEAN—"Not Under the Law?"

Now where do you stand? You are now making progress. You now have real hope. You have repented—you have sought God, forsaken YOUR WAY—turned to GOD'S WAY, as defined in His Law and all through His Word. You have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, and His shed blood for remission of sins. You are now reconciled to GOD. You are justified of—FORGIVEN—your guilty past. You are out from under the PENALTY of broken law.

Now, we read the question: "What shall we say, then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" (Rom. 6:1). You are now under GRACE—undeserved PARDON!

You *deserved* only DEATH. You didn't earn forgiveness—PARDON from the death penalty. You received it BY

GRACE through Jesus Christ.

Now, shall you CONTINUE IN SIN—that is, continue *transgressing the Law*? The answer is "God forbid" (Rom. 6:1).

You *were* UNDER THE LAW, when the law stood over you, claiming its penalty. When Christ paid the penalty, and satisfied the claims of the law, you were no longer under the law, but under GRACE. Now does that mean you are not under obligation to *obey* the law—license to SIN—to BREAK THE LAW? Remember sin *is* the transgression of the law.

NOW READ THIS IN YOUR BIBLE!

"What then? shall we sin"—that is, according to the BIBLE definition, shall we break the Law—"because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to OBEY, his servants ye are to whom ye OBEY; whether of sin"—breaking the law—"unto DEATH"—penalty for disobedience to God's Law—"or of OBEDIENCE unto righteousness?" (Rom. 6:15-16).

There it is! We *must not* return to rebellion against God's inexorable law of LOVE—His right way of life. If we do, we are *again* under the law—again automatically sentenced to DEATH! Jesus Christ did not die to give you license to continue in law-breaking. When you accept, by His grace, remission of sins, *it is only for sins THAT ARE PAST!* You cannot accept *in advance* remission of all the lawlessness you might like to commit *in the future*.

Read *that* in your Bible: "*Being justified freely by His grace* through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation *through faith in his blood*, to declare his righteousness *for the remission of sins that are past* through the forbearance of God" (Rom 3:24-25).

We are justified only of SINS THAT ARE PAST. We have remission only of SINS THAT ARE PAST—not license to break the Law in the future.

WHY do some religious people today teach that it is all right for Christians to go right on breaking the Law? WHY do they say that GRACE means LICENSE to DISOBEY God's Law? No wonder God found it necessary, through Jude, to warn us to contend earnestly

for the FAITH ONCE DELIVERED to the saints by Jesus Christ—for, as you'll read in Jude 3-4, there are certain men crept in unawares—deceiving people—TURNING GRACE INTO LICENSE! They are the ones who accuse us of teaching "salvation by works."

Would a governor PARDON a man convicted of murder so he could continue murdering more and more people? God's merciful PARDON—His GRACE—is bestowed on us *because* we have repented, with a sincere desire to *turn from* our wicked ways of lawlessness. If we are willing to live, from here on, *righteously, happily*, as we should have from the beginning, the merciful and loving God has been willing to GIVE His Son Jesus Christ, who, in turn, was willing to give His LIFE, to square up our PAST law-breaking—to wipe the slate clean, and give us, BY HIS MERCIFUL GRACE, a fresh clean start.

So, from here on, *we must* OBEY—unto RIGHTEOUSNESS! (Rom. 6:16).

Yet *you cannot*, of your own strength, keep the spiritual Law spiritually.

Now let's really understand *that!*

HOW You Get Eternal LIFE

Many religious people—many ordained ministers—will tell you, "It is *impossible* to keep the Law." Are they telling the truth? What does your Bible say?

NOTICE! Of the parents of John the Baptist, you will read: "And they were both righteous before God, *walking in all the commandments* and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Luke 1:6).

WHY, if it is *impossible*, did Christ command that *IF* we would enter into *life*, "KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS"? (Mat. 19:17). Of those who claim to "know the Lord," often using such sentimental religious phrases as "Oh, how GOOD it is to know the Lord," but who teach we should not keep the Commandments, YOUR Bible says this: "He that saith, 'I know Him,' and keepeth not His commandments, is a LIAR, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:4).

Yet you cannot, alone of yourself, keep the Law *spiritually!* That is not a contradiction. You can keep the literal letter, but not the spirit. Let's make *that* plain.

At the same time, we shall explain

HOW you receive Eternal life—that is, *HOW* you receive SALVATION!

Back again, now, to YOU! You have now gained contact with God. You are mortal, possessing only a temporary chemical existence. GOD ONLY has eternal life. LIFE can come only *from* LIFE—not from death. Christ's *death* paid the penalty of your guilty PAST—it reconciled you to GOD—gave you access direct to God. Now what?

Jesus Christ said it was necessary for us mortal humans that He go to the Father's throne in heaven (John 16:7) in order to send the Holy Spirit of God for us. This required the resurrected LIVING Christ. So after His resurrection, Jesus ascended to the throne of God that rules the entire universe (Rev. 3:21). Then, some ten days later, on the annual day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came to enter *into* the very minds of all who had sincerely REPENTED of their rebellion against God and His WAY, and who had been reconciled to God—had gained access—by faith in Christ's shed blood for the remission of past sins. (Acts 2:1-4).

These first disciples received God's Spirit *through the work of the resurrected, glorified, LIVING Christ*. The Spirit of the Father is also the Spirit of CHRIST. Thus it actually was the living Christ, Himself, entering into them—not in Person, but IN SPIRIT! Christ is a *living Saviour* who does His saving work from WITHIN!

Now let's get the connection.

IF the Holy Spirit of God actually DWELLS within you, then as God raised Christ from the dead, He shall ALSO make immortal ("quicken" means energize—make eternally *alive*) your mortal body BY His Spirit dwelling in you (Romans 8:11). But (verse 9), unless His Spirit is actually IN you, you are not a Christian—no matter how many churches you join!

God's Holy Spirit is His LIFE. It imparts HIS LIFE to you! It imparts *more*, as we shall now see!

God Doesn't "Kid Himself"

One thing more, the Holy Spirit is DIVINE, SPIRITUAL LOVE—the love of GOD flowing into you from God Almighty—through the living Christ!

(Rom. 5:5). Jesus explained how we should come to HIM, and drink in of His Spirit, like drinking in *living water*—and how this same Holy Spirit would FLOW, *like a river of living water*, on out from us (John 7:37-39). Now let's make all that PLAIN AND CLEAR.

God's Law is a law of LOVE—love to God in reverence, worship and obedience—love to neighbor in service, kindness, sharing. *It takes LOVE to fulfill—to PERFORM—the Law*. You will read that in Romans 13:10.

But, remember?—we saw, in Romans 7:14, that this Law is a SPIRITUAL Law. Science knows only about PHYSICAL laws. Humans are mortals—PHYSICAL. We were born with a capacity only for PHYSICAL love. The love of a parent for a child, a husband or wife for a mate, or even relatives, friends, neighbors. We also are born with capacity for envy, jealousy, hate.

But this SPIRITUAL LAW can be fulfilled—performed—spiritually kept and obeyed—ONLY BY SPIRITUAL LOVE! You were not born with that kind of love. You do not have, naturally, the kind of love required to truly keep this great Spiritual Law!

You must go to GOD to obtain *that* kind of love. That is a love He gives you through the *living* Christ. That is HIS OWN LOVE. It emanates directly from HIM.

Now UNDERSTAND! True righteousness is keeping "ALL THY COMMANDMENTS" (Psalm 119:172). It is performing God's Spiritual Law with the SPIRITUAL LOVE which only GOD can supply.

You drink it in from Him—once the contact is established. It pours on out from you like rivers of living water. Water in a river flows in a certain *direction*, guided by the river bed or channel. GOD'S LAW is that river bed which guides the *flow*—the expression—the *direction* in which the divine love flows! God's Law is THE WAY of perfect spiritual CHARACTER—the very character of GOD.

So—the VERY SPIRIT by which God imparts to you HIS LIFE—His SALVATION—is also His own LOVE which imparts to you HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS! It is no longer just YOU, in your own power and strength "keeping the com-

mandments"—it is, spiritually speaking, the living Christ IN you, keeping His Father's Commandments—even as He kept them by this same divine love even while He was human here on earth!

Can you brag, or boast, then, about your righteousness? No—IT IS NOT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS—IT IS GOD'S! If Christ, by His GRACE, erased your guilty past, gave you access to God, and now pours forth into and through you the spiritual love that keeps the Law, this is not *your* righteousness, but GOD'S.

And this is not YOUR "WORKS"! It is *nothing you earn!*

God does not "kid Himself." Some religious teachers tell you Christ lived a righteous life FOR you 1930 years ago, and since you "*can't* keep the Law," as they claim, God "IMPUTES" Christ's righteousness of 19 centuries ago to you—by sort of "kidding Himself" that you are righteous, while you are given license to still be a spiritual CRIMINAL breaking His Law! GOD does not impute to you something you do not have.

Far from this—the *living* Christ by HIS power *makes* us righteous! He imparts to us power to actually BECOME RIGHTEOUS. It is HIS DOING!

WHY Not to Heaven NOW?

Once again, back to YOU! *Now* where are we?

There are, first, two things YOU must do. On that very day of *Pentecost* after Christ had ascended to heaven, many who had joined the mob crying out "CRUCIFY HIM!" during Christ's trial before Pilate, were conscience-stricken and afraid, when they heard the inspired Peter's sermon. They cried out, "WHAT SHALL WE DO?" They, too, *were helpless*.

"REPENT, and BE BAPTIZED every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT" was the inspired answer (Acts 2:38).

Note it! Two things YOU do:

1) REPENT—turn *from* YOUR WAY, by turning to GOD'S WAY—His Law! You repent of sin. Sin is the transgression of the spiritual Law.

2) BE BAPTIZED. The Ethiopian eunuch, coming to a lake of water, asked Philip what hindered him to be baptized. "IF thou believest with all

thine heart" was Philip's condition (Acts 8:36-37). Repentance is toward GOD, for the Law comes from God, but FAITH is toward Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21). Faith in Christ's atonement for sin is *commanded* to be expressed by BEING BAPTIZED. (Write for our free booklet "*All About Water Baptism.*")

This, then, *gains contact* with God. That is as far as *you* can go, on your own. You have reached your extremity! So now GOD does something!

3) You SHALL RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.

This is God's GIFT. It is the presence, conditionally, of Eternal Life.

And now if you faithfully follow GOD'S WAY—the way the Holy Spirit leads—you are already a begotten SON OF GOD! "For as many as *are led* by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Rom. 8:14).

"Beloved, *now are* we the sons of God, and it doth *not yet* appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he (Christ) shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:2).

GET IT STRAIGHT! You are now *converted*—a *changed* person—for God's Spirit (Eph. 4:23) produces a RENEWING of your mind. Your whole concept and direction of life is CHANGED! God's Spirit is HIS VERY LIFE imparted to you! You are now a BEGOTTEN son of God.

But it *does not yet* appear what you *shall be*. This Scripture does not say "*where you shall go*"—or "*where you shall BE*." It is talking about a *condition*, not a place: "*WHAT* we shall be"! Salvation is a matter of *WHAT YOU BECOME*—not *where* you shall go! God's purpose is to CHANGE YOU—from your vile character to HIS GLORIOUS CHARACTER—not to change the PLACE where you are!

BUT—you are now *already* a begotten SON of God—you may now call Him FATHER!—*as long as* you are LED by His Spirit!—and no longer (Heb. 10:26-27).

And there are still some "IFS." You must GROW spiritually (II Pet. 3:18). It is "To him that overcometh" that Christ will grant to sit with Him on His throne, when He returns to earth (Rev. 3:21). *IF you overcome*—over-

come your own carnal nature, the world and the devil—*AND KEEP CHRIST'S WORKS*" (not your own works, but CHRIST'S—by HIS SPIRIT IN YOU) then you shall reign and RULE ALL NATIONS with Him, in the happy WORLD TOMORROW!

The *real* Christian life is, truly, a life of overcoming, spiritual growing—but it is the only HAPPY LIFE—the ABUNDANT life—here and now! Yet we must ENDURE and remain steadfast—for it is he who ENDURES TO THE END that *shall be saved*! Read *this* in your BIBLE—Matthew 10:22; 24:13; Mark 4:17; John 6:27; I Cor. 9:24-27; Heb. 10:26-27.

So, finally, back again to YOU! Where are we, *now*? You have been converted—*changed* in mind, concept, attitude, direction of WAY of life—you are begotten as a child of God—you have now eternal life abiding in you—as long as you are LED by God's Spirit in God's WAY—as long as you continue in contact and fellowship with God (I John 1:3)—all by God's GRACE as His GIFT, and not anything you have earned by your works; and now if you continue on overcoming, growing spiritually—and ALL THIS ACTUALLY THROUGH GOD'S POWER—you shall INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD, and *be made* IMMORTAL to live forever in happiness and joy!

HOW YOUR PLAIN TRUTH SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID

So many ask: "HOW does it happen that I find my subscription price for The PLAIN TRUTH has already *been paid*? HOW can you publish such a high class magazine without advertising revenue?"

The answer is as simple as it is astonishing! It is a paradox. Christ's Gospel cannot be sold like merchandise. You cannot buy salvation. Yet it does cost money to publish Christ's TRUTH and mail it to all continents on earth. It does have to be *paid for*! This is Christ's work. We solve this problem Christ's WAY!

Jesus said, "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached (and published—Mark 13:10) in all the world for a witness unto all nations" (Mat. 24:14) *at this time*, just before the end of this age. A PRICE *must be paid* for the magazine, the broadcast, the Correspondence Course, or other literature. But HOW? Christ forbids us to *sell* it to those who receive it: "Freely ye have received," said Jesus to His disciples who He was sending to proclaim His Gospel, "freely GIVE!" "It is *more blessed*," He said, "to GIVE than to receive."

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Printed in the U.S.A.

The PLAIN TRUTH
Box 111—Pasadena, California

MRS MARIE JOHNSON
RT 4
LOUISVILLE 1LL
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SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
Paid at
Pasadena, California