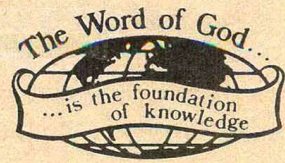


# The Good News

PASADENA, CALIF.



A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD VOL. VI, NO. 19 SEPT. 11, 1978

## And NOW—The PLAIN TRUTH Being Set Back on Track

**By Herbert W. Armstrong**  
Since last May I have been moving swiftly to set the Church of God back on the track as GOD'S CHURCH. I have set the radio and television programs back on GOD'S track. Secularism and the leaven of modern intellectualism and Ph.D.ism had turned Ambassador College into just another of *this world's* colleges.

To set it back on the track I have had to start all over again, as in 1947, with one single undergraduate freshman class. I have put back in charge those who were taught GOD'S REVEALED KNOWLEDGE under me in the earlier years. I hope that and my personal very frequent taking of the forums will, within the year, set Ambassador College back on the track as GOD'S COLLEGE.

In all this, I deeply appreciate and am grateful from the heart for the loyalty and the standing solidly behind me of all you in the ministry in this difficult task.

But now, I am moving just as vigorously to set *The Plain Truth* back on the track.

I have just written a 32-page typed memorandum for *The Plain Truth* staff, titled "A 'PLAIN TRUTH' DIRECTIVE." I am having a meeting with my *Plain Truth* staff Thursday [Sept. 7]. I give you here a synopsis extract from that directive:

### A 'Plain Truth' directive

At this point I consider it necessary to succinctly review the PURPOSE, policy and state of *The Plain Truth* and its future.

God forcibly called me to His service in 1926, later to commit to me Christ's GREAT COMMISSION — to announce over

all the world the soon-coming KINGDOM OF GOD — an entirely new civilization of GOD's making.

In 1927 God inspired me with the vision of publishing GOD's magazine. Jesus had divine TRUTH by saying, "Thy word [the Holy Bible] is TRUTH."

God had been opening my mind to understanding of His truth. I had been experienced in magazine and newspaper writing. God put it in my mind to publish *HIS* magazine, making His TRUTH — the Bible — PLAIN, CLEAR UNDERSTANDABLE, INTEREST-GRIPPING, DYNAMIC.

In 1927 I had a commercial artist design a front cover for this magazine, to be called *The Plain Truth*.

It was seven years before God opened the way to actually start producing it — and even then as a virtual no-cost mimeographed "magazine."

Jesus Christ, living HEAD of God's Church, used me in raising up the present era of that Church — the parent Church starting with 19 members in August, 1933.

The Work of God — the GREAT COMMISSION — started as an infinitesimal operation — a virtual mustard-seed beginning — as God starts activities through human instruments. But, also, like the proverbial mustard seed, it GREW — at the unmatched rate of 30 percent a year over a 35-year span.

What Christ called me to — what He started and has built through me — is the WORK OF GOD, not of MAN. It is not of this world. God called me out of this world, and He has called others out of this world and its ways to assist me in *HIS* Work.

### Christ's message in print

But as God has prospered His Work and it has grown to worldwide operations — and in going TO this world, a multi-million dollar organization — those who have been brought into the Work are prone to assume it to be just another of *this WORLD'S* organizations — where the acting attitude and motive is the GET way instead of God's GIVE way — and where it is operated with the approach of this world's carnal and intellectual secular concepts.

That has happened to *The Plain Truth*.

I am deeply sad to say, the same spirit of carnal secular intellectualism that infiltrated God's college has also infiltrated HIS MAGAZINE — Christ's MESSAGE IN PRINT to a deceived world!

I see now articles on child rearing whose approach is the carnal psychology of Satan's higher education and slanted contrary to God's PLAIN teaching in His truth — the Bible!

I see articles, and also booklets now being produced, with a bibliography of source materials of up to 16 secular "authorities."

Let me state my personal evaluation of the situation. I believe the managing editor to be sincere, loyal, desiring to do the right thing — which is GOD's and not his own thing. I believe he simply needs more cooperation and guidelines from me.

### Basic policy outlined

Therefore, I am here outlining some basics, policies, guidelines and directives.

What I had in mind was articles dealing with world conditions and human interest problems — but always in the main content of the article, approaching that problem and dealing with it from the BIBLICAL revelation — so that in fact it was actually making plain the TRUTH — derived from revelation, not from science or secular scholarship of behavioral science and university-brand psychology.

Today we live in the day of man (enslaved invisibly by Satan) — and civilization that in fact is the world of human nature — Satan's world! The PLAIN TRUTH was envisioned and brought into a publication that proclaims the WORLD TOMORROW — an entirely different civilization — GOD'S CIVILIZATION.

Now this is of SUPREME IMPORTANCE — because *The Plain Truth* was founded under God's leading to be one of the two — and perhaps even the No. 1 medium for carrying out the GREAT COMMISSION. Some might think radio and television to be our No. 1 means of proclaiming Christ's GOOD NEWS but, without THE WORD OF GOD IN PRINT, radio alone could never have built the Work — and actual records show that daily half-hour radio broadcasting has far outweighed television — though the latter, if properly used, may be very effective.

You know, I really died, just over a year ago — though by mouth-to-mouth resuscitation they brought me back in 30 or 45 seconds — or perhaps 1½ minutes. God brought me back from death because HIS CHURCH, HIS WORK, HIS COLLEGE

vealed knowledge, informed of the KINGDOM OF GOD and by offering, with it, booklets and the correspondence course.

This basic program was supplemented by monthly co-worker letters from me, semi-annual letters to PT subscribers and a



'PLAIN TRUTH' NEWSSTAND — A reader examines a copy of *The Plain Truth* at a newsstand in a bookstore. Herbert W. Armstrong discusses the future of *The Plain Truth* and expansion of newsstand circulation in the accompanying article on this page.

AND HIS 'PLAIN TRUTH' had gone secular — and God had been virtually booted out the window.

And now I must move as swiftly and decisively to get *The Plain Truth* back on the track as GOD'S MAGAZINE! Utterly UNIQUE! Totally unlike this carnal world's magazines.

Now, back to the BASIC POLICY and PURPOSE of *The Plain Truth*. I have already stated it — to make plain GOD's revealed TRUTH as it is in the Bible. To make the Bible interesting! To make it understandable! To make it COME ALIVE as a NOW Book!

### What built the Work?

What built the Church and the Work? The central hub of the Work was daily half-hour radio broadcasting working with *The Plain Truth*. The broadcasting and later telecasting and even advertising space in mass-circulation magazines and newspapers added subscribers to *The Plain Truth*. *The Plain Truth* was then used to open minds to re-

LETTER ANSWERING DEPARTMENT (LAD, later PCD) along with a growing and dedicated ministry.

The whole concept of every branch of this Work was to GIVE God's truth to the world and to SERVE (GIVE TO) the brethren God continually added to His Church.

This plain, simple, direct program worked! I remember how Bill Tilden used to say, "Never change a winning game — always change a losing game."

I am taking steps immediately to restore a qualified and experienced Letter Answering Department, such as we used under Dr. [Clint] Zimmerman and Wilbur Berg. I may have to find time (how, I do not know) to do new daily half-hour radio broadcasting.

We reach people 10 times more effectively through the eye than through the ear. True, TV offers both, but TV in the past has not been comparatively productive — partly due to the secular, documentary-type program. (See 'THE PLAIN TRUTH,' page 6)

### COMING:

SPECIAL FEAST ISSUE scheduled to be in your hands in early October.

- Inspiring articles
- Helpful hints
- Map of churches
- List of Feast sites
- Festival dos and don'ts

# The PLAIN TRUTH About HEALING

## Part 5

### Did God raise up the medical profession for our day? What is the God-intended BALANCE between relying on God and trusting in medicine?

By Herbert W. Armstrong

**I**N THIS SERIES we began at the beginning. Some, it was explained, say God raised up the medical profession for our time. Some say they believe God *could* heal, but they don't know whether it's His will. *But what does GOD say?* To answer, we turned to the BIBLE.

Jesus came in person with a dual ministry. He went about the cities and villages in Judea and Galilee preaching the Good News of the coming Kingdom of God. But also He healed the sick among the public as He encountered them.

He trained His original apostles, and after His resurrection they continued in the same dual ministry. The Church of God was founded on the Day of Pentecost, A.D. 31.

But soon a fierce, violent and organized persecution set in. Immediately after A.D. 33 the Babylonian mystery religion appropriated the name *Christianity*, proclaimed a false Christ and by A.D. 59 the proclaiming of Christ's Gospel was *SUPPRESSED!* Another and counterfeit gospel was being accepted (Galatians 1:6-7).

Neither the KINGDOM message nor healing of the sick, had any part in what from then became traditional Christianity. For 1,900 years the world has not heard Christ's Gospel message. It has been *deceived* by false gospels about a false Jesus.

But both Christ's true Gospel message and miraculous healing have today been restored in God's true Church. Only today healing is within the Church — not public healing of the sick encountered by God's apostle.

In Part 2 of this series, I stated that I could best bring this truth to the reader by relating my own personal EXPERIENCE in discovering this truth about healing.

It was very shortly after my conversion, baptism, and receiving God's Holy Spirit. This had occurred in the spring of 1927. In August of that same year I experienced a most miraculous healing of my wife from four fatal simultaneous diseases. I then KNEW God heals the sick, and thereupon I let the living Christ teach me from His *written Word* the full scriptural UNDERSTANDING of this vital subject. Hundreds have since been healed from my prayers.

Part 3 of this series covered that biblical revelation of God's truth from both Old and New Tes-

taments. Part 4 covered FAITH.

#### What about medicine?

But now, what about medicine?

Let's review briefly again the teaching of the apostle Paul in his instruction regarding the Passover to the Church at Corinth.

In regard to taking the bread — symbol of Christ's body beaten with stripes to pay for us the penalty for broken laws governing physical health, the inspired teaching is: "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily. . ." [the RSV translates it, "eateth and drinketh in an unworthy manner"] "eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" — that is, His body was broken or beaten with stripes, paying the penalty we suffer in sickness or disease. "That is why" [RSV] "many of you are weak and ill, and some have died." (1 Corinthians 11:29-30).

Some in the Church lacked the FAITH to BELIEVE Christ paid for us the physical penalty of sickness, disease — or even the first death.

This is important. UNDERSTAND the meaning of what was written here! Taking the broken unleavened bread means we ACCEPT Christ's beaten and broken body (prior to being taken to the cross) that WE MAY BE HEALED. How does His broken body make our healing possible?

It is IMPORTANT that you UNDERSTAND the answer to this — because some have been falsely teaching there is no such thing as physical sin. I John 3:4, properly translated from the Greek, says, "Sin is the transgression of LAW." It does not refer to — or say — the spiritual law of the Ten Commandments. Yet it is referring to LAWS INSTITUTED BY GOD — not transgressing man-made codes.

As made clear in Part 3, GOD formed the human body out of matter (Genesis 2:7). God so designed our physical bodies that they function according to definite PHYSICAL LAWS. The digestive system, the eliminative system and the circulatory system, for example, were designed to function together — and this functioning is a LAW OF NATURE — physical LAW. Eating improper food, neglecting elimination or polluting the lungs with tobacco smoke, prevent those laws from perfect functioning — definitely transgress laws that God set in motion and that operate in

the human body. This definitely is TRANSGRESSED PHYSICAL LAW! It is a law GOD designed and set in motion. This TRANSGRESSION OF LAW, definitely, according to God's definition (I John 3:4) is physical SIN! Its penalty is sickness, disease or debility.

The RSV translates I John 3:4, ". . . sin is lawlessness. . ." — without regard to WHAT LAW GOD instituted.

Now back to our important question — although it was made clear in Part 3: how does Christ's broken body make our healing possible? I answer with another question: How does Christ's shed blood — His DEATH — make possible the forgiveness of spiritual sin — transgression of the spiritual law — the Ten Commandments? Simply by having PAID THE PENALTY IN OUR STEAD — THAT'S HOW! His beaten body paid in our stead the PENALTY we are suffering when the physical laws in the human body have been transgressed and have brought on the PENALTY of the sickness, disease or whatever — sometimes the first death!

To say there is no such thing as physical sin, as has been said by self-professing intellectuals, is NOT intellectual — it is rank STUPIDITY, IGNORANCE OR WILFUL PERVERSION OF PLAIN, SIMPLE TRUTH!

#### Some lack the FAITH!

The important point here, however, is that some in the Church of God at Corinth *did* lack the faith to be healed — or else carelessly took the broken bread at Passover in an unworthy manner.

And WHAT WAS THE RESULT? They were physically weak or sick or had died. THAT WAS THE PENALTY. They did not in faith accept Christ's broken body as payment of the penalty, which, if they had, would have been by a God-given miracle removed from them, and they should have been HEALED!

But now it is IMPORTANT that we note carefully that the RESULT of this lack of sufficient faith DID NOT DISFELLOWSHIP them from the Church! Disfellowshipment is the penalty for causing divisions and offenses. (Romans 16:17-18). That is important!

If one in the Church of God today lacks the FAITH that he *should have*, the penalty is NOT disfellowshipment. The penalty is that he still PAYS THE PENALTY in the form of sickness, disease or even death. He himself pays it!

Too bad — when Christ already had paid it FOR HIM. But he should be *helped* to receive faith — not disfellowshipped.

#### The crackers-and-cheese diet

Back in 1927 or 1928, when I had only recently at the time learned God's truth about healing, I heard a most apt example of this.

We did not yet cross the Atlantic in airplanes in those days. A man was sailing to Europe in a trans-Atlantic steamship. He felt the meals aboard ship would be too expensive. So he packed in a suitcase a full supply of crackers and cheese. After three days' sailing, he was becoming truly fed up on crackers and cheese. A steward had noticed that this passenger never went into the ship's dining room and asked him about it.

"Oh, I can't afford to eat in there," replied the passenger. Then he learned that MEALS WERE INCLUDED — no extra charge!

How many in God's Church today are on a crackers-and-cheese ration, when HEALING IS INCLUDED! JESUS CHRIST PAID FOR YOUR HEALING!

Why do YOU go on PAYING THE PENALTY or else paying the DOCTOR BILLS or probably BOTH, when Jesus Christ paid it all FOR YOU?

#### The weak in faith HELPED, not condemned!

Now notice the important teaching in Romans 14.

"Him that is weak in the faith receive ye" — do not condemn or disfellowship — "but not to doubtful disputations." Or, "not for disputes over opinions" (RSV).

Verses 2 (Romans 14), although one believes (has faith) to eat meats, another, weak in faith, eats only vegetables. But the very fact he has *not yet* received FULL FAITH from God does not bar him from God's Church. Rather this chapter in Romans teaches, RECEIVE HIM — HELP the weak in faith. The ministers should teach him more about the WAY to achieve more faith.

And so with the member of God's Church who has not as yet achieved full FAITH to BELIEVE GOD'S PROMISES for the physical healing. He *should have* that faith! He may pay himself the penalty of the sickness or disease if he lacks faith to believe Christ paid the penalty for him — to rely on GOD'S PROMISE to heal.

So therefore, if a member has

not yet grown in the FAITH OF CHRIST to absolutely know he can rely on God's PROMISE of healing — and if this member does call in the doctor or go to the medical profession for help, God's Church does not condemn him — but rather, God's ministers should encourage such a one to GROW IN FAITH until he can rely on God instead of relying on MAN.

Once more to the question, Did God raise up the medical profession for our day?

#### EMPHATICALLY NO!

Remember, God sentenced Adam's world to being CUT OFF from Him for the 6,000 years now almost ended. God said, in effect: "You, Adam, have made the choice for your human family. You have REJECTED me. GO, therefore, and form your own governments, your own religions, your own human concepts of the gods you will serve and worship — develop your own fund of knowledge." God, however, reserved the prerogative of calling to HIS service such comparative few as He should choose for some missions to which God called them.

To those whom God *has called*, He has revealed IN HIS WORD to them that HE is *Yahveh-Rapha* — their HEALING God — the God who HEALS those who believe.

#### What is the medical profession?

What, then, is the medical profession? Remember it is only one of several of the so-called healing arts DEVELOPED BY MAN. My parents, when I was a young boy, used a homeopath doctor. There are osteopaths — although they now also practice medicine and are accepted by the medical profession. There are chiropractors — and I personally knew the founder of chiropractic, B.J. Palmer of Davenport, Iowa.

But the medical fraternity is by far the largest in number. They have allotted a very huge sum of money to operate a LOBBY in Washington, D.C., to influence government legislation. The medical profession has become so powerful that an MD could quarantine even the President of the United States and enforce his virtual imprisonment in the White House. In such an instance, the medical profession has even MORE POWER than the President of the United States!

It is well to UNDERSTAND this! The medical profession has the GOVERNMENT on their side!

A well-meaning, Bible-believing man and wife (*not* members of the Worldwide Church of God) had an 11-year-old son with diabetes. They had been administering insulin as prescribed by medical

(See HEALING, page 6)

## The Plain Truth About HEALING

(Continued from page 3)  
doctors. Then a "divine healer" came along. I know nothing of the credibility of this healer except what I read in the newspapers — he certainly was not a minister of the Worldwide Church of God.

This "divine healer" anointed and prayed for the lad, and the parents took him off the insulin. The parents, according to news dispatches, were staunch in faith — but after removing the insulin the boy died. The parents were arrested and taken to jail, charged with manslaughter. I did not learn of the final legal disposition of this case in the courts.

I cite this, however, as a PRECAUTION! I might mention, too, that insulin is not a drug or medicine, but a substance or hormone that the human body should normally generate. Medical doctors prescribe insulin in cases where the body is not of itself generating this substance.

In the case of the illness of a child, God does heal — but remember Jesus said, "According to your FAITH be it unto you." If faith is lacking — or if in any case the child dies, the parents certainly run the risk of criminal prosecution if they have failed to call in a doctor.

In the case history described above, I do not know all the facts. Press reports indicated the parents had "supreme faith." But was the healer a fake or a self-appointed healer uncalled and unused by God?

Again, God says, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" (1 John 3:22). The press stories on this case would indicate that the parents were not "commandment keepers." But, on the other hand, God says, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). If the parents had not known the command to keep God's Commandments, God would not have held this ignorance against them. Also it is a question, in the case of administering insulin, as to whether it was possibly not right in God's sight that it be supplied — since instead of being a drug, it was a substance supplying what the

body itself normally should generate and supply.

I do not judge, in such a case as I have mentioned — because I do not know all the facts. I MERELY CAUTION THE READER — if a sick child dies, and a doctor has not been called, the parents may find themselves in trouble with the law!

### What is God's will?

God's Church does not judge or condemn those who, through lack of faith, utilize the services of the medical profession. God's Church merely says to you, HEALING IS INCLUDED — Christ already has PAID for it — it is a PROMISE of God (with conditions of obedience and faith) and it is one of God's BENEFITS that is INCLUDED in the gift of His grace!

Speaking of God's BENEFITS reminds me of a case in point. I had been called to the bedside of an elderly lady for anointing and prayer for healing.

"If I anoint you and pray for God to heal you, will you believe — will you be sure that you will be healed?" I merely wanted assurance that she BELIEVED GOD.

"Well," she replied, "I know God can heal me — if it's His will — but I can't be sure of His will."

"Well," I responded, "it's too bad that you don't know whether it is God's will to forgive all your sins so you might be saved."

"Oh, I know it's His will to forgive my sins and give me salvation," she hastened to reply.

"Oh yes," I continued, "you know you can rely on God's promise in Psalms 103 — which I will read: 'Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities. . . You really KNOW His will from that scripture, do you?'"

"Yes, I can rely on that promise with no doubts whatever!"

"Well," I pursued, "will you read, with your own eyes the rest of that SAME SENTENCE?" I handed to her my Bible, opened to Psalm 103, verse 3, and she read aloud, "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases."

"How does it come," I asked

with a smile, "that you really believe the first half of that verse, but not the last half?"

"Well, I guess," she said, "I just never noticed that God's promise to HEAL is given right alongside His promise of forgiving sin."

The woman then believed. She was healed.

### One of God's benefits

Notice, HEALING is one of the BENEFITS God gives us along with salvation. Like the meals on the steamship, IT IS INCLUDED — no extra charge. Jesus already PAID FOR IT! And God wants His people to learn to rely on Him!

One intellectual writing on healing said, "It is quite evident that God is not healing today in the same manner or to the same degree that He did in early New Testament times."

That intellectual is simply IGNORANT of the Word of God, the promises of God, the power and the will of God! He had had no experience in healing. He was studying the subject carnally and, rationally, as a scholar — as one, like Job, who said, ". . . therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not. . . I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear. . ." — but Job had not yet come to really know God (Job 42:3, 5). But when God revealed Himself to Job, he said, ". . . I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:6).

This same scholarly and erroneous teaching continued, "It is equally evident that the physiological and medical expertise of the end of the 20th century is far advanced over that of the middle of the first century."

The above was sent out to ministers, UNAUTHORIZED, in an attempt, craftily influenced and inspired by Satan, to DO AWAY WITH THE BASIC TRUTHS JESUS CHRIST HAD PLACED IN GOD'S CHURCH! It was sent out with the UNAUTHORIZED statement that this erroneous teaching MUST BE PREACHED — and that it superceded . . . past teachings and earlier understandings — which Jesus Christ, the LIVING HEAD of God's Church, had, through His apostle, made the very FOUNDATIONAL TEACHINGS of Christ in God's CHURCH!

sparkling with His living TRUTH. We must find, somewhere in the Church of God, the writers who themselves FEEL and EXPERIENCE the fascinating, glorious LOVE of GOD'S TRUTH and who can make articles come alive with vigorous Holy Spirit INSPIRATION!

### The only voice

THINK ON THIS!  
We are the only voice in the wilderness of today's evils, frustrations, discouragements, with the world's ONLY HOPE — and it's one SURE HOPE of happiness, abundance and eternal life!

We are going to develop the NEWSSTAND circulation into multiplied millions. But first, before I sell *The Plain Truth* to the newsstand audience, I must have a PRODUCT that will grab attention, arouse instant interest, create suspense and the DESIRE FOR

It is part of a whole new, erroneous and corrupt teaching encouraging faith in MEN and doubt in God. (Romans 14:23) — subtly prepared and distributed to ministers without the knowledge of Christ's apostle — though it was falsely represented to have had his approval. The one responsible for this entire comprehensive effort to replace CHRIST and GOD'S TRUTH with carnal pedantic scholarship and FALSE TEACHING has been communicated — and this entire UNAUTHORIZED teaching made null and void by JESUS CHRIST through His apostle!

GOD is still on His throne and Jesus Christ is there with Him — and THEY will not leave nor forsake the true CHURCH OF GOD!

As shown by the quote above, the entire APPROACH to this false teaching was the secular, carnal concept that perhaps God, like the professor emeritus, may have once done splendid things, but now has grown old, senile and lost His power. Poor God!

### God is the same!

But God tells me He is THE SAME, yesterday, today and forever! He is today the SAME GOD, with the same power He had in the first century — and has had eternally.

Today Christ does not lead His apostle or any in God's Church to heal indiscriminately the sick encountered among the general public — as Jesus did, and the first apostles did until SUPPRESSED by worldly powers.

The great commission and ministry for God's Church today is in Jesus' prophecy concerning it in Matthew 24:14: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then

shall the end come" (of this age). The proclamation worldwide of Christ's KINGDOM message was the sign Jesus gave by which we might know when the end of the present world was imminent. But HE SAID NOTHING ABOUT HEALING GOING OUT TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC!

Rather, what we do find in the New Testament is in James 5:14-15: "Is any sick among you?" That is, among you brethren in God's Church. "Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of" — meaning BY AUTHORITY OF — "the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

### God's will expressed

This carnal scholarly Theology Project attempts to refute this plain Word-of-God PROMISE of healing in God's Church. With the very cunning inspired by Satan, this comment is made to cause DOUBT in the definite WORD OF GOD: "Although this one statement appears to be written without qualification, the condition 'if it be God's will' was no doubt tacitly understood."

On reading that, I was absolutely flabbergasted! NOWHERE IN THE BIBLE DOES GOD SAY "IF it be God's will!" This very verse, along with many others I have given you, EXPRESSES God's will!

Notice that sly, subtle IF. That is Satanic! When Satan was trying to overthrow Jesus Christ in His greatest temptation attempt — after Jesus had fasted 40 days

(See HEALING, page 11)

## 'La Pura Verdad'

(Continued from page 12)  
the Spanish area centers in Mexico where the Work has an office in Mexico City. A recent 21-day trip by Bob Flores Jr. throughout northeast Mexico reached 81 people.

According to Mr. Dickinson Mexico "is soon going to be in my opinion the strongest nation of all the Spanish-speaking nations economically and every other way. As it grows we feel it will become more or less the springboard financially to assist us in some of the other areas."

Colombia, another active area, has four major Bible studies along with a church and office in Bogota. According to the Spanish Department the country has given an excellent response to the Work's programs.

Venezuela and Central America follow in order of activity, with some response now coming from Brazil.

Besides the Mexico City and Bogota offices, the Spanish Department manages an office in Puerto Rico to serve Spanish-speaking people in the Caribbean.

### 'La Pura Verdad'

The main vehicle for the Spanish Work is *La Pura Verdad*, the Spanish version of *The Plain Truth*. The subscriber list, not counting the 45,000 copies going for newsstand distribution, stands at 93,133 representing readers in 82 countries as of August.

The largest portion of the magazines, nearly 30,000, go to Mexico. Colombia follows with some 24,000 subscribers and the United States with 11,500. The remaining subscribers are scattered throughout a large portion of the world inhabited by 350 million Spanish-speaking people.

Spanish-speaking brethren will be going to one of six Feast of Tabernacles sites this year according to Mr. Dickinson.

Mexican brethren joined by American brethren will hold the Festival in Oaxtepec about 55 miles outside of Mexico City. Other sites are Bogota; Colombia; Sierra de la Ventana, Argentina; Lima, Peru; La Heradura, El Salvador; and Ponce, Puerto Rico.

## The PLAIN TRUTH

(Continued from page 1)  
ing. To use TV daily with blanket national coverage is immediately impossible.

### No. 1 magazine on earth

We may use the most modern professional systems and innovated techniques, with the original MAKE-THE-BIBLE-PLAIN concept in reading content.

*The Plain Truth* can and must be made the No. 1 MAGAZINE ON EARTH — utterly unique — no subscription price nor advertising revenue — making the biblical message not only plain but dynamically interest-grIPPING, with a stronger public-reader appeal than even Reader's Digest.

It must become the No. 1

QUALITY magazine, as a vigorous, dynamic, interest-grabbing magazine that literally makes God's truth COME ALIVE!

When my mind was first opened to God's TRUTH, I found it the most interesting, absorbing thing that had ever entered my life. I could hardly tear myself away from the Bible. The things that fill most minds in this world became ridiculously unimportant and boring. That interest has never waned. We must allow that same intense interest in the mind and heart of the MILLIONS!

We have the MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE!

We have, if presented so, the most interesting and absorbing material for any magazine.

We must at once set it back on the track as GOD'S magazine,

# The Plain Truth About HEALING

(Continued from page 6)

and 40 nights, Satan said twice to Jesus, TEMPTING Him, "IF thou be the Son of God." That little two-letter word IF is just about the biggest little word in the English language! It is intended to cause DOUBT in GOD'S WORD. It was used by Satan in trying to overthrow Christ. Satan inspired it in this Theological Project to try to overthrow faith within God's ministers — and within God's Church!

With all my being, I CONDEMN that kind of teaching — and the one responsible for handing it out to God's ministers (though undoubtedly he himself did not write it) has been disfellowshipped — and is NO LONGER A MEMBER of God's Church. And that Satanic-inspired teaching is going out of God's Church as well!

## God's promise

Now that diabolical teaching about the passage in James 5:14-15 requires a complete refutation — to make the true GOD-intended meaning clear beyond DOUBT.

As a result of this insidious attempt to cause DOUBT in the Word of God, many have said, "This Theological Project teaches that James 5:14-15 IS NOT A PROMISE!"

But it is a definite, plain, clear PROMISE from GOD! I pray for God's mercy on those who allowed Satan to inspire them to cast DOUBT on the holy, sacred WORD OF GOD!

Look at those words again. "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins [undoubtedly referring to physical sin], they shall be forgiven . . ."

If THAT IS NOT A PROMISE then we have NO PROMISE of the forgiveness of sins or of salvation and the gift of eternal life!

## Faith is a condition

The point is made in this now null-and-void teaching that there are conditions. That is true — but WHAT conditions? Within the very statement in James 5:15, it plainly says ". . . the prayer of FAITH . . ." Yes, FAITH is a condition.

In some instances where Jesus healed, the FAITH for healing was supplied by the one healed — like the woman who had spent all she had on physicians and had grown worse. Jesus said to her, "Daughter, THY FAITH hath made thee whole." Again Jesus said elsewhere, "According to your faith be it unto you."

But, in other cases the one healed did not supply the faith — Jesus Himself did! So what does this teach us? Definitely healing is conditioned on FAITH — either on the part of the one needing healing or on the part of the minister of God who prays and anoints.

I have prayed for and anointed hundreds. There have been exceeding miraculous healings. Some with cancer in advanced stage were HEALED — while others at this stage were relieved of the intense pain though they died and will have their healing IN THE RESURRECTION. More on

this a little later. One woman, in the hospital with apparently less than 24 hours to live, with leukemia, and with tubes in her ankles for blood transfusions, tubes in her nostrils — a horrible sight — was healed instantly when I anointed and prayed for her (after putting all nurses out of the room). She left the hospital the next day.

On the other hand I have prayed for others where I myself had the same faith, yet they were not healed — because they lacked the faith.

In James 5:14-15, the very scripture here gives a condition — ". . . the prayer of faith . . ."

## Keep His Commandments

Also, I John 3:22, mentioned before, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."

In a preceding installment, I mentioned a case of a man who wanted healing, but stubbornly refused to keep God's Commandments. He was not healed.

Oh yes, there are conditions — but GOD tells those conditions. But NEVER does the Bible say, "IF it's God's will." NEVER! Rather, God's Word says, "Be not unwise, but UNDERSTANDING what the will of the Lord is." The Bible is His Word, where HE TELLS US WHAT IS HIS WILL!

Now as to GOD'S PROMISES. The Bible is full of God's PROMISES — and God expects us to BELIEVE them.

Perhaps the outstanding example is the promises on which YOUR very salvation and mine depend.

Notice: "Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers." And who were the fathers to whom the promises were made?

"The God of Abraham, and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers . . ." (Acts 3:13).

YOUR SALVATION depends on those PROMISES made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob! Yet notice: "These all died in faith, not having received the promises . . ." (Hebrews 11:13).

## God's promises are sure

WHAT, THEN! Does not God KEEP HIS PROMISES? Here in this very FAITH CHAPTER of the Bible, all the way through, it shows Abraham's FAITH, Isaac's and Jacob's FAITH, Noah's FAITH, Moses' faith, even the harlot Rahab's faith. Then, "And these all, having obtained a good report through FAITH, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us [born low since] should not be made perfect" (verses 39-40).

In other words, GOD IS FAITHFUL! God's PROMISES are FIRM — they do mean what they say. The fathers will receive the PROMISES IN THE RESURRECTION — along with many of us born millenniums later!

GOD'S PROMISES ARE SURE! Although I have written this before, let me recount here how I learned this lesson of FAITH.

My conversion and baptism

had occurred in the spring of 1927. By 1933 I had come to have strong faith — there had been many miraculous answers to prayer! Then my father was stricken, early summer, 1933, with a stroke. I prayed for his healing. I anointed him. I BELIEVED! HE BELIEVED! I prayed all night — yet at 9:40 next morning he died.

That was a terrible SHOCK to my faith — but it most certainly did not destroy my faith. But I had to UNDERSTAND! I had claimed GOD'S PROMISE in James 5:14-15 and OTHER PROMISES for his healing. TO UNDERSTAND, I did not try to use human reason, as exemplified in this Theological Project. I went to the faith chapter of the Bible for UNDERSTANDING.

And there I found it, in what I have written immediately above, GOD DID NOT BREAK HIS PROMISE! His promise was SURE — unbreakable. As sure as the rising and setting of tomorrow's sun. In Hebrews 11 God showed me that HIS PROMISE FOR MY FATHER'S HEALING REMAINS SURE! He, like Abraham and the fathers, died BEFORE receiving it. It is still SURE — not "IF it is God's will." But there is LIFE AFTER this life.

And, in human consciousness, a fraction of a second after losing consciousness in death, we shall wake up IN THE RESURRECTION. God has planned that there be an interval of UNCONSCIOUSNESS — just as if it did not even exist, until we LIVE in the resurrection! I am still having patience — and FAITH. My father's healing is SURE! He shall receive the healing God PROMISES!

## Rely on God

God has not promised that, by continual healing, we shall never die. As in Adam all die . . . it is appointed unto men once to die — but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

God has positively PROMISED to heal. And He names the conditions — Obedience and FAITH. But God has not told us how soon or when He will heal. He EXPECTS US TO TRUST HIM WITH THAT!

That most certainly should not weaken or destroy our faith — IT SHOULD MAKE OUR FAITH MORE SURE!

I know, in this deceived and evil world of Satan's, it seems that the worst thing that can happen is death. Humans not knowing God get to thinking that death ENDS ALL. That's why some commit suicide — supposing that the suicide PUTS AN END to their troubles. But virtually in the same instant that they lose consciousness in death, they wake up IN THE JUDGMENT — their problems not ended — but with a MURDER of self-destruction now facing them!

Our fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, all died IN FAITH. My own human father died IN FAITH. GOD'S PROMISES to them are yet SURE.

Instead of losing faith, this wonderful knowledge should STRENGTHEN our faith — knowing we may place ourselves in GOD'S HANDS and RELY on Him for healing. The most remarkable and supposedly impossible heal-

ings I have experienced, as a result of my own prayers, have occurred after my father's death. God did not let that experience weaken FAITH IN GOD AND HIS PROMISES!

## God alone heals

I have been frankly aroused to indignation to learn of this false, faith-shattering teaching in this supposedly scholarly theological manual, wherein ministers were literally instructed to encourage God's people to TRUST IN MAN — in the "advanced expertise" of the medical profession — and to discourage them from having faith in God. I realize that Satan is the real culprit — that those who prepared this manual did not intend harm — misled and deceived into supposing they were teaching truth.

Jesus Christ, through His apostle, teaches ministers to ENCOURAGE RELIANCE ON THE LIVING CHRIST, rather than on man.

Medical practice may be the best thing that carnal MAN, cut off from God and revealed truth from God, has in 6,000 years come up with.

Do we ever need doctors? Yes we do — but the true people of God do not need them to compete with God as our GOD-HEALER (God's name is also *Yahveh-Rapha* — our GOD-HEALER! God is a jealous God and does not allow any other to do what He alone can do — HEAL!

We do, in this modern degenerated day, need doctors for child delivery. A doctor can render real help in the case of a broken arm or leg — but even then it is GOD who heals, though the doctor may properly bind it up so that it may heal.

What about the ramifications of sickness and disease? As stated, medical practice may be the best thing MAN without God has been able to produce. If a Church member simply lacks the faith to be healed by the living Christ — if he has more faith in medical "expertise" than to rely on God and God's promises, God's Church will not judge or condemn him if he puts himself or his child under medical treatment. If that is the best he has faith in, better let him have what help MAN can give, RATHER THAN NO HELP AT ALL!

## Healing is a miracle

God's ministers should NOT high-pressure any against medical care — but definitely they should encourage them to build and receive FAITH in the living CHRIST.

But God's people should be taught that healing is a MIRACLE and not to be considered lightly. The biblical definition of a miracle is: "An event beyond the power of any known physical laws to produce; a supernatural occurrence produced by the power of God."

Healing definitely is a MIRACLE. But we must never forget our God is a MIRACLE-WORKING GOD! He is the supernatural GOD — not man. Yet He intended man to have a direct and intimate contact with God through Christ. Those called are called to become His begotten children, and by growing in grace and Christ's knowledge in

spiritual character, to be BORN, by a resurrection, INTO THE VERY GOD FAMILY. The human potential is that we shall become VERY GOD — even as Christ — first-born of many brethren — already is!

And His people, whom He has called, must remember that ". . . without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that HE IS, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). And He is the GIVER OF FAITH.

# China

(Continued from page 2)

New York's other major commercial daily, *The Journal of Commerce*, opined that as a result of the Sino-Japanese pact, we could "ultimately see a new international order emerging in Asia."

## How Russia lost out

In this new order, which ultimately might include India (to whom China is also making advances) and other Asian nations, the odd man out will definitely be the Soviet Union.

The Russians have only themselves to blame for their plight. With only a little foresight and willingness to compromise on their part, Japan could now be the economic partner of the U.S.S.R. instead of throwing in its lot with China.

For the last 2½ years the Soviets proposed a similar peace-and-friendship-treaty to the Japanese. The core of the pact involved Japan's assistance in developing the hidden riches of Siberia. The Japanese asked only one favor of Moscow — that the Russians return four foggy, windswept, essentially good-for-nothing islands north of Hokkaido that the Red Army seized during the last eight days of World War II. The stubborn, penny-wise, pound-foolish Russians refused and thereby lost the deal of the century. Joseph C. Harsch, top foreign affairs commentator of *The Christian Science Monitor* analyzed this remarkable turn of events this way:

"Moscow could have won the competition with China easily, had the men of Moscow had the wit and imagination and the political flexibility. Nothing more graphically attests to the clumsiness and slowness of the Russian bear than its failure to see the advantages to itself of having done the deal with Japan, when it had the first chance; and also its failure to see the danger to its own interests of having China obtain Japanese help . . . The United States in 1968 gave back to Japan the Ryukyu Islands including Okinawa. In 1976 the Soviet Union refused to give back the southern Kurils. Thus, for the sake of a few square miles of volcanic forest swept by fog and bone-chilling winds, whose economic value is solely in fishing (mostly for crabs), Moscow missed the chance to enlist Japan as its partner in Asia."

## An open door?

A whole new international order is indeed emerging in Asia. One must ask whether this marriage of Chinese manpower and resources to Japanese technology and expertise will lead up to the formation — joined by other powers such as India — of the "200 million" of Revelation 9:16. And, will China's newly opened door not only to Japan but to all advanced nations of the Western world, including the United States, also finally open the door for announcing the Gospel message of the coming Kingdom of God before the leaders of one fourth of the human race?

What exciting times we are living in!