

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding



**Honor Guard Greets
Britain's Wilson in Bonn**

What our READERS SAY

Read in Public Libraries

"I happened to notice a PLAIN TRUTH in the reading room of our Public Library the other day. What was particularly noticeable about it was the fact that it was not on the table where all the religious papers, etc., are, but on the world news table — alongside magazines like TIME and *The London Illustrated News*, where it was probably doing a lot more good than if it was with the religious section."

Reader in Wanganui,
New Zealand

"I went down to the library and was surprised to find some copies of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. I took home about four and we read them and are still reading them. They tell us at the library they are very popular; therefore, I can't always get them there."

Reader, Saskatchewan,
Canada

Truth Is Where You Find It

"Sometime late last year, at Queanbeyan, New South Wales, at the camping area I had observed a man, who reluctantly tossed some papers [away]. . . . He paused, [as if] not convinced that he had done the right thing. This of course puzzled me and I investigated, and right there I found three of your copies of *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine. I read [them] over and over again, because never in my whole life had I found so many answers within so few lines, to so many questions, that nobody ever before could explain. I then asked my son Kurt, to write to you for your wonderful PLAIN TRUTH magazine, which we have promptly received regularly and for which I wish to thank you very much."

Reader in Emu Plains,
New South Wales

• *One man's loss is another man's gain.*

"Until reading your magazine I seldom read the Bible because I could not understand most of what I read and certainly could not see what it had

to do with the generation in which I live. *The PLAIN TRUTH* puts things in a way that connects up with the world today."

Mr. Robert H., Scotland

Evolution

"I had been so infested with 'evolutionary' reasoning that I knew the only way I could prove the truth or falsity of evolution was to study the college textbooks in more detail, being careful to differentiate between opinion and fact as presented in these books (it can be done if one is careful). I soon discovered that these books invariably state that organic evolution is a fact and, with the same breath, proceed to present facts that prove just the opposite. The poor intellectual slob that write these books are so obsessed with trying to prove that everything has a 'natural' cause that they can't see that they are holding the proof of creation in their own hands."

Vincent R. C., Scottsdale,
Arizona

• *Anyone can take the same test — CAREFULLY re-investigating the SOURCE of their convictions — and make the same discoveries.*

"Thank you for your articles on evolution in *The PLAIN TRUTH*, and other material. I was fossilized, Darwinized, and evolutionized by the myth of evolution even though I knew it was wrong. I was vain. I studied and disproved evolution to myself, but I was afraid to voice it because of my credibility compared to some educated fool, until I was revived by one of your broadcasts."

Mr. Weston A., Silverton,
Oregon

Teen-ager Answers

"I have never written to *The PLAIN TRUTH* before, but on reading my January edition about 'What Our Readers Say,' I was really amazed when I read the letter from Mrs. E. G. of East Palatka, Florida, when she said that herself and family had no time to read your magazine and that they didn't

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Personal from the Editor

AN ECCENTRIC Arizona miner has been willing to pay TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (about £70,000) for proof that man has a soul.

Could you prove it? So far 39 claimants have filed their "proofs" with Superior Judge Robert L. Myers of Phoenix.

This Arizona miner, whose name was James Kidd, was bothered in his mind for years, wondering if he had a soul.

"What AM I, anyway," James Kidd wondered, perplexed, frustrated. "Am I just matter out of the ground put together a certain way, formed in a certain shape, made to breathe air, eat food, drink water, and exist for a certain number of years—and then die, decompose, disintegrate?"

"Or am I an immortal soul composed of spirit, and dwelling *inside* a mortal body of material flesh, *until* this body dies, decays, and disintegrates? And do I then go on living, seeing, hearing, thinking, knowing, remembering, in some spirit world—or perhaps in purgatory or heaven—or even consigned to hell?"

"WHAT AM I, ANYWAY? How did I come to be here? WHY am I here? Did I evolve from lower animals? Or was I put here for a PURPOSE—and if so WHAT purpose?"

Yes, James Kidd was perplexed. He was worried, frustrated. He thought about this mysterious question more deeply than most people. He was concerned about it \$200,000 worth! All the money he had in the world!

He offered HIS ALL for the answer. Never in his lifetime did he find the answer. But, if he could not have the satisfaction of knowing this great mystery of life, he was willing to leave his entire fortune—\$200,000—to someone who could research out the PROOF, and enlighten humanity with the answer he was denied.

He DIED, never having satisfied his

desperate thirst for the TRUTH—*what WAS he, anyway?* Before he died, however, he made out a will.

This is the wording of the will, handwritten by James Kidd, a bachelor miner of Arizona:

"After my funeral expenses have been paid and \$100 [given] to some preacher of the gospel to say farewell at my grave, sell all my property, which is all in cash and stocks, and have this balance money go into a research or some scientific proof of a soul of the human body which leaves it at death."

Judge Myers is the Administrator of Mr. Kidd's estate. He has set a continued pretrial hearing for May 8, 1967, and a tentative trial date on June 5. The Judge is quoted in the newspapers as saying, "This case is not a matter of convincing me that there is a soul that leaves the body after death. I may believe it or I may not. But my task is to administer the estate for Mr. Kidd. He is the one who must be convinced—hence the evidence must satisfy not me, but be presented to satisfy Mr. Kidd."

Well, poor Mr. Kidd! He could have found the TRUE answer to his question, with positive PROOF—the *only* proof that exists—without having had to pay \$200,000 for a wrong answer—and that too late for *him* to know! He could have had the answer without paying any money whatever.

Of course I have no way of knowing how Judge Myers will decide the case. But when attorneys get to analyzing the will with a fine-tooth comb, as lawyers dissect such things and prepare their evidence, it seems logical, that, according to the way of legal procedures, it may not be too difficult to make an award.

Apparently the will was not phrased by a skilled lawyer. So lawyers can find many peculiarities in the wording

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Ambassador College Photo

OUR COVER

In early morning shadows of February 15, German Honor Guard marches to greet Britain's Prime Minister Wilson and Foreign Minister Brown in Bonn. Note ornate German standard—the bells and sun symbol topped with an eagle. It's a grim reminder of similar standards carried by ancient Roman legions which, centuries ago, trod the British Isle under foot. Wilson and Brown received a royal reception, but little promise of aid.

What Colleges and Universities Do Not Tell You

What does higher education REALLY cost? WHO pays for it — the student, in tuition? Who SHOULD? Is it really WORTH IT? Here are FACTS every prospective student should know!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

WHY ARE THE TRUE FACTS seldom revealed? What does it cost a college or university to educate a student?

Is the education worth the *years* and the *cost*? Does the student pay the full cost in tuitions, fees, room and board? Who *should* pay? Is it all really worthwhile?

And how are all these things *different* at AMBASSADOR COLLEGE?

Becoming National Controversy

Recently 3,000 students from the University of California (Berkeley campus), staged a protest march on the state capitol. The new Governor, former motion-picture star Ronald Reagan, proposed to charge California students tuition!

This university was one of about five in the United States which have not yet imposed any tuition charge on in-state students. There had been similar controversy at the University of Minnesota, and elsewhere. So the battle rages on—should *students* pay for their education, or receive it free of cost?

The public is just beginning to learn that it *does cost money* to provide students with an education. But **HOW MUCH** does it cost? **WHO PAYS?** **WHO SHOULD** pay? Is it really worth it?

I Faced This Question

I personally came to grips with these questions fifty-six years ago. But the situation I then faced was diametrically opposite to that confronting the prospective AMBASSADOR student today.

I wasn't so much concerned about the costs of a college education, then. Actually that phase of the problem didn't

come up. Not that my parents or I had plenty of money. We didn't! I suppose, in the vanity of self-confidence, I must have assumed I'd find a way to defray the costs.

But would a college education be *worth it*? Worth the four years or more, and the effort?

I had done something few ever do. I had searched the libraries, and found a book on choosing a vocation or profession. It put the reader through a self-analysis, to determine abilities, aptitudes, talents (if any), likes and dislikes, weaknesses, faults, shortcomings. Then it took the reader through a consideration of the requirements of the various professions, occupations, vocations and jobs. It was an analysis aimed at fitting the square peg in a square, not a round hole.

This analysis said I belonged in the advertising profession. In those days that meant, primarily, magazine and newspaper advertising. Radio and television had not come along as yet.

It so happened that the leading advertising man in Iowa, where I lived, was my father's younger brother, Frank Armstrong. He operated an advertising agency. He had been instrumental in organizing Ad-clubs in several cities all over Iowa. It was the first state to have a state association of Ad-Clubs, and he was its first President.

To him I went for counsel. He agreed with the choice of vocation. We faced the question—how prepare myself for such a career? Should I go to college? The *first* law of success is the goal; second, preparatory education.

At that time there did not appear to be any practical, worthwhile course in advertising, selling, merchandising, in

any of the leading colleges or universities. Actually, a year later, two universities, Harvard and the University of Missouri, offered courses in this field generally evaluated as good.

But my uncle explained that, as of that time, most college courses were, in his judgment and that of many businessmen, highly theoretical and impractical.

"Besides," he said, "the college classroom is not the only place, nor necessarily the best place, to acquire an education. Education does not consist of crossing the doorsill of a classroom, or sitting in an armchair. It is obtained by *study* in books—and right selection of books—and by personal contacts, by experience in *doing*, by travel, and by all-around development of mind, personality, and the whole man.

"Of course, most young men would never acquire an education without the whip-lash of professorial assignments, the grading system, and the fear of flunking. But, if you will set your mind to **STUDY**, use care in the selection of books and texts, put yourself in the jobs and under experienced and competent men who know their field far better than theoretical college professors, put a constant prod on yourself, and stick to it, you can educate yourself far better than by entering a college that offers no worthwhile course in your field."

The Educational Years

I had been fired with ambition. I had set my will to succeed. I took his advice.

Under his direction, I chose the newspapers and magazines where I would receive the maximum **EDUCATION** and **EXPERIENCE** rather than on



Ambassador College

Library and Tempietto viewed from Lower Gardens on Pasadena campus of Ambassador College.

consideration of immediate salary. I bought such books as seemed required, subscribed to the trade papers in the field, *Printers Ink*, and *Advertising & Selling*. And I delved, too, into texts on psychology, philosophy, physiology, and various subjects I wished to pursue in a well-rounded and balanced education.

Although I was occupied, daytimes, with assignments on the newspapers and magazines with which I became associated, my education continued. I "burned the midnight oil." Most evenings were devoted to study. I had learned that "EDUCATION" is not something you obtain at a college—all wrapped up in a neat package and delivered *entire* at Commencement—as many seem to assume. The college graduate has not OBTAINED his education. He has only *begun it*. That's why graduation exercises are called "Commencement." The students have only *commenced* to receive education. Education is a *lifelong process!*

Therefore, I am *still* a "student"

today! I still devote much time to STUDY.

Opposite Situation at AMBASSADOR

But the prospective AMBASSADOR student is faced with a situation quite the REVERSE of that I encountered fifty-six years ago.

Then, there was no college or university offering what I wanted.

Today, incredible though it sound, the student cannot obtain what he *really needs* anywhere *except* on one of the three Ambassador College campuses!

Fifty-six years ago I supposed all I needed was training in advertising and merchandising. But my life profession was later to be radically changed. I never dreamed, then, that I would someday become Chancellor of three college campuses, in addition to worldwide broadcaster, Minister, and Editor of magazines. I have since learned that the most seriously NEEDED—*desperately needed*—education is the knowledge of the PURPOSE of human life—

the real MEANING of life, and the true VALUES.

Nevertheless, I know now that the living God was directing that preparatory education, even in the advertising field. The unusual experiences, the contact with leading men, the development of certain skills, knowledge of business, and general education proved to be the very equipment most needed in what later became the *real* life profession.

Dangerous Drift in Education

In those days, too, higher learning was concentrated more on a basic cultural and liberal arts education. Of course, there were the technical and the professional courses and schools—such as medicine, dentistry, architecture, law, agriculture.

But with the advent of the income tax in the United States, many large corporations found it advantageous to make large contributions and endowments to educational institutions, deductible on income tax returns. But

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WHAT DO YOU MEAN ... "THE UNPARDONABLE SIN"?

Can a Christian commit a SIN, AND STILL BE A CHRISTIAN? Or would this be "the unpardonable sin"? Or would it prove he never was a Christian? Thousands worry, because they do not UNDERSTAND what IS the sin that shall never be forgiven.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

NOT SO LONG AGO, a professing Christian — a prominent churchman, of what denomination I never knew — was murdered for allegedly committing adultery. Many said, "That man was no Christian! No real Christian could ever commit adultery."

I never knew the man. I merely read of it in the newspapers. It is not for me to judge whether he *had ever been* really a Christian — or, for that matter, whether he was guilty of the alleged adultery.

But, as a hypothetical case, what if a professing Christian *did* commit adultery? Would *that* prove he *never was* a Christian? Or, suppose he *had been* a genuinely converted man, utterly sincere in his Christian life, and that he did commit the adultery. Could he *still* be a really converted Christian after committing the adultery? — or was the adultery, under those circumstances, "the unpardonable sin"? Would God forgive, *on repentance*?

THAT question, I *can* answer!

Many Worry

Many have come to me, worried, and said: "I'm afraid I have committed the unpardonable sin."

I have replied, "You probably haven't."

But they will persist, "Yes, but I consented, *in my mind*, to commit that sin. Sure I was *tempted* — and I tried to resist it in my mind, but the more I resisted, the more I *wanted* to do it — until, finally, I just gave in, and consented in my mind, to do it. I did it *knowingly*. Wasn't that sinning *willfully*? Wasn't that the unpardonable sin?"

LET'S UNDERSTAND what is meant by

"sinning *willfully*," and by what is called "the unpardonable sin."

Many Deceived

Jesus Christ spoke of a certain special kind of SIN — popularly called "the unpardonable sin" — which "shall NOT be forgiven...neither in this world, neither in the world to come" (Mat. 12:31-32).

Is this sin committed only by converted Christians — or also by non-Christians?

Is *every* sin committed by a converted Christian unpardonable? Or can a Christian commit a sin, repent, be forgiven, and still remain a Christian?

First, we need to UNDERSTAND, more clearly than most do, *what constitutes* a Christian *in God's sight* — according to the BIBLE. I want to make PLAIN some factors you probably have never understood!

The Bible teaching does not altogether agree with the dictionary definition, nor with the popular idea that has gained general acceptance in the so-called Christian world.

Webster's Dictionary defines a Christian as: "One who believes, or professes or is assumed to believe, in Jesus Christ, and the truth taught by Him."

The BIBLE replies: "Thou believest that there is one God, thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble" (James 2:19).

Today most professing Christians — and most of the cheap "tracts" passed out indiscriminately, purporting to show "sinners" how to "get saved" — how to become a Christian — quote one verse, Acts 16:31, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be

saved." Notice, this passage does NOT say, as they appear to ASSUME, "Believe...and then thou ART ALREADY saved." It says "shall be" (FUTURE tense) saved. Assuredly this *believing on Christ* is necessary, yet other Biblical passages make plain that this is NOT ALL that constitutes "being saved."

BELIEVERS Seek to Kill Jesus

In John 7:31, it is recorded: "And many of the people *believed on Him*..." But were they really Christians? Notice, beginning John 8:30: "As He spake these words, many *believed on Him*. Then Jesus said to those Jews *which believed on Him*, 'If ye continue in my Word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed...' " But they *did not* actually BELIEVE HIM! They believed ON HIM — that He was a great teacher, as a man — they believed on the PERSON — like millions today. But they did not BELIEVE Him — did not believe what He *said* — His Message — His Gospel. To these same people, who "believed on Him," Jesus said, just a few verses farther on, "...but ye seek to kill me, because MY WORD hath no place in you... But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God... and if I say the truth, *why do ye not believe me*?" (John 8:31-46.)

They "believed on the Lord Jesus Christ," just as these cheap tracts tell "sinners" to do to "be saved." Yet they tried to KILL the very Saviour they "BELIEVED ON." And they DID NOT BELIEVE HIM — did not believe what He said.

There is a DIFFERENCE between "be-

lieving ON Christ," and BELIEVING CHRIST! So here are two TRUTHS:

1) It may be hard to accept, but it's TRUE — millions who *believe* they are Christians actually are still unconverted, deceived, having accepted a *false* conversion!

2) MANY who, judged by this world's more popular "Christian" teachings, appear NOT to be Christians ARE, in actual fact, truly converted Christians IN GOD'S SIGHT!

Just What IS a "Christian"?

What, then, is a true "conversion"? WHAT constitutes a real Christian *in the sight of GOD*?

The WAY to become a Christian was given, in few words, on the very day that the New Testament Church of God began, by the apostle Peter. There were three steps. The first two, we humans must do. These do not "save" us, or make us Christians — they are merely required conditions. The third, GOD does.

They are, 1) REPENT, 2) be baptized (which is the outward action testifying to inward FAITH in Christ as Saviour — Acts 8:36-37), and 3) you shall receive THE GIFT of the HOLY SPIRIT (Acts 2:38).

Now consider one additional Scripture: "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have NOT the Spirit of Christ, HE IS NONE OF HIS" (Rom. 8:9).

A Christian, then, (BIBLE DEFINITION) is one in whom the Holy Spirit dwells! The next (10th) verse speaks of the Holy Spirit of God dwelling IN you as CHRIST being *in* you — in this language: "And if Christ be in you..."

And the following (11th) shows how this will "save" — that is, give you the GIFT of ETERNAL LIFE — complete "salvation" — when it says: "But IF the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead *dwell in you*, He that raised up Christ from the dead *shall also* quicken your mortal bodies *by His Spirit* that dwelleth in you."

This passage shows that the final SALVATION means being GIVEN ETERNAL LIFE *at the time of*, and *through* the resurrection. It says, of that final

GIFT of *being made* IMMORTAL, "He... *shall also*" (AS He raised Christ by a resurrection) — and note that it is *future tense* — "quicken your mortal bodies BY HIS SPIRIT which dwelleth in you."

Notice carefully! It is the Holy Spirit of God "dwelling in you" *at the time* of the resurrection. Or, more specifically, *at the end of this mortal life*. IF the Holy Spirit of God is "dwelling in you" *at that time*, which is the *time* of the second coming of Christ, (or at the time of your death, whichever comes first), THEN your mortal body will be resurrected, or CHANGED, to an IMMORTAL body — given ETERNAL life.

As long as the Holy Spirit of God dwells IN YOU, you *are Christ's* — that is, you ARE A CHRISTIAN. But (verse 9 of Romans 8, quoted above), "if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, *he is none of His*" — he is NOT a Christian.

A Christian, then, in GOD'S terms, is one who has, at the moment, GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT dwelling in him.

BEFORE this change has taken place, he is NONE OF HIS — *not* a Christian. IF the Holy Spirit *no longer dwells* in him, then he is no longer a Christian. He is a Christian *while*, and *only while*, the Holy Spirit is dwelling in him.

Millions Deceived Into False "Salvation"

Millions may *profess* to be Christians, but *unless* God's Holy Spirit, given as HIS GIFT by GRACE, is, at the moment, dwelling in them, they are NOT CHRISTIANS.

Millions may have their names written in Church membership books, and still be "NONE OF HIS" — not really CHRISTIANS at all! And millions *are* so deceived!

SO UNDERSTAND THIS! A person is a Christian — in God's sight — ONLY while God's Holy Spirit is dwelling IN him. Not before! Not after!

Must Bear "Fruit"

Next, to UNDERSTAND, it is important you realize that God's Spirit *will not* remain dormant within you. You can't put a cork over it and bottle it up. The Scriptures above quoted speak of His Spirit as "*dwelling*" in you — and,

with many other Scriptures, as "CHRIST dwelling [in Spirit, not in actual Person] in you." But the living Christ is *alive, active*, not lifeless or dormant.

In John 7:37-39 Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as "rivers of living water," *flowing into* us from Him, and then *flowing out of us*, in fulfilling God's Law. God's Spirit is God's LOVE — "the LOVE of God shed abroad in our hearts BY the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 5:5). God's Law is a SPIRITUAL Law (Rom. 7:14), and requires the *spiritual* LOVE we can receive only from God to fulfill — for LOVE is the fulfilling of the Law (Rom. 13:8, 10). Your own human (carnal) love *cannot* properly fulfill God's *spiritual* Law! And remember, God gives His Holy Spirit ONLY to "them that OBEY Him" (Acts 5:32).

Now a flowing RIVER flows down a riverbed — and God's "riverbed" down which the "living water" of His Spirit flows out from us is HIS LAW. In other words, God's Spirit flows out of us by fulfilling God's Law.

In the 15th chapter of John, Jesus makes this PLAIN! We are compared to the branches on a vine — say, a grapevine. As the sap flows *from* the vine *into* the branches, producing FRUIT, so God's Spirit flows *from* the living Christ into us, producing the "WORKS" of RIGHTEOUSNESS — that is, fulfilling God's LAW. But *this* kind of "works" is *not our* "works" — for that (God's Spirit — God's LOVE) which PRODUCES this fruit of righteousness comes from GOD by His GRACE, freely given. THIS IS NOT OUR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS — it is *not OUR* "works" at all — it is GOD'S righteousness *given* by His grace, through His Spirit!

Now is *this* God-given righteousness *required* for salvation?

Notice this illustration of Jesus, in the 15th chapter of John.

Jesus says "I am the Vine, and my Father is the Husbandman" — that is, the owner and cultivator of the vineyard (John 15:1). Next verse: "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit *He taketh away*." Further, "He that abideth in me, and *I in him*" (Christ abiding, or dwelling IN you through the Holy Spirit) "the same bringeth forth much fruit... If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and

is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned" (verses 5, 6).

In other words, the fruit of God's righteousness **MUST** be produced in the Christian life. And what *is* "righteousness"? God says, "All thy Commandments are righteousness" (Psalm 119: 172). This does not necessarily mean God will *cut you off* immediately, the first day or week or month you might let go by without producing active and positive fruit. There is, however, a limit somewhere along life's way where, unless you are definitely **GROWING** spiritually, that God's Spirit will no longer "dwell in you," and if you let that time come, you shall, like a dead grape branch, be ultimately cast into the final "gehenna fire."

But be sure of this: It is a **DANGEROUS** thing for a truly converted Christian to grow lukewarm and careless, and become a "passive" Christian. Perhaps most have temporary lapses in spiritual progress. But as soon as you "wake up" to such a lapse, *repent immediately* and seek God with your whole heart, for a **CLOSER**, more active spiritual walk with Him.

The Two Opposite ATTITUDES

Notice now this **BASIC TRUTH**.

There are just the two opposite philosophies of life — two **OPPOSITE WAYS**.

1) The **WAY** of human nature. This is the self-centered way of vanity, greed, envy; the way of getting, taking, accumulating; the way of competition and strife. It is the **WAY** of **SIN** — of Satan.

2) The **WAY** of the divine nature, which may be implanted within by the Holy Spirit. This is the **GOD-centered** way of humility, exaltation of **GOD**, submissiveness to God; the way of outgoing concern for fellowman; the way of **GIVING**, sharing, serving, helping. It is the **WAY** of righteousness — **GOD's WAY**.

Also, there are the **TWO** opposite and opposing **ATTITUDES** of mind.

You were born with the natural, or carnal, mind. The **ATTITUDE** of the carnal mind is that of human nature — the attitude of mind and heart that travels **THE WAY** of **SIN** as explained in

1) above. Of this natural carnal mind, God says: "the carnal mind is enmity [hostile] against God: for it is not subject to the Law of God, neither indeed can be" (Rom. 8:7).

The opposite **ATTITUDE** is that of the repentant Christian — that of the divine nature implanted by the Holy Spirit. It travels **THE WAY** of 2) above. This is the *spiritual mind*. The *mind* of **CHRIST** — *in you!*

Now remember, there are **TWO** required **CONDITIONS**, which *you* must supply, before you receive the **GIFT** of God's Holy Spirit. Neither of these supply or earn salvation. But God will not **GIVE** His precious **GIFT** until we put down the hostile rebellion. These two conditions, as stated before, are *repentance* and *faith*.

What is repentance?

This comes to the very crux of the whole question.

Just What IS Repentance?

Repentance is a *change of mind* and **ATTITUDE**. It is a change *from* this carnal attitude of hostility toward God — of rebellion against God's Law, to the opposite attitude of love, submission, obedience, and worship of God, and reliance on Him. It is an "about-face" in attitude and *intent*, to **THE WAY** of God's righteousness.

Repentance means that you come to really **SEE** yourself as you **ARE** — as **GOD** sees you — as a self-centered, hostile, shrivelled-up, rotten, vile, filthy, sinning hulk of rotting human flesh, unworthy to breathe the free air **GOD** gives you! It means to be **SO SORRY**, not only for what you have *done*, but also for **WHAT YOU ARE** — that you so **ABHOR** yourself that you come, emotionally broken up, throwing yourself on God's mercy, asking His forgiveness, and His redemption! It means *wanting* to be made righteous.

To **REPENT** means a total *change* of **ATTITUDE** and **HEART**! A *continuously* repentant attitude! For God's Spirit will dwell *only* in such a mind!

FAITH means to accept the living Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, **RELYING** on Him, in full confidence that His **SACRIFICE** of His very life for **YOU** is altogether sufficient to pay the penalty of your transgressions; relying on

Him completely to **SAVE** you from sinning, and to **GIVE** you righteousness and Eternal Life.

When you receive God's Holy Spirit, you have received the very *life* of God. But that does not make you, as yet, an *inheritor* of eternal life. You are *not yet* immortal.

You are then an **HEIR** of God — and a joint-heir with Christ. You are a **BEGOTTEN** child of God, not yet **SPIRIT-BORN**; that is, an *heir*, *not yet* a *possessor* or *inheritor*. Still mortal flesh and blood — not yet composed of spirit.

But as long as God's Holy Spirit *dwells* in you (active, as described above), you remain an heir of God, later to inherit and share with Christ **ALL** that the heavenly Father has!

Given a New Nature

Now we come to an **ALL-important** fact.

God's Holy Spirit within you is the presence of a **NEW NATURE** — a **DIFFERENT** nature — you are now a partaker of the **DIVINE NATURE** (II Pet. 1:4). The nature that not only wants to **BE** good — but wants to **DO** righteousness.

But, *mark this well!* The reception of God's **DIVINE NATURE** within us **DID NOT** remove the old **HUMAN NATURE**, with its pulls and temptations. Nor *will* the **HUMAN** nature be completely **REMOVED** until the resurrection, and change into **SPIRIT COMPOSITION** — until you are no longer composed of matter, but of spirit.

War Between TWO Natures

Notice the apostle Paul's teaching to the Gentile converts of Galatia: "This I say, then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh *lusteth against* the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye *cannot* do the things that ye would" (Gal. 5:16-17).

In Romans 8:14, it is written: "For as many as *are led by* the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

I want you to **UNDERSTAND** this!

When one receives God's Spirit, it opens the **MIND** to spiritual comprehension — spiritual **KNOWLEDGE**. It shows him **THE WAY** to live — the way of **GOD'S LAW**. It opens the **MIND** to

understand God's Word — and we must live by "every Word of God" — so said Jesus.

God's Holy Spirit never *possesses* one — never *forces* one. It enlightens one's mind — LEADS in the right way. But the individual must make the decision, and exercise WILL, to go that way.

Now to the Galatians, Paul wrote that when we "walk in the Spirit" — that is, are LED BY the Spirit, then "YE" — that is, YE CHRISTIANS — shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. The sense, here, is that IF and WHEN you — through lack of vigilance — relax and neglect to "walk in the Spirit," you may be caught off guard and yield to the PULL of human nature, still in you, and thus fulfill the lust of the flesh — commit a SIN!

In other words, IF, as long as, and WHEN, you WALK in the Spirit, you will NOT commit sin. But, Paul continues: "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit" — and, as the RSV translates the rest of the sentence, "the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are OPPOSED to each other, to prevent you from doing what you would" (Gal. 5:16-17).

What you WOULD, what you really WANT to do, now that you have become *spiritual minded*, is to DO RIGHT — go the WAY of God's Law — be LED by God's Spirit. But is it *easy*?

Did Paul Sin?

This leads us directly to the FIGHT to be obedient the apostle Paul experienced.

After explaining that THE WAY of God's RIGHTEOUSNESS is THE WAY of God's Law, Paul was inspired to write: "What then shall we say? That the Law is sin?"

When God inspired that question, He knew that multiple thousands of professing clergy of today's deceived "Christianity" would be saying that God's Law is EVIL — it is BAD — it is a yoke of BONDAGE — that it is bad for us — that Jesus "nailed it to His cross" — that that "terrible Law" is "done away." So God inspired the ANSWER: "By no means!"

Read the question and answer again: "What then shall we say? That the Law is sin?" And GOD's answer

through Paul: "BY NO MEANS!" (Romans 7:7 — RSV.) Continue, (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 — the definition of SIN is, "Sin is the transgression of the Law" (I John 3:4). God does not allow MAN to decide what is sin — but God *compels* man to decide whether to sin. Man could never know what is sin, except by God's Law.

Continue: "Thus I would never have known what it is to covet, unless the Law had said, *You must not covet.*"

Paul says further, "Wherefore, the Law is HOLY, and the Commandment HOLY, and JUST, and GOOD . . . For we know that the Law is SPIRITUAL" (Rom. 7:12, 14).

Yes indeed — it is a SPIRITUAL Law — a Law of SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES of living — the HOLY, GOOD, SPIRITUAL WAY OF LIFE! Yet God says the CARNAL mind hates it — is hostile to it, not subject to it (Rom. 8:7). According to THAT inspired Word of GOD, a vast segment of the clergy of professing "Christianity" is CARNAL minded! Tragic, but true!

Now notice that it is NOT EASY to go that way! It requires struggle! And WHY? Because human nature pulls you the other way!

Paul continues: "But then I am a creature of the flesh, in the thralldom of sin. I cannot understand my own actions. I do not act as I desire to act; on the contrary, I do what I detest" (verses 14-15, Moffatt translation).

Notice, Paul is not talking about how he formerly DID, before conversion. He is speaking in the PRESENT TENSE. He is telling us of the struggle against sin that even the apostle Paul experienced.

Continue: "For in me (that is, in my flesh) no good dwells" (verse 18). That is, in human nature.

Psychiatrists today reason from the false approach that human nature is essentially good. God Almighty says it is NOT good, but essentially evil. The VANITY in human nature *wants* to be thought of as good — would like to BE good, but *not* to DO good. Thus it is deceptive, deceitful. It "kicks itself" —

to use modern slang. God says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9.) Yes, who can know — or UNDERSTAND it? Assuredly modern psychologists and psychiatrists don't!

So Paul says that in him — in his human flesh — his human nature — *no good* dwells. The ONLY good that can be in us is CHRIST in us, by His Holy Spirit.

What Was This OTHER Law?

So Paul continues: "...the wish is there, but not the power of doing what is right" (verse 18). Continue (*Authorized Version*), "For I delight in the Law of God."

Paul had *changed his mind* — REPENTED. He had been converted — received God's Holy Spirit, was now SPIRITUAL-MINDED. God's Law was in his mind — it was now "*the law of his mind*" — He *delighted* in it — said it was holy, just and good — a spiritual Law. In his now-converted spiritual mind, he *desired* to DO good.

So he said, "I delight in the Law of God after the inward man: but I see *another law* in my members, WARRING against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the *law of sin* which is in my members" (verses 22-23).

What was this "*another law in his members*"? It is also called "the law of sin which is in my members." It is simply the HUMAN NATURE that was still in him. It was *warring against* GOD'S LAW, which was now "the law of his mind." So Paul is describing his experience AFTER conversion — WHILE God's Holy Spirit was "dwelling in" him. And this *other law*, which was his human nature, was bringing him "into captivity" as its slave!

Paul Did EVIL???

As explained in Galatians 5:16-17, human nature — "the flesh" — lusted against God's Spirit in him — against God's Law in his mind, "so that ye cannot do the things that ye would," as he wrote in Galatians 5:17.

It was thus with Peter. It was thus with Paul. And that is the way it is with YOU if God's Spirit dwells in you.

Paul said, "...but the evil which I

would not, that I do" (Rom. 7:19).

So what is Paul saying? He is saying that the PULL of human nature, warring against his converted spiritual mind, *did cause him to sin!*

Do not blame me, because THAT IS WRITTEN IN YOUR BIBLE! Let's become UNDECEIVED, and UNDERSTAND the TRUTH as God inspired it!

But *there is* a HAPPY ENDING to Paul's experience, after all. So let's make it PLAIN!

After Paul recounted his problem, no wonder he exclaimed, "O wretched man that I am! WHO shall deliver me from the body of this death?" (Verse 24.) The *Moffatt* translation is more clear: "Miserable wretch that I am! WHO will rescue me from this body of death?" And his answer: "GOD WILL!"

The Happy Solution

Then follows the wonderful 8th chapter of Romans — the "Holy Spirit chapter."

So now we come to the HAPPY SOLUTION!

And this is the solution for YOU, also! For you, too, have the pull of human nature to fight.

Plainly, Paul said that he *did*, at times, SIN — even in his converted state. He said, "...but the evil which I would not, that I DO." And he did do it *consciously* — *knowingly!* His mind, *for the moment*, did consent to it! He knowingly yielded! So knowingly that he wrote of it for you and me to read!

But he did *not* sin WILLFULLY! The evil he says he DID was "the evil which I *would not*" (Rom. 7:19).

His ATTITUDE — his overall INTENTION — was to do the RIGHT of God's Law. He said, verses 21-22 of Romans 7, *Moffatt* translation: "So this is my experience of the Law. I desire to do what is right, but WRONG is all that I can manage. I cordially agree with GOD'S LAW; so far as my inner self is concerned."

He had NOT deliberately DESIRED to follow a life of evil — just the opposite! His overall DESIRE — his ATTITUDE — was to obey God's Law. Yet when the pull of human nature — *in a single incident* — overpowered him, he was aware of what he was doing in his mind — his mind therefore of necessity

did, for the moment, consent and yield.

BUT THAT WAS NOT THE UNPARDONABLE SIN! It was NOT sinning WILLFULLY! And *it did NOT condemn him!* Nor does such an experience, if truly repented of, condemn YOU. Paul continues:

"There is therefore now NO CONDEMNATION to them which are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1). Here again, *Moffatt* renders it in more modern English: "Thus there is NO DOOM now for those who are in Christ Jesus; the law of the Spirit brings the LIFE which is IN Christ Jesus, and *that* law has set me free from the law of sin and death."

Many Wrest Paul's Writings

Let's make that PLAIN. Many would try to argue that this last sentence abolishes GOD'S Law. They would argue that "the law of sin and death" is the Ten Commandments. It is JUST THE OPPOSITE!

As Peter wrote, some of Paul's writings are difficult to understand, "which they that are unlearned and unstable WREST, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction" (II Pet. 3:16).

Notice now! WHAT is this "law of sin and death" which he is *set free* from? NOT the Ten Commandments! It is, simply that "other law" of verse 23 (Rom. 7), "in my members" — the PULL of HUMAN NATURE into SIN. Later, same verse 23, Paul is brought "into captivity to the law of sin *which is in my members.*" This is the "law" that is "in his members." This is the "law" that is *warring against* the "law of my mind," which is the Law of GOD — "for I *delight in* the Law of God after the inward man" — as Paul made plain.

The "Law of his mind" was the Holy Spirit fulfilling God's Law — the Ten Commandment Law. The law "in his members" that enslaved him, called the "law of sin," was this "law of sin and death" spoken of in verse 2, 8th chapter of Romans. Thus God's Holy Spirit, in his mind, SET HIM FREE from the law of sin and death "in his members" — that is, from HUMAN NATURE — which enslaved him!

Notice, Paul had said (last verse in chapter 7), "So then with the mind I

myself serve the Law of GOD; but with the flesh [human nature] the law of sin."

Some of Paul's writings do seem complicated. All this, made PLAIN, simply says HUMAN NATURE enslaved him — held him captive in sin — he was not able — of himself — to overcome it and resist sin. But God's Holy Spirit FREED him from being the slave of sin — *gave him POWER to resist and overcome sin* — gave him the POWER of DIVINE LOVE which comes from GOD — the love that FULFILLS God's Law.

Paul goes on, in this 8th chapter, to explain how the ATTITUDE of the natural, unconverted man — the carnal mind — is one of HOSTILITY against obedience to God and His Law (verse 7), but you are not "IN the flesh," but "IN the Spirit" — that is, "IN Christ," IF His Holy Spirit DWELLS in you (verse 9). This Spirit "dwelling" in you means an ATTITUDE OF MIND submissive to God and His Law — an attitude that DESIRES to GO *the way* of God's Law — THE WAY of love, of giving, sharing, serving, helping.

The FALSE Teachings

The people of the Western world are beset on every side by various absolutely FALSE teachings on this very subject.

There are those who say: It is IMPOSSIBLE for us to live righteously, so Christ lived a righteous life IN OUR STEAD, and, if you just believe, God IMPUTES Christ's righteousness to you. These people mean that YOU do not need to live righteously. Actually, THEY CONDONE SIN — their false argument means you are free to go on deliberately SINNING, but God PRETENDS you are righteous, by a sort of hocus-pocus of transferring *Jesus'* righteousness to you. Those are the "ungodly men" Jude warns against, "turning grace into license."

Others say that, since it is IMPOSSIBLE for us to keep God's Law, Jesus *did away with* the Law. So — if that be true, you are FREE to go on sinning.

There are also the false teachings about "a second work of grace," and "a second baptism of the Holy Spirit," and of what "the baptism OF the Holy Spirit" (as they incorrectly phrase it)

MEANS. Then there are false teachings about "Justification, Sanctification, and Christian Perfection."

Any one of these might require an entire article — or more — to correct, and make the TRUTH plain.

If the reader would like the plain truth about what *is* THE BIBLE EXPLANATION of the baptism by the Holy Spirit — and of the "tongues" question — write for free booklet on that subject.

Some people speak of having already BEEN "saved." And, indeed, certain New Testament passages, in the English translations, might lead one to assume that one's salvation is COMPLETE, and IN THE PAST, upon profession of Christ.

"Salvation" — Past, or Future?

The word "salvation" — that is, the English word — means, says Webster: "1. The saving of man from the spiritual consequences of sin . . . 2. Preservation from destruction, failure, or other evil."

In other words, "salvation" involves TWO things: 1) Saving man from the DEATH PENALTY he has incurred by sin; 2) Preservation of life — and, since man does not have eternal life, his life can be *preserved* ONLY by God's GIFT of Eternal life by a resurrection or conversion from mortality to immortality.

To explain further: One can SAVE a man from drowning — from falling off a high precipice to his death — that is, to PREVENT or *save from* a calamity or destruction or injury. But one also can SAVE fruit, vegetables, or other things from spoiling, *in the sense of* PRESERVING them, so that their existence is CONTINUED.

Actually, the Bible speaks of salvation in *three* ways — or as a process in *three* stages — if we wish to become theologically technical.

Jesus has already *saved us* (past tense) from the death penalty *by His blood*, paying the death penalty in our stead: ". . . according to his mercy He *saved us . . . that being justified* by His grace, we should be made heirs . . ." (Titus 3:5, 7). This passage speaks of having been saved from the penalty of past sins — JUSTIFIED — having received God's Holy Spirit, thus becoming HEIRS

of God. Notice (verse 7 above), it is speaking of JUSTIFICATION of past sins, and of being in the state of an HEIR — not an INHERITOR as yet.

Then, in II Corinthians 2:15, RSV, it speaks of those that "*are being saved*" — PRESENT tense. The verb, here, as inspired originally in the Greek language, is in the Greek AORIST tense, and should be translated, as in the RSV, "are being saved," and not "are saved," as in the *King James* version. The *Moffatt*, and other translations render this as "are being saved."

To make it plain, notice the whole sense of the passage: "For we are unto God a sweet savour [fragrance] of Christ, in them that are saved [being saved], and in them that perish." We Christians are like sweet perfume or fragrance to certain others. If to those that are (already — past tense) saved, then also to those who are, already (past tense) perished. Now those already perished are not smelling anything. This is speaking of LIVING people. If those that "perish" are merely ON THE WAY toward perishing — but not yet perished — then, also those "saved" are BEING saved — on the way to the final salvation.

Then MANY, MANY Scriptures speak of the salvation *to come* — of those who "shall be" (future) saved. Most passages referring to the TIME of salvation refer to it as taking place at Christ's coming — as Revelation 12:10 and elsewhere.

In spiritual salvation, the blood of Christ — the death of Christ — paid the penalty we have incurred in our stead. And it SAVES us from this destruction (which is the second death) — that is, PREVENTS us from having to pay it — if and when we REPENT, and accept Jesus as personal Saviour in faith believing (read Romans 5:8-10).

But, God's gift of eternal LIFE comes to us through Christ's LIFE, (verse 10) through His resurrection and LIFE — not by His death. His death paid our penalty of past sins IN OUR STEAD. These sins had cut us off from contact with God. When Jesus' sacrifice is accepted by repentance and faith, we are no longer cut off from God, but reconciled to Him — the connection or contact established, so that, through His

Son's LIFE, He now can GIVE us His Holy Spirit, and, at Christ's coming and time of resurrection, ETERNAL LIFE. This, finally *preserves* our life for eternity.

That is why God's Word says, "he that shall endure unto the end *shall be saved*" (Mat. 24:13 and elsewhere).

One is *already saved* FROM the DEATH penalty — eternal punishment — for SINS THAT ARE PAST, upon repentance and faith in Christ — *as long as* he does not sin again! And *he will!* BUT, as explained in this article, if and when he slips, and sins again, then, *upon repentance*, he is *again* forgiven. Yes, again, *and again, and again!* That is, as long as his ATTITUDE of heart is submissive to God, he has faith in Christ, and God's Spirit continues to dwell in him.

So we have: 1) "Justification," which is forgiveness of sins that are past (Romans 3:24-25 — because *Jesus* paid our penalty, thus justifying — or vindicating — us. Then, 2) "*sanctification*" (Greek, *hagiasmos*), meaning, separation; a *setting apart* for holy use or purpose. This is a continual process — once so *set apart* — and *leads to* ultimate salvation, which salvation is the change from mortal to immortal — from material composition to spiritual — from human to divine. Thus: "God hath . . . chosen you to salvation *through* sanctification of the Spirit . . ." (II Thes. 2:13); and "Elect . . . *through* sanctification of the Spirit, UNTO obedience . . ." (I Pet. 1:2). And, finally, 3) SALVATION by RESURRECTION — ETERNAL LIFE.

The Crux of the Truth

Then Paul comes to the crux of the whole TRUTH, so far as the Christian LIFE is concerned. It is in the 14th verse, this 8th chapter of Romans:

"For as many *as are led* by the Spirit of God, *they* are the sons of God."

So we come to *this*:

God's Spirit dwelling in you is God's own divine LOVE, which *can* fulfill God's Law. Thus what GOD has *given* you by grace *may* actually *make you righteous!* That means, put GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS actually within you!

NOTICE, I said God's Spirit in you CAN! It MAY put His righteousness within you!

BUT — and *here is the all-important point* — God's Spirit in you will not *force* you to live righteously. God's Holy Spirit will not POSSESS you — as a demon would if allowed to enter. You remain a free moral agent.

God has given you the SPIRITUAL EQUIPMENT to live His Way! His Spirit will OPEN YOUR MIND to SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING. God's WAY is to *live by every Word of God* — that is, to LIVE BY the whole teachings of the Bible. The carnal mind cannot UNDERSTAND the spiritual things of God. The Holy Spirit imparts to you a SPIRITUAL MIND which *can* comprehend this spiritual knowledge as you study your Bible.

THAT IS, IT SHOWS YOU *THE WAY*.

But YOU must decide, and you must exert WILL, to *follow that Way*. "Not the hearers of God's Law are just before God, but *the doers* of the Law shall be justified" (Rom. 2:13). You *must decide* whether to WALK down that road — *to be led by* the Spirit of God — or *to be led by* the PULLS of your human nature.

A Spiritual Baby

A newly begotten child of God is a spiritual BABE in Christ. And human physical babies fall down several times before they learn to walk! But they do not become discouraged, give up, or quit! Spiritual babies, too, fall down — perhaps many times — in a number of INCIDENTS of sin — learning to WALK with Christ down GOD'S ROADWAY.

But that does not need to move them *off* that WAY! If they are "walking with Christ," HE is there (in Spirit) to pick them up, and help them learn to walk better!

So UNDERSTAND! God gives you the *spiritual equipment* to go HIS WAY. The Holy Spirit imparts power to UNDERSTAND *what is* God's Way, revealed in the Bible. It thus *leads* — but never *pulls*, pushes, shoves, or forces! God's Spirit gives you the spiritual LOVE — God's own LOVE — which *only* may fulfill His Law. His Spirit imparts to you CHRIST'S OWN FAITH, to make possible obeying His Law. It gives you spiritual POWER!

That's a lot of spiritual EQUIPMENT! A lot of HELP!

But it is still UP TO YOU what you *do* with it! Jesus said that road *is not easy*. Human nature, the world and its associations, and the invisible forces of Satan, continue *pulling* you the other way. Yes, they PULL! And God's Spirit dwelling in you does *not* pull! YOU must exert your WILL and DETERMINATION to *follow* God's Spirit leading you to see and understand GOD'S way. You have the spiritual equipment to go that way. Yet this *other law* — the law of human nature — the law of "sin and death" — will tug at you, and PULL in the carnal direction.

And you are a spiritual BABY! So, you do fall down a number of times — yet you are falling while still ON CHRIST'S ROAD, walking with Him. As long as you keep His Goal before your eyes — as long as you continue in the spiritual ATTITUDE — as long as you DESIRE to go God's Way — as long as you keep trying, and determined, YOU ARE STILL ON THAT ROAD!

You are NOT CONDEMNED!

The SELF in the converted Christian is still there — but, as Paul spoke of it, it must be CRUCIFIED! A crucified man may be still alive, but nailed up to a stake so he can't get down even though he wants to. The Christian must nail up, so to speak, this old human nature, so that it is NOT ALLOWED to get active and pull him down in the wrong direction.

So Paul said, to the Galatians, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20).

It Takes STRIVING!

Notice what God says about the Christian life.

It is not EASY to overcome sin. You simply DON'T succeed in every encounter — in every incident!

Jesus said, "STRIVE to enter in at the strait gate..." (Luke 13:24). The Greek word which Jesus spoke for "strive" means "to strive, to agonize." It means a hard STRUGGLE. A "strait" gate is a very narrow one — difficult to squeeze through. "For," continued Jesus (Matthew 7:13-14), "WIDE is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and MANY there be which go in thereat: because *strait* is the gate, and *narrow* is the way,

which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Paul, to the Colossians, spoke of his struggle to overcome, saying: "... I also labor, STRIVING according to His working, which worketh in me mightily" (Col. 1:29).

Paul knew that the Christian has a fierce BATTLE with his own nature, the world, and the powers of Satan, when he said, "Ye have not yet *resisted unto blood*, STRIVING against sin" (Heb. 12:4).

Paul also showed how we must have on a mighty SPIRITUAL ARMOR to win this battle. He said, "Finally, my brethren, BE STRONG in the Lord, and in the POWER of His might. Put on the WHOLE ARMOR of GOD, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [WICKED SPIRITS] in high places" (Eph. 6:10-12). Again, in the more modern English of *Moffatt*, "... but with the angelic [demoniacal] Rulers, the angelic Authorities, the potentates of the dark present, the *spirit forces of evil* in the heavenly sphere."

The Special Help You Need

BUT — there's more to it than that! Each time you stumble and fall down — in *an incident* of sin — you simply failed to fully USE this spiritual equipment God had given you. You *could have* prevented it — you MUST learn to prevent these stumblings along the way. You MUST *overcome* these forces — your human nature, the world, and the devil — which have pulled you down.

The ANSWER?

The apostle Paul gave it. After picturing these stumblings, he cried out, "O wretched man that I am, WHO shall deliver me from this body of death?" And he answered, GOD WILL!

At each temptation to stumble, you need to cry out to GOD for SPECIAL HELP — for EXTRA POWER.

Yet if you wait until the temptation comes, you may then, for the moment, be too weak to call out for Christ to hold you up. Now JESUS set the ex-

(Continued on page 28)

Beautiful New Dining Hall



Ambassador College

What Universities Don't Tell

(Continued from page 6)

few ever gave these large sums without strings attached. They dictated the addition of certain courses which would train personnel for their own organizations. And they dictated how such courses were to be taught.

Gradually educational institutions put more and more emphasis on training students to earn a living, and less and less emphasis on morals, ethics, character building, and teaching students HOW TO LIVE!

Meanwhile, through the advancement of Modern Science, based on university campuses, the leaven of "German Rationalism" was being diffused into all branches of education. Education became more and more materialistic. And

the true values of life were forgotten, and became LOST in the shuffle!

THE RESULT?

Few college graduates lead happy lives. Life has lost its meaning. There is NO PURPOSE! They know not WHY they, with the rest of humanity, were put here on earth! They may have goals, but not RIGHT goals. They are not prepared for LIFE — for *abundant living!*

But at AMBASSADOR College, on all three campuses, all that is different!

Ambassador Students SUCCESSFUL

These three campuses are like oases on the educational desert.

Students at each campus will tell you "This is the happiest place on earth!" We say AMBASSADOR College teaches students, not only how to earn a living, but also HOW TO LIVE!

Newly completed, elegantly appointed Dining Hall on the 2,500-acre Texas campus of Ambassador College.

But, some might ask: "Yes, but do you train students to *earn a LIVING?* Are your graduates successful *financially?*"

Indeed they are!

The number of Ambassador graduates now enjoying incomes of equal or above that of graduates of other institutions in similar fields is comparatively large and growing yearly larger. And remember, Ambassador is still a comparatively young institution!

UNDERSTAND THIS! Money alone does not bring SUCCESS! I have mentioned many times the numerous multimillionaires I have known — and *they were not happy!* On the other hand, we may well ask, can a man be *fully*



Ambassador College

The Grand Hall, entrance to Ambassador Hall, the present main classroom building on the Pasadena campus. This fabulous building with its exquisite rare woods — once a multimillionaire estate — was acquired by the College in 1956 at a tiny fraction of its original cost.

successful *without* adequate financial success? Some have been, undoubtedly — but in most cases, ample financial income is an important *part* of a full, abundant, well-rounded, happy and successful life!

Money can be a great blessing — or a greater CURSE — depending on how it is used!

But REAL success is SO MUCH MORE than mere dollars — or pounds — or marks — or francs! Is a life successful, where there is an income of \$20,000 per year or more, but where the marriage relationship is "on the rocks," the children are defiant, rebellious and always quarreling?

Ambassador students learn THE WAY to a richly rewarding life.

Scores upon scores of Ambassador students have been given rich opportunities to travel — either during student years, or after graduation.

Every year a number of students from the Pasadena campus are given scholarships for a year (or two) of study abroad — on the campus in England. And also a number of British students from the English campus are given a scholarship for a year or more of study at Pasadena. Similar exchanges are in effect at the Texas campus. One of the

most exciting events of the school year on each campus is the assembly — or forum — along in the spring — when these scholarships are announced!

What They Do Not Tell You

But one thing colleges and universities have failed, usually, to explain to the public and to students is THE FACTS relating to THE REAL COST of a college education.

WHY should these facts be concealed?

Perhaps many students think their tuitions and fees defray the entire cost of higher education. That is not true!

I see no reason for hiding the true facts.

Repeatedly I have said, there is something criminally WRONG with modern education! It fails to teach the *most essential* of all knowledge. I have said that modern higher education is decadent!

But that kind of education COSTS the institution JUST AS MUCH as — and often *much more than* — an AMBASSADOR education. Any modern college or university education costs a great deal more than most students realize! There is NO WAY that fact can be prevented!

In EVERY college and university, any-

where on earth, the actual COST of giving students their education is *several times* greater than the average tuition charge.

A story on this problem in the weekly news magazine, TIME, for February 17th, 1967, said: "At most schools, tuition charges meet less than 20 percent of the total cost of instruction."

Because many state universities formerly charged either *no* tuition whatever for in-state students or very *low* tuition, few people have realized what the *actual cost*, to the institutions, of providing this education have been. Even the most exclusive privately owned colleges and universities — such as Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Brown, Cornell — which have charged the *highest* tuitions — have charged *only a fraction* of the actual cost, to the institution, of the education.

But in the past twenty years — since AMBASSADOR College was founded — costs of providing this education to students has risen markedly. The U. S. Office of Education reported recently that expenditures for higher education increased from \$5 billion in 1955 to \$15.2 in 1965. State appropriations for higher education increased 117 percent during *five years* — 1960 to 1965.

Student tuitions and fees pay *only a small part* of the actual cost of providing higher education!

Who Does Pay?

If the students, themselves, pay only a small portion of the cost of their education, then *who does pay?*

In the state colleges and universities the taxpayers of the respective states pay most of it. Of course, more and more, there has been federal government aid. But that, too, comes from the taxpayers.

In the private colleges and universities, the major costs are defrayed from huge endowments, built up over long periods of years, and from contribu-

Ambassador College

Above, the beautiful Formal Italian Gardens with Ambassador Hall in the background.

Below, artists conception of very modern Science Hall (right) and Fine Arts Building (left) to be erected this year on Ambassador's Pasadena campus.





Ambassador College

Superbly equipped Home Economics lab, top, and Student Bookstore on Ambassador's Pasadena Campus.

tions and gifts. Most of these latter come from former graduates who have become financially successful and contribute liberally to their "Alma Mater."

I hasten to point out that AMBASSADOR College is comparatively a new and still young institution. It has no endowment. It does have successful graduates, now in their thirties, but their number is still far too small to

make any large contribution to the college's financial needs. So here again, the AMBASSADOR position is utterly different!

It may be interesting to know a few facts about endowments.

By far the largest endowment fund of any university is that of Harvard — as might be easily guessed. Their endowment tops one billion dollars! It is reported as \$1,013,000,000. A few others are:

University of Texas	....	\$451,527,733
Yale University	.....	358,411,440

University of Chicago	..	275,000,000
Stanford University	....	223,500,000
University of California	.....	219,951,629
Columbia University	...	201,062,861
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	.....	184,842,304
Cornell University	....	163,346,000
Northwestern University	.....	135,006,000
Princeton University	..	133,665,000

If these universities are able to receive an income of 4½ percent from their endowments, Harvard would receive an annual endowment income of more than \$45 million.

How High Are Tuitions?

State Universities charge either no tuitions (apparently only five remain in this category today), or very low tuitions for in-state students. Universally, they charge a higher tuition for out-of-state students, though still much lower than most private institutions. However, part of this is equalized by various fees charged. (AMBASSADOR charges no fees.)

Here is a sample of the annual tuition charges at representative state universities:

School	Tuition In-state	Tuition Out-of-state
U. of Alabama	.... \$350	\$ 700
U. of Arizona	..... 239	914
U. of Colorado	.... 372	1,120
U. of Idaho	..... 204	704
U. of Illinois	..... 270	850
U. of Indiana	.... 330	960
State U. of Iowa	... 340	850
U. of Kansas	..... 278	678
Ohio State	..... 500	1,160
U. of Oregon	.... 330	900
U. of Texas	..... 100	400
U. of Washington	.. 325	825

Those are representative of state universities, supported by the taxes of the people. Tuitions are very low.

In the private universities and colleges, tuitions are considerably higher — but still only a portion of the cost, to the institution, of the instruction given. Of the larger and prestige institutions, we quote a representative few:

University	Tuition
Boston University	..... \$1,550
Bowdoin	..... 1,900
Carnegie Tech	..... 1,700
Colgate	..... 1,700
Columbia	..... 1,700
Cornell	..... 1,950
Dartmouth	..... 1,925
Duke	..... 1,437
Harvard	..... 1,760
Johns Hopkins	..... 1,800
Northwestern	..... 1,800
Princeton	..... 1,950
Rice	..... 1,200
Southern Methodist	..... 1,303
Stanford	..... 1,575

Swarthmore	1,700
Syracuse	1,720
Tulane	1,700
Yale	1,950

Of the smaller colleges and universities, privately owned, we quote the tuitions charged by a few:

College or University	Tuition
DePauw	\$1,650
Drake University	1,000
Dubuque	980
Grinnell	1,770
Niagara	1,224

But Who SHOULD Pay?

The question of who *should* pay for a student's college education has been boiling over recently.

The thousands of Berkeley students who marched on the California State Capitol recently want FREE tuition. They want the taxpayers to provide FREE education.

Individuals on that campus also have erupted into strikes, sit-downs, even a certain violence, demanding "Free Speech" which descended into the "Filthy Speech" movement. Students on some campuses demand free "love," free access for men and women to inhabit each others' dormitories.

There are, on the other hand, those who believe a student ought to pay at least a fair share of his own education.

One fact stares all in the face. If colleges and universities charged tuitions high enough to pay all the costs, and perhaps provide a small profit beside, only the sons and daughters of the rich, or high-income groups, could acquire a college education.

The University of Oregon recently was given a half-page feature — appearing much like an advertisement — by the Eugene Register-Guard. It was captioned: "WHICH WAY ARE WE GOING? Higher Education Just for Rich — or Everyone?"

This half-page feature brought out the facts of the high cost of higher-level education.

How does AMBASSADOR College approach this explosive question?

Realistically, of course, and based on all the facts!

First, AMBASSADOR College realizes it

cannot charge students a tuition high enough to pay the actual cost of the instruction.

On the other hand, we realize fully that it is not in the interest of the student to make that education FREE, handing it to him "on a platter," with no cost to him.

A college education is quite different from our position that THE GOSPEL, in literature, must go FREE and without charge. AMBASSADOR is *not* a "religious" institution or a "Bible school," but a full co-educational Liberal Arts college. It disseminates a full and broad education, preparing the student for SUCCESS IN LIFE! How, then, have we solved the problem?

Should Students WORK for It?

First, look again at the situation as it exists in other institutions. Then notice how AMBASSADOR College is different! — and WHY!

A recent survey sampled 200,000 freshmen on 250 campuses in various parts of the United States. It revealed that most young people of college age, coming from families having an income

of \$6,000 a year — approximately \$115.40 per week, which is somewhat lower than the *average* of all family incomes in the United States — do not continue their education into first year college. Ostensibly this is because they cannot afford even present low tuitions. Fewer than 20 percent of students come from families in this income bracket. This low-income bracket includes 40 percent of the entire population.

At the other end of the income scale, more than 20 percent of college freshmen came from families with annual incomes *in excess of* \$15,000. And only 8 percent of the population is in this bracket.

In low-tuition tax-supported state universities, 30 percent of the freshmen worked during summer vacations to help defray college expenses. In private institutions, only 17 percent worked, even during summer.

37 percent of freshmen in state universities were assisted by scholarships, federal aid, or personal savings — but 45 percent of private college freshmen had this aid.

But when it comes to really "work-



Ambassador College

Ambassador Band, decked out in candy-stripe uniforms, adds a special touch of life to basketball and other intramural sports.

ing one's way through college," by working part time *while* attending school, only 5 percent do this at state universities, and a mere 3 percent in private institutions. The overwhelming majority were receiving financial aid from their parents.

At AMBASSADOR, we want all students to realize the VALUE of the education they are receiving. We want them to really *work* for it—*earn* as

much of it themselves as is possible and consistent with allowing adequate time for classes, study, extracurricular activities, and recreation. The AMBASSADOR campus life is well balanced. Time is budgeted to provide adequate sleep and rest; adequate time for study and preparation for classes; ample time—if not wasted—for extracurricular activities; for recreation and social activities—and also, enough hours left

for part-time WORK, on campus, provided by the College, to HELP pay for their own education!

Tuition at AMBASSADOR

At AMBASSADOR, we have been granting assistance in two categories: 1) we grant the *privilege* of assisting the college with part-time on-campus work, for which we PAY an above-average per-hour wage scale; and 2) we grant annually, on each campus, a number of scholarships to qualifying students, selected by a Faculty committee, to attend one of the sister campuses—usually overseas—for one or two years.

In the week-to-week part-time WORK program, the policy is based on that which will be in universal effect in the WORLD TOMORROW! Students are amply paid. In line with the increase in tuition announced for next autumn, a generous increase in the per-hour wage scale is also going into effect. On the other hand, AMBASSADOR College *demand*s excellence of performance—whether in paid-for work done, in academic performance, in character-building, or in extracurricular or recreational activities. We expect students to put their hearts and energies into their work—and to THINK about what they are doing, *while* they are doing it!

In other words, we demand LOYALTY—and we *give* loyalty, generously!

In the overseas transfer scholarships, the College pays the travel expense, but the tuition charges, work-scholarship, etc., remain the same.

When AMBASSADOR College was founded, on the Pasadena campus, twenty years ago, the tuition was set at \$200 per semester. After a time it was changed to \$16 per semester hour. The normal required 15-hour load cost the student \$240 per semester, or \$480 per college year.

That same excessively low tuition (and no "fees") has been in effect to the present. Now, however, we are belatedly—and long after other institutions have done so—raising the tuition to keep it more in line with current practice, to \$450 per semester, or \$900 per year. Or, on a per-semester-hour basis—\$30 per semester hour.

BUT, at the same time, as mentioned above, we are putting into ef-



Ambassador College

On the British campus of Ambassador at Bricket Wood is "Lakeside" men's residence, top, with its magnificent International Lounge.



Ambassador College

New Physical Education Facility on Ambassador's Pasadena campus. Students from nearby elementary school often use spacious grounds for recess activity.

fect a substantial raise in the per-hour pay for student part-time on-campus work, beside one other *important* new policy.

First, however, let me mention that for years we have made available to students who honestly need it, a special loan fund. This loan fund is limited to an amount which experience shows is adequate for any student who applies himself, and practices reasonable care in his personal financial budgeting. One of the necessities of a successful life is the ability to *handle money wisely*. AMBASSADOR students are given counsel and instruction and help in learning this important requisite.

This student loan fund carries no interest. Students are not required, unless able, to pay it back (or start paying on it), until after graduation, and as earning ability makes possible.

The Important New Policy

Effective with the autumn, 1967, school year, however, a new scholarship will go into effect. All deserving students will be given a grant-in-aid free

scholarship, sufficient to take up the slack of students unable to receive parental assistance, and whose part-time (plus summer vacation employment) on-campus work earnings, plus loan-fund limit, is not sufficient to meet the advanced tuition charge, plus (below cost) room and board.

The loan-fund limit will not be raised. We do not wish to saddle on students any additional debt to be paid back after graduation.

What basis is used to determine "deserving" or "qualifying" students for the new grant-in-aid policy? The following: Grade-point averages must be up to or above minimum requirements; general attitude, character, and development according to ability; and all-around satisfactory performance as a student and as a person.

Thus, while AMBASSADOR has felt its excessively low tuition must be raised, an AMBASSADOR education is still as accessible as before to students with the motivation, the right attitude and character, to deserve this all-around higher-standard education accessible NOWHERE ELSE!

Year in and year out, approximately 50 percent of our incoming new men students — and almost as high a percent of women students — come to us

from other universities. In the main, they come from the world's highest-prestige and big-name universities — Oxford, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Northwestern among them. Many come with degrees. There have been two with Master's degrees from each of Oxford and Northwestern, one from Harvard and others with Bachelor's of higher degrees from numerous big-name universities the world around.

There is A REASON why these young people, having received what is offered by the BEST this world offers, come to one of our campuses and start as FRESHMEN all over again, to acquire a BETTER, far MORE VALUABLE education unobtainable anywhere else.

This superior quality education is accessible to ALL who have the ability to do ordinary university-level work academically, and who have, in addition, the motivation, and the will to make a real SUCCESS of their lives.

Education at AMBASSADOR is *not* "just for the rich," but for *the deserving*, regardless of financial status.

For those desiring information, or application forms, address The Registrar, Ambassador College, at either of the following addresses: Pasadena, California; or Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Unpardonable Sin

(Continued from page 15)

ample! And He never stumbled *once!* He is the *only one* who never did! And WHY? Because He is the *only One* who kept Himself *constantly* SO CLOSE TO GOD — in continual PRAYER — keeping His mind so *continually* and *steadfastly* on God — maintaining, constantly, such close *companionship*, and *fellowship* with God that, when each temptation came, He was spiritually *strong enough* to put the temptation out of His mind *instantly!*

He never harbored a temptation. He was tempted in all points, just as you and I are! Repeatedly! Satan worked harder in tempting Him than he ever did on any other human! How did He put *out* of mind the temptations? By having PUT IN His mind the spiritual power of God's Holy Spirit!

Now you and I can have — must have to succeed — this same FELLOWSHIP with God, and also with the living Christ (I John 1:3, 7).

But if, when the temptation comes, you find yourself NOT so filled with God's power, that the temptation tries you, you STILL can cry out, *at the instant*, for HELP!

Jesus Christ is your High Priest. Read Hebrews 4:16. Go boldly to Him on the Throne of Grace for that HELP in time of need!

Do Real Christians Ever Sin?

Now we approach our final answer.

Suppose the prominent church member, mentioned in the beginning of this article, was actually a truly converted man, and that he actually did commit the alleged adultery. Could he *still* be a Christian? If GOD had been previously using him, could God still have used him, after the sin of adultery — if he had not been murdered?

I was mentioning this hypothetical instance to a man who is a begotten son of God. His instant, rather emphatic ejaculation was that *definitely* he never *could have been* a truly converted man of God, IF he committed adultery.

And I am led to believe perhaps

MOST people would think the same way.

BUT YOU WOULD BE WRONG!

Yes, Even Ministers CAN Sin!

We need to UNDERSTAND!

Not only could a prominent churchman, under temptation, slip and commit a sin. But even Jesus Christ was *tempted* — probably more strongly than any other human. He, of course, never let the temptation remain in His mind — it never *conceived* or *gave birth* to sin.

And we need to remember — even a minister of Jesus Christ — a true one whom the living Christ USES — is JUST AS HUMAN AS YOU ARE!

First, too many people look on a minister as a holy, superhuman, saintly, super-righteous sort of person who is surely not HUMAN. They seem to think a minister is not like other humans — that he is automatically ABOVE SIN! This can get to be a sort of WORSHIP, of making your minister "*another god* BEFORE the Almighty GOD." That can become IDOLATRY!

A minister has the same human nature YOU have — and I have shown you the apostle Paul had it, too! Surely NO minister today is any more righteous than was PAUL — and he had a mighty BATTLE striving against sin!

And if we battle against EVIL SPIRITS in HIGH PLACES — Satan and demons of HIGH RANK, and GREAT POWER — just consider *how much more* the forces of Satan would try to overthrow a true minister of the living Christ!

God's ministers probably have a far tougher STRUGGLE against sin than YOU do! They NEED your *prayers!*

Now as I said in the beginning, I did not know this churchman who was murdered. It is not for me to judge whether he was sincere, whether actually a converted man.

I do not know whether he actually committed the alleged adultery.

But I do want to make one thing PLAIN.

IF he *were* a converted man, with God's Holy Spirit dwelling in him — with an abiding overall ATTITUDE of delighting in God's Law, as did Paul, of obedience to GOD — and if he actually *did* slip, and under a temptation you and I may not understand, yield to this INCIDENT of adultery — then IF he

truly repented of it, as soon as he came back to his right senses, God WOULD HAVE FORGIVEN!

Assuredly it WAS possible that he could have *continued* as a real Christian. Jesus DIED to forgive and BLOT OUT sins REPENTED OF!

Most assuredly *no Christian* SHOULD commit sin!

And most assuredly *no one* teaches more emphatically than do the editors of *The PLAIN TRUTH* that Christians MUST KEEP GOD'S COMMANDMENTS! No one can say that we condone sin! NEVER!!!

Now UNDERSTAND!

The apostle John had been three-and-a-half years *with* Jesus. He wrote under Jesus' inspiration. He said:

"This then is the Message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you . . ." (I John 1:5). This is the inspired Message *direct from Christ!* Continue:

"If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth" (verse 6). The "*we*" here refers to real Christians. In verse 19 of chapter 2 he speaks of NON-Christians: "*They* went out from *us*, but *they* were not of *us*." His language is plain.

If WE profess to be Christians — if we SAY we have fellowship "with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" (verse 3) — yet if we *are living* in darkness — if our lives are going the way of SIN — we are liars. He is not here talking of one who, under temptation, commits *an act* of sin, and then repents. He is talking directly of those followers of the FALSE PROPHETS who teach that GOD'S LAW is DONE AWAY. If you say you are a Christian because you BELIEVE IN CHRIST, or worship Christ — yet DO NOT KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, you WALK in "darkness." You then do NOT have any fellowship with Christ, and if you claim to be a Christian, you are a LIAR! (I John 2:4.)

Difference Between an Act and an Attitude

He is not talking about AN ACT of sin, repented of — but about *an atti-*

tude and a life of continuously living in sin!

We must, as a continuous WAY OF LIFE, "walk in the light" — that is, THE WAY of obeying God's Commandments. THEN "we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son *cleanseth us* from all sin" (verse 7). The word "cleanseth" here is from the original Greek word "katharizo" which is in the Greek "aorist," or *present continuous* tense. It does not say, the blood of Christ "*did cleanse us*, when we were first converted." But, rather, does NOW cleanse us who were, in the past, converted.

The following verses make this meaning clear. Notice verse 8:

"If we" (who are already Christians) "say that *we* have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

Here again, notice the tenses. John does not say, "If we Christians say we *did not sin*, before we were forgiven and converted." He is *not* talking about past sins, committed before repentance and conversion. THOSE sins God has forgiven in the past and no longer remembers. He is speaking here of the present. "If we, NOW, say that we NOW have no sin."

Now continue, "If WE confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to CLEANSE US from all unrighteousness" (verse 9). This is speaking of any sins a Christian may commit, *after he has been converted*. If we confess, and REPENT, Jesus, our High Priest, alive in heaven, will FORGIVE, and, more, CLEANSE us of *all* unrighteousness.

What is "righteousness"? Psalm 119:172 — keeping ALL God's Commandments. Unrighteousness is transgressing one or more of God's Commandments. If WE, who are already Christians, confess and REPENT of any sin we might, unhappily, commit (though we certainly SHOULD NOT SIN!!), the living Christ not only will forgive, but CLEANSE US from doing it anymore!

Next verse: "If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us" (verse 10). In other words, "If WE CHRISTIANS say we CHRISTIANS have not sinned."

The next verse continues right on, though it is in chapter 2.

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not" (chapter 2, verse 1). Or, "I write this to you CHRISTIANS, that you who are already Christians *will not sin*." Then he continues, "And IF any man sins, WE — [we Christians] — have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous: and He is the propitiation for OUR sins" (verses 1-2). And he continues, same verse, to show he is NOT talking about forgiving sins of people "in the world" repenting and just BEING converted: "and not for *ours only*, but *also* for the sins of the whole world."

Plainly that says that Christ is the propitiation NOT ONLY for the sins of the whole world — the UNconverted — BUT, ALSO, for OURS — speaking of converted Christians.

In the very next verse John shows how WE Christians *know* that we know HIM — "IF WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS." That is, if that is OUR WAY of life — OUR ATTITUDE — our DESIRE — our INTENTION. We may stumble and fall down once in a while, along THAT WAY. We are "BABES IN CHRIST" and babies fall down sometimes, learning to WALK. But our "WALK" is THE WAY of keeping God's Commandments!

In verse 4, he speaks of the FALSE Christians. "He that saith 'I know Him,' and keepeth not His Commandments, is A LIAR, and the truth is not in him." That is, the one who never professes to keep God's Commandments, yet professes he is "saved by grace."

The FINAL CONCLUSION

Now we are ready to MAKE PLAIN what IS the "unpardonable sin" — that sin that can never be forgiven, in this world or the next!

SALVATION means being BORN into GOD'S KINGDOM, changed from a flesh-and-blood mortal HUMAN, to a Spirit-composed, life-inherent, immortal son of God the Father — the Father of the divine Family. *That* change will come at *the time* of Christ's return. This salvation depends upon God's Holy Spirit *dwelling in* one at the END of the ROAD — end of your life — or, as

Paul characterized it, the end of the race.

SIN is the transgression of GOD'S LAW. We are born with a carnal mind, hostile to God's Law, resentful of authority over it. All have sinned!

When one REPENTS of sin and sinning — comes to a CHANGE of mind and attitude in regard to sin, and BELIEVES in Jesus Christ as His Saviour not only from past sins, but from SINNING — God has PROMISED His Holy Spirit. This GIFT from God, of the presence within of His own immortal life, effects a CHANGE in the MIND. It becomes spiritual-minded — comes to the ATTITUDE of *desiring* to GO THE WAY of God's Law — of loving God, being submissive to God's authority, WANTING God's righteousness. No longer SELF-centered, but GOD-centered.

He thus starts his WALK down that road, to the end of his life. It is the WAY of God's Commandments, as a WAY of LIFE. At the end of that road is ETERNAL LIFE — his LIFE GOAL, which he now desires *above all else!*

God's Spirit dwelling in him is the divine LOVE of God which fulfills God's spiritual Law. Through God's Spirit, God by grace has GIVEN him the spiritual EQUIPMENT to *walk that Way*. It is a WAY of overcoming, and of GROWING in character — in the knowledge of Christ and of God's WAY. God's Spirit dwells in one *actively*, flowing into him from God, flowing on out in LOVE to God, and LOVE to neighbor.

BUT, as he WALKS this WAY of life, HE IS A "BABE IN CHRIST," actually *learning* to walk spiritually, just as a human baby must *learn to walk* physically. He must TRY not to fall, yet he is bound to fall down a few times along the road, learning to walk spiritually.

If, through former HABIT, or being overcome by temptation of the PULL of the flesh — of his human nature — or other cause, he encounters an INCIDENT of committing a sin, for which he is afterward truly sorry — and for which he REPENTS — all the while his INNER Spirit-begotten MIND still in the ATTITUDE of DESIRING to continue on GOD'S WAY, then he has an advocate

with the Father — Jesus Christ our High Priest — to FORGIVE that sin.

THAT IS *NOT* AN UNPARDONABLE SIN!

Even though, in that incident, under temptation, or neglect of prayer and Bible study, he does yield KNOWINGLY, his mind, for the time being, ASSENTING to the deed. This is doing it, for the moment, WILLINGLY, but it is *NOT willful sin*.

The determining factor is this: As long as God's Spirit is DWELLING IN him, he is in contact with God, and still his ATTITUDE is right. And as long as God's Spirit does dwell in him, he is ON THE ROAD TO ETERNAL LIFE. He may, on occasion, stumble and fall down. But he continues, so far as his overall ATTITUDE is concerned, on this ROAD TO LIFE.

Now I have shown that God *will forgive* such an *incident* of sin in a Spirit-begotten Christian.

You may ask, "But would God forgive if he ever sins AGAIN?" As long as his INTENTION — his overall ATTITUDE and desire — *and effort* — is to WALK WITH GOD, going GOD'S WAY, God will forgive. Jesus said we must forgive, not just once, not twice, or seven times, but seventy TIMES seven. Is God LESS forgiving than He expects us to be?

WILLFUL Sinning

WHEN one receives the Holy Spirit by God's grace, this Spirit dwelling in him is tentative and conditional SALVATION. But IF one *again* changes his mind — changes his LIFE'S GOAL — takes his eyes completely off the Goal of God's Kingdom, and fixes them PURPOSELY on going back to THE WAY of worldliness and sin — IF he changes his WAY of life back to the CARNAL WAY of the world, *leaving* the ROAD he was traveling with CHRIST — THEN he has set his mind on determined, premeditated, deliberate WILLFUL SIN!

IF he decides he *no longer WANTS* to go GOD'S WAY, deliberately and intentionally *changes* his OVERALL ATTITUDE, and desires, and CHOOSES the world and its ways — deliberately chooses a life of rebellion, comes to have contempt and disregard for God's Law, then that man either *has done*

or *is in danger of doing* despite to God's Holy Spirit which a merciful and loving God had GIVEN by grace!

SUCH A MAN is surely in grave DANGER of BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT!

This is not a mere stumbling while ON THE WAY — on GOD'S WAY — the WAY of His LAW fulfilled by His HOLY SPIRIT — the way to Eternal Life. This is not *an incident* of sin. A man may stumble over an INCIDENT of sin *again and again*, while WALKING the WAY of God, with God's Spirit still dwelling IN him. Always he will repent — because his ATTITUDE is, simply, that he DESIRES, more than anything in life, to SUCCEED along this WAY he has chosen — to OVERCOME, to GROW spiritually, to receive ETERNAL LIFE. He may find the road hard, difficult, beset with temptations and spiritual pitfalls. He will most certainly suffer persecution. But his overall WILLFUL purpose, ATTITUDE and life-GOAL is to be submissive to God, to RELY on God, to be OBEDIENT to God, to LIVE for God, and to enter the Kingdom of God.

What most people do not understand is the *difference* between an *incident* of a sin committed — even though there be REPEATED such incidents of stumbling, always repented of — and one's overall ATTITUDE, or desired, deliberate, willful, and fixed PURPOSE!

The one who changes that overall ATTITUDE from one of submissive yielding to God to one of hostile rebellion — the one who changes his life's GOAL from wanting God's RIGHTEOUSNESS, and ETERNAL LIFE, to *wanting* SELF-centeredness and willfully going the WORLD'S WAY, is in an altogether different category than the one whose GOAL is the Kingdom of God, but who stumbles in *an incident* of sin — or even many such incidents.

TWO Ways Into Unpardonable Sin

I want to be even more specific. I want every reader to UNDERSTAND. And I feel very few DO fully understand this question.

There are at least TWO ways in which a Spirit-begotten Christian may LOSE the gift of God's Holy Spirit.

1) By deliberate choice. This may come from wrong reasoning; from wrong desire thought out to a final fixed, permanent decision as to his WAY OF LIFE; or, from allowing *resentment* in his heart toward either God or some person who may have wronged him. To allow resentment to embitter him, until he comes to change his whole life course, turning from God.

I cannot put too much emphasis on guarding against harboring resentment. It is spiritual POISON — *deadly* spiritual poison. If ever you begin to feel resentment against some injustice, go PRAY, asking God to remove it QUICKLY. Do not let it well up inside you — never harbor it. If you do, you will become as "hooked" with it as a dope addict becomes "hooked" with heroin! It is *that serious!*

God warns you, "Follow PEACE with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: looking *diligently* lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any *root of bitterness* springing up trouble *you*, and thereby many be defiled" (Heb. 12:14-15). Your bitterness may not harm the other fellow — but it may destroy YOU!

2) The converted Christian can *lose* the presence of God's Spirit by CONTINUED NEGLECT. Neglect of prayer, neglect of Bible study, neglect of spiritual fellowship with God's people. Or, by continuing too close a friendship with unconverted people — letting participation with them in material interests, pleasures, sports, entertainments, cause NEGLECT of spiritual interests. Don't misunderstand. A certain amount of diversion can be healthy. And you cannot avoid all contact with unconverted people. But never let it DOMINATE in your interest and heart.

To the Colossians, God says through Paul: "Seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1). That is, instead of *seeking* an interest in television shows, or popular materialistic interests, actively *seek* more knowledge of Christ — more of the UNDERSTANDING that comes from GOD, in the Bible. Make this your MAIN interest. Never let occasional diversion compete with it as your overall interest.

The passage continues: "Set your *af-*

fection on things above, not on things on the earth" (verse 2). Make the SPIRITUAL things your dominant all-absorbing BIG interest — until you LOVE the receiving of new spiritual knowledge, and set your *affection* on it. Digging out new spiritual TRUTH in the Bible is *the most exciting interest* there can be in life. It's not dry, dull, uninteresting, boring. It's exciting, thrilling — and also profitable and uplifting!

NOT the World's Way

Remember it is a WAY OF LIFE. It is *not* the way the world is living. It is a different ATTITUDE altogether. Jesus said we must *live by* every Word of God — that is, the WHOLE BIBLE! Since the world lives a different way — travels a different ROAD, if you get interested in, absorbed in, and walking down *that* road, you certainly will no longer be walking with the *living Christ* down the spiritual road, with God's LIFE — His Spirit — *dwelling* in you!

Remember, Jesus tells us it is "he that shall endure unto the END, the same shall be saved" (Mat. 24:13). He means the END of this Spirit-LED road, which every Christian must travel — if LED BY the Holy Spirit. That is LIFE'S road. So it means the remainder of your life.

You cannot travel down TWO different roads, leading in opposite directions, at the same time. Once you have *started* traveling with the *living Christ* on GOD'S road that leads to eternal life, if you allow materialistic interests to *dominate*, they *may* soon lure you back on the carnal road of this world.

And *then what?*

If you leave THE WAY that God's Spirit is leading, then God's Spirit may leave you — no longer dwelling in you! You will commit sins, but you will not be sorry — and you will probably not repent!

So UNDERSTAND! Salvation is *from sinning!* It comes as God's GIFT — by grace.

"Works" do not earn or produce it. "Works" determine the degree of "reward," or office, or glory, in God's Kingdom, *IF* you are born into that Kingdom, by grace!

To be "saved" — to inherit eternal life in God's Kingdom — you must

still be traveling THAT WAY at the end of your life! Stumbling — falling down — *on* that road, repented of, DOES NOT PUT YOU OFF THAT ROAD! But to deliberately *change roads*, to willfully go back on the world's road, or to let the false glamor and glitter of the world's road begin to dominate your life, may bring you to a place where you are unable to REPENT and get back on GOD'S WAY. You may never WANT to get back on the *right* road, traveling with the living CHRIST!

Important!

Yet I am persuaded that anyone who does seriously REPENT, and earnestly SEEK Jesus Christ, may find Him, and forgiveness, and get back on the right road.

But *don't take chances!*

Remember Esau. He "found no place of repentance, though he sought it with tears" (Heb. 12:17). It was *too late!* The Birthright had already been *confirmed* to Jacob! And Judas found it was TOO LATE to move time back and prevent betraying the very CHRIST — after Jesus was crucified! Judas "repented himself," — but it was TOO LATE. He "went out and hanged himself."

DON'T take chances on it being TOO LATE for *YOU!*

Probably it is *NOT* "too late" yet! *Don't delay* repenting and getting back to Christ!

How About NON-Christians?

So far, we have treated only with the case of converted Christians, who have actually received the precious GIFT of God's Holy Spirit.

But can a NON-Christian commit an UNforgivable sin?

Let me say, first, MANY have *supposed* they had been converted, but who, actually, NEVER WERE!

I knew a man who thought he had repented, and was baptized. Others thought he had been really converted — that is, had received God's Holy Spirit. His *attitude* seemed changed. He now had the same *attitude* toward *the world* in general that spirit-minded people do. He certainly could see what was wrong with this world. He was disgusted with it. He was accepted

among spirit-minded people as one of them.

But very soon he turned the other way. His Christian friends wondered if he had committed the unpardonable sin. Then it came to mind, they didn't remember ever hearing him expressing any disgust with his own SELF. The WORLD was wrong — but was *he?* Had he, after all, ever come to any real REPENTANCE — or only a little of the *sorrow* that people of the world experience?

HAD he, after all, received the Holy Spirit? Were there any FRUITS of it? Very doubtful. He seemed still to be SELF-centered, more concerned with SELF than going God's WAY.

Such a person might have had no more than a FALSE "conversion," like multiple MILLIONS in the world today. If so, he certainly had NOT committed an unforgivable sin!

IF such a one DOES come to real repentance, and real heartrending DESIRE to be God's son, to go GOD'S way henceforth, and to find salvation, HE CAN!

Those deceived with the popular FALSE "salvation" of this world's "Christianity" are *not necessarily yet* CONDEMNED!

Blaspheming the Holy Spirit

Now notice what Jesus said about blaspheming the Holy Spirit. There had been brought to him a demon-possessed, blind and dumb man. Jesus healed him. The man then saw and spoke. The people were amazed! But the Pharisees (Mat. 12:24) and the scribes which had come up to Galilee from Jerusalem (Mark 3:22) accused Jesus of being Satan-possessed, and casting out demons by Beelzebub (Satan).

These hypocritical scribes and Pharisees *knew* their accusation was a lie! Just before this, they had been holding a council, plotting to discredit — and to MURDER — Jesus! (Mat. 12:14.) They accused Jesus falsely, attempting to discredit Him in the eyes of the people.

The *modern* "Pharisees" of this world's organized but deceived "Christianity" — resisting *the same true Gospel* of the Kingdom of God, now being heard by the MILLIONS worldwide

today through *this* Work of God, use the same tactics against us! They falsely accuse us of being what they are — false prophets. They deliberately misrepresent what we teach. They falsely say we teach what we do not — and that we do not teach what we do!

Jesus had been casting out demons. The crowd was awed! Many were beginning to believe! These religious leaders said to the crowds, "He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of demons casteth out demons" (Mark 3:22).

To these scribes and Pharisees — and to the crowds — Jesus replied:

"Verily I say unto you, all sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: *BUT* he that *shall blaspheme against the Holy Spirit* hath never forgiveness, but IS IN DANGER OF eternal damnation" (Mark 3:28-29).

Now what does "*blaspheme*" mean?

The Greek word, in which it was originally written, means "*intentional indignity offered to God or sacred things.*"

With these scribes and Pharisees, it was *intentional*. And they *KNEW* it was false. To say a thing like this in ignorance of the true facts, or impulsively in emotional anger without thinking, would be different. But these religious leaders *knew* their accusation was false! Their blasphemy was *deliberate*, premeditated, intentional. They had just been counselling together on *HOW* to discredit Him, and to murder Him.

So, this unforgivable sin is one committed deliberately, *knowing* they are wrong, after thinking it over, and doing it intentionally, *willfully*. Jesus said they were IN DANGER OF damnation in gehenna fire, the final, second death!

And *this* sin was committed by *unconverted* men!

No ordinary sin, even by a Christian, is unforgivable. Jesus said plainly that ALL sins, and blasphemies — against even GOD — even against Jesus Christ — will be forgiven on repentance. It is ONLY premeditated, thought-out, planned, deliberate, intentional, willful indignity, insult, false accusation against God's HOLY SPIRIT that is unforgivable.

Sinning WILLFULLY

Now, finally, notice the two passages in the book of Hebrews, speaking of sinning WILLFULLY, and being IMPOSSIBLE to repent.

These, actually, have already been explained at great length in this article. So now we come to these Scriptural passages themselves.

Notice: "For if we sin WILLFULLY after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, *who hath trodden under foot the Son of GOD, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and HATH DONE DESPITE UNTO THE SPIRIT of grace?*" (Hebrews 10:26-29.)

I have fully explained in this article the meaning of WILLFUL sinning. This passage refers only to those who have become truly converted — received God's Holy Spirit. The "WE" refers to converted Christians. None can, in fact, come to the real "KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH," until they have received the Holy Spirit to open their minds to that spiritual TRUTH (I Cor. 2:9-11, 14).

But notice, this sinning WILLFULLY is connected with doing "despite to the SPIRIT of grace" — certainly dangerously close to blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

However, as explained above, most sins committed by begotten children of God are NOT in this category!

The other passage is this:

"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift" — the Holy Spirit — "and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good Word of God, and the powers of the world to come, IF they shall *fall away*, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame" (Heb. 6:4-6).

Actually, if you understand one

phrase here, it is self-explanatory. That is this: "For it is IMPOSSIBLE . . . IF they *fall away*, TO RENEW THEM AGAIN UNTO REPENTANCE."

Now there may be *degrees* toward "falling away." How shall we know how far is here meant? By the next words: whenever it becomes IMPOSSIBLE to renew one to repentance — well, he has "fallen away" — completely!

Remember, God *grants* repentance (Acts 11:18; 5:31). Yet of course God never *forces* repentance on one. When one has come to the place where he WON'T — can't — has totally, completely, lost all desire to repent — is UNABLE to repent — he has "fallen away."

And of course this is NOT speaking of UNconverted people — those who never had been converted — but only those who had been.

The TEST is this: IF and WHEN one really does DESIRE to repent — *does* feel completely disgusted and abhorrent of himself — does DESIRE to repent and get back into God's grace — *HE CAN!*

What about the "backslider" — as some phrase it? If he at any time becomes *willing* to repent — comes to DESIRE to repent and return to God's WAY, the gracious, merciful, all-loving GOD *will* forgive — and *will grant* full repentance.

God inspired James to close his book with this important admonition:

"My brothers, if anyone of *you* goes astray from the truth and someone brings him back, understand that he who brings a sinner back from the error of his way saves the man's soul from death and hides a host of his own sins" (James 5:19-20 — *Moffatt* translation).

That's the final answer. If he's committed the unpardonable sin, he won't want to. If he *wants to* — if he does REPENT, and WANTS the contact re-established with God — *HE CAN!*

And how about one never yet truly converted — or one who *thought* he was, but had only a false "conversion" and backslid? Well, *whenever* he is willing to really REPENT, and WANTS to find Christ — *HE CAN* — if he just WILL!

How WONDERFUL are the ways of GOD!

came to see himself in utter, futile, worthless comparison to GOD, instead of in comparison with other men.

It's about time you saw evolution for the ridiculous, silly sham it really is; and quit worrying about minor, technical arguments from stiff-necked, rebellious, God-defying men who have SET THEIR HEARTS and their WILLS *against* their Creator!

It's time you KNEW your God LIVES! It's time you began to SEEK that great and loving Heavenly Father with all your heart, and all your strength; time, and PAST time, you really CALLED OUT to Him in real heartrending REPENTANCE, and discovered His great purpose in your life!

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 1)

which make it not too difficult for a claimant to be adjudged a winner.

As one researcher, entering the contest, points out, it is not necessary to prove that the soul is immortal, nor even to demonstrate the existence of a soul. His opinion is that "research into the matter" is all that the will, as written, requires. Then again, much of the "evidence" which the court might accept would depend upon the definition of the word "soul," or which definition is accepted. One dictionary gives one definition, another a different one. One encyclopedia will give a third definition, and another encyclopedia still another.

Among the claimants who have filed entries for the \$200,000 award is a college instructor in philosophy, who happens to be a Roman Catholic. With him this trial coming up is a crusade—a "desperately important thing." He says it will refute the assumption of many scientists that ignore the possibility of a soul, and also, he says, the evidence. He thinks this trial will be widely publicized, and that the faith of millions may hinge on it.

He claims to have fifty "proofs" of the existence of the human soul, which he has filed with the court. He does

not profess to present anything that is original. Rather his "proofs" are the result of research, into 2,000 years of Catholic "thinking." Since Christ's Church was founded only 1,936 years ago, it would seem that this statement allows that the Roman Catholic Church antedated the Church of God by at least 64 years, as indeed some deduce from the statement in Revelation 17:5.

But what *is* the TRUTH about the teaching of the "immortality of the soul," or the "immortal soul"?

And HOW may one KNOW? Does Science offer any "PROOF"? It does not! No scientist has ever been able to see a "soul" leave the body at death. Science has never captured one, dissected, or examined any human "soul."

Indeed, if it is immortal, it cannot be composed of matter, because matter constantly changes, decomposes. In the material world, as Elbert Hubbard wrote, "nothing is PERMANENT but change." And if a "soul" is composed of spirit, it is invisible—and cannot be seen, touched or felt, tasted or smelled, and makes no vibration or sound. And knowledge can come to the human mind, naturally, *only* through the five senses. Therefore, such a thing as an "immortal soul," composed of spirit, is beyond the field of science.

Can "thinking," whether Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Moslem or Buddhist, offer PROOF? Emphatically NOT.

Unless there is a Supreme GOD—the CREATOR—creator of not only matter, but everything spiritual as well—who communicates the TRUTH to us, this knowledge is beyond the scope of human discovery or knowledge.

Can you PROVE the existence of the Creator GOD—the God of supreme MIND and POWER, who designed, brought into being, and organized everything that exists, both visible and invisible?

You CAN—if you are willing! We offer you that proof, in the free booklet, *Does God Exist?* Have you read it? If not, why don't you write in for your free copy immediately?

And has such a God REVEALED knowledge of such things to mankind?

He HAS! You can PROVE, beyond dispute or refutation, that the Holy

Bible is God's revelation and Message to Man. We offer you that proof—and it won't cost you \$200,000—it won't cost you a cent—in the free booklet, *The PROOF of the Bible*.

Does the Bible say anything about the "soul"?

Indeed it does! It tells you whether man *has* a soul. It reveals *plainly* whether the "soul" is composed of matter, or of spirit. It tells you whether the "soul" is mortal or immortal—whether it can die and decompose, or whether it is immaterial and eternal.

Did you ever wonder WHAT *you*, yourself, really ARE?

Did you ever WONDER what is the difference between animal BRAIN, and human MIND?

It won't cost you \$200,000. It won't cost you a cent.

All my life I have been seriously *concerned* about what I, myself, really *am*. What is the secret—the mystery—of the human MIND? Do we survive death? If so, HOW?

The ANSWER is in your Bible!

But the full explanation is too long for this personal talk with our readers. I will try to bring it to you, in an article, in the next (May) number of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. Be sure you read it. It will be SHOCKING—but it will be plain—and it will be PROVED!

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 whom He was sending to proclaim His Gospel, "freely GIVE!" "It is *more blessed*," He said, "to GIVE than to receive."

God's WAY is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of *giving*. God expects every child of His to *give free-will* offerings and to tithe, as His means of paying the costs of carrying His Gospel to others. We, therefore, simply trust our Lord Jesus Christ to lay it on the minds and hearts of His followers to give generously, thus paying the cost of putting the precious Gospel TRUTH in the hands of others. Yet it must go *only* to those who themselves wish to receive it. Each must, for himself, *subscribe*—and his subscription has thus already *been paid*.

Thus the living dynamic Christ Himself enables us to broadcast, worldwide, without ever asking for contributions over the air; to enroll many thousands in the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course with full tuition cost *already paid*; to send your PLAIN TRUTH on an *already paid* basis. God's way is GOOD!