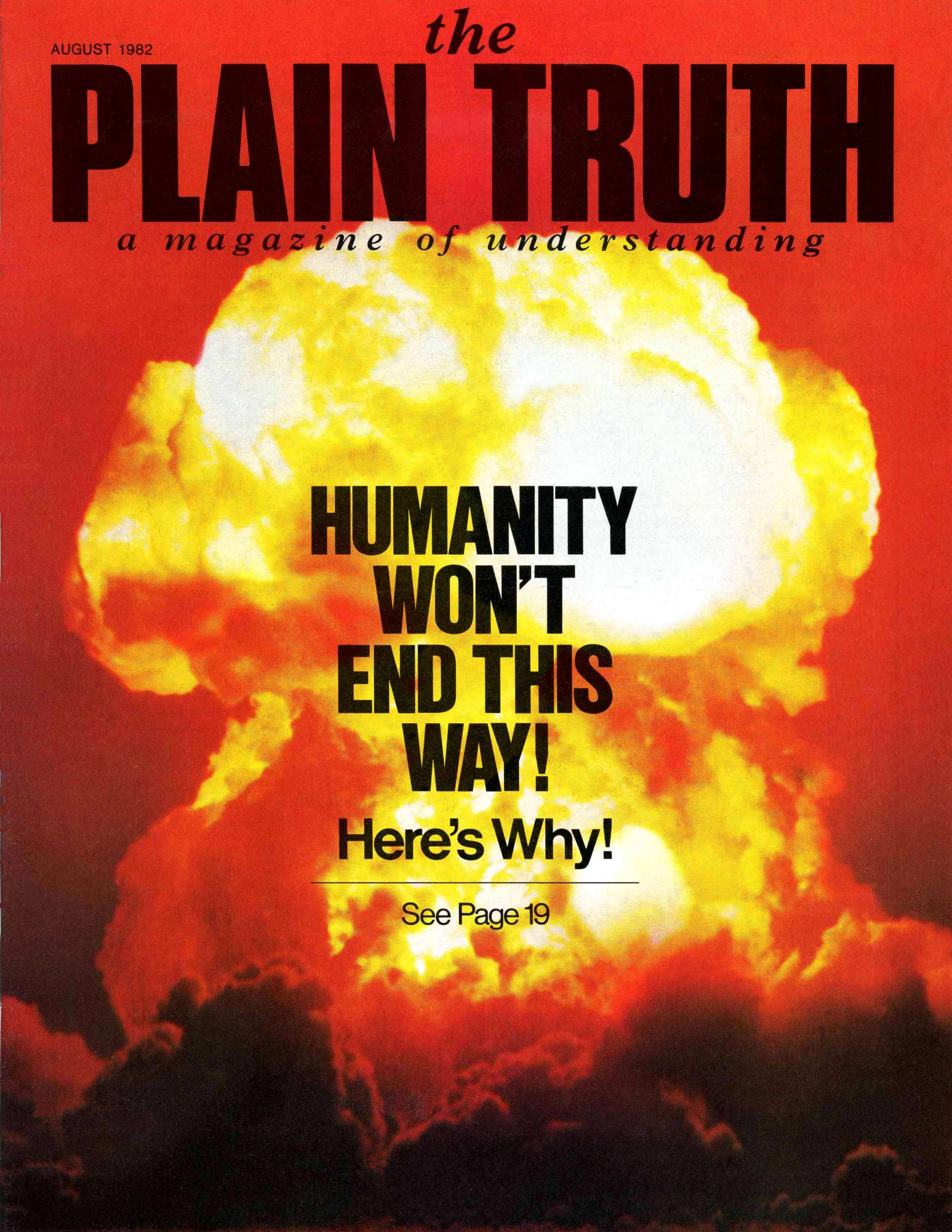


AUGUST 1982

the

PLAIN TRUTH

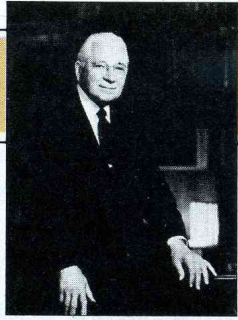
a magazine of understanding



**HUMANITY
WON'T
END THIS
WAY!**

Here's Why!

See Page 19



Personal from...

In Which World Are You?

I HAD just turned on television. Johnny Carson was chitchatting with a “show-biz” guest. Suddenly the thought flashed through my mind, Who else, pray tell, *but* a “show-biz” person *could* Johnny interview? Who else was of any importance or interest to the viewing public?

Johnny, I realized, must have only IMPORTANT people—CELEBRITIES—on the show. Show business is his world, and he could not be expected to “descend to a lower level.”

I began to think of how many different worlds exist within this world on the planet Earth. And even smaller subworlds within those worlds. We speak of the Free World in contrast to the Communist World, the Arab World and the Third World. Suddenly I was more interested in this new train of thought than in Johnny’s show, and snapped off the television that I might continue this line of thinking.

It began to become apparent that certain attributes are shared in common by all these worlds. Vanity, for example—a feeling of superiority over those outside one’s own little world, disdain toward other occupations, or professions, or worlds.

Take show business. An actor or entertainer is in *THE ONLY* world that counts! All others are beneath him—or her—and women often steal that show, anyhow. Show business people have their own journals and publications, just like other worlds. They speak their own language, have their own terminology. They are all-knowledgeable about their own world and its personalities, though they may or may not know much or anything outside their all-important world. That would be like knowing something of the civilization on Mars. Why be concerned about a world so far away?

There’s *one* world in which all of us have lived, prior to emerging into our present world—the TEEN world. Some have never grown out of it. The primary thing to know in that world was simple—spelled in three letters—F-U-N! Nothing else much counted. We

had our own language, our own “shoptalk” or slang. We didn’t have much interest in anything outside our teen world. We were much more important than our elders, though all too often they acted as if they knew more than we—but we knew better, and listened more attentively to the counsel and advice of our peers. Some of us ultimately grew out of that world.

Then I thought of the Arab World. I was over in that world quite recently. Many people in that world know as much about the outside world as they know of some world such as Jupiter or Saturn. Of course they have their own Arabic language, their own newspapers and publications, their own culture. But to nearly all, except the leaders and educators, they are a world unto themselves.

The leaders, however, may be in the international political world. They know, or know about, the leaders of other nations. In a sense, political leaders of all nations are also a world unto themselves. I have come into personal contact with many of them on all continents. They are a sort of private club.

Then the world of higher education, or the academic world, came to mind. I first experienced an inside look into this world in the autumn of 1947, when I founded Ambassador College. You see, I had not gone to college or university. At age 18 I had put myself through a self-analysis and survey of professions, occupations and jobs to determine where I belonged—to avoid fitting the proverbial square peg into the round hole. This research indicated I belonged in advertising and journalism. I was advised by my wise Ben Franklin-minded Uncle Frank Armstrong, who then was the leading advertising man in my state, that no college or university had a course in advertising or result-getting journalism worth the time of day. Also that if I would apply myself, STUDY diligently of nights, choose carefully the texts to be studied, then I could acquire a better education than in college. He had done so, and, in those days, so had many bank presidents or board chairmen in the greatest (Continued on page 39)

WHY

NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE



by Herbert W. Armstrong

WHY no advertising? A personal explanation
by the founder and Editor-in-Chief.

This magazine is **UNIQUE!** In many ways. No other is like it. No other gives you **UNDERSTANDING** of today's **NEWS**—of where it is leading—of what is prophesied biblically for the near future.

No other gives you **UNDERSTANDING** of the world in which you live—of the incredible **PARADOX** of modern 20th century awesome **PROGRESS**, but with appalling evils, seemingly unsolvable **TROUBLES**, universal discontent and unhappiness with violence, wars, human suffering.

No other gives **UNDERSTANDING** of **WHY** humanity is here on earth—the real meaning and **PURPOSE** of human life and what really lies ahead for us.

Yes, this magazine is **PRICELESS**—no subscription price—no newsstand price—you can't buy it! **WHY?**

May I give you some very personal experiences from more than 55 years ago? I had been very successful in the advertising profession, in the magazine and newspaper business. I had pioneered in making surveys of public opinion for a national magazine. That was my background before founding *The Plain Truth*.

I had wondered **WHY** this world

is full of discontent, unhappiness and suffering, with unsolvable problems and troubles amid such awesome material advancement. Scientists and educators were saying, "Given sufficient **KNOWLEDGE**, we will solve all our troubles and eradicate all our evils." Knowledge rapidly increased—but so did troubles and evils. The foundation of the 19th and 20th century escalation of knowledge was the gradual and final acceptance of the theory of evolution. This theory became the basic concept—the eyeglasses through which advancing knowledge was based. The educators and leading minds were saying civilization had now advanced to the point where we could throw away the swaddling clothes of superstition and the crutch of belief in a Creator God. Evolution, advancing knowledge based on it and modern science became the new messiahs that were to deliver suffering humanity from its curses, baffling problems, evils and sufferings.

But the discontent, evils and sufferings multiplied. Evolution failed utterly to solve human problems and woes. Modern science *advanced* until now, finally, it has produced the weapons of mass destruction that threaten to annihilate all human life—to become the Frankenstein monster that could destroy us all!

In the autumn of 1926 I was challenged to examine the *other* concept of origins of matter—of the uni-

verse—and of life upon the earth—the existence of the Creator **GOD!** I entered into an intensive in-depth research of origins, of causes and effects. I disproved the evolutionary hypothesis. I found **PROOF** of the existence and reality of Almighty God the Creator. I proved conclusively, after intensive night-and-day study, that the Holy Bible is, indeed, the inspired Word of God—literally **GOD SPEAKING**, revealing spiritual knowledge, history and prophecy (history in advance).

And I learned where I, myself, had been **WRONG**—wrong in what I had been brought up to assume, accept and believe—wrong in attitude—wrong in the way I lived. I learned the **TRUTH** about Jesus Christ—a truth few, strange as it may seem, really know! I not only accepted Christ—received Christ as Saviour—I **GAVE** myself and my life to him, to "brainwash" me—that is, wash my mind clean of false beliefs and false knowledge. To instruct me through his Word in **TRUTH**. He says, in the Bible, that **HIS WORD** (the Bible) is **TRUTH**. As he opened my mind to comprehend, he gave me **UNDERSTANDING** of **WHY** the world is as it is—of the **PURPOSE** God is working out here below, and what shall come in the future.

Having been many years in the publishing field, I wanted to start a **NEW** kind of magazine—to make plain and clear and **UNDERSTANDABLE** this marvelous revelation of spiritual knowledge—of history and prophecy—of life and its **MEANING**—of world conditions and what God has planned for its future. Since the Bible is God *speaking* to mankind—since it is the **TRUTH**—and I wanted to make that truth **PLAIN** and understandable, I decided (and I'm sure God led me) to call the magazine *The Plain Truth*.

But I had learned that God says, "Buy the truth, and sell it not . . ." (Prov. 23:23), and God's way of life is **GIVING**, rather than getting. I knew this magazine must not be sold, but given freely. And yet my magazine experience had shown me that unless people **ASK** for it—subscribe to it like other magazines—or pick it up by their

(Continued on page 41)

The PLAIN TRUTH

WILL THOSE in hell leave hell at the time of the resurrection—or are they confined eternally to hell, so that they shall be UNABLE to take part in the resurrection?

What did Jesus mean when he said in John 5:28-29:

“... the hour is coming when *all* who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come forth... those who have done evil, to the RESURRECTION OF JUDGMENT” (RSV).

If “those who have done EVIL”—the UN-saved—shall come forth in the RESURRECTION OF JUDGMENT, what is the connection between that resurrection of the UN-saved, and their being in an eternal hellfire?

It’s about time we took this question out of hiding, and took a good look at it! *What* is the TRUTH?

Common Idea of Hell

First, what is the generally accepted common belief in our Western world about hell? Here’s the terse and brief summation of this popular belief, which I quote from the *Encyclopedia Americana*:

“... As generally understood, hell is the abode of evil spirits; the infernal regions... whither lost and condemned souls go after death to suffer indescribable torments and eternal punishment... Some have thought of it as the place created by the Deity, where He punishes with inconceivable severity, and through all eternity, the souls of those who through unbelief or through the worship of false gods have angered Him. It is the place of divine revenge, untempered, never ending.”

Now where, and how, did this

popular belief about hell originate? The *Encyclopedia Americana* states further: “The main features of hell as conceived by Hindu, Persian, Egyptian, Grecian and Christian theologians are essentially the same.” The Western religious leaders from Roman times through the Middle Ages borrowed the doctrine of eternal torture from the pagan philoso-

Dante, and His Inferno. It summed up the history of the Christian-professing doctrine of hell. This factual history is rather amazing! Dante lived A.D. 1265 to 1321. Dante, remember, wrote a tremendously popular book, titled *Divine Comedy*, in three parts—“Hell,” “Purgatory” and “Paradise.”

From the Pagans

Now I quote from the aforementioned book of history: “Of all poets of modern times, Dante Alighieri was, perhaps, the greatest educator. He possibly had a greater influence on the course of civilization than any other man since his day... He wrote, in incomprehensible verse, an imaginative and lurid account of a dismal hell—a long poem containing certain phrases which have caught the attention of the world, such as, ‘*all hope abandon... ye, who enter here!*’ This had a tremendous impression and influence on the popular Christian thought and teaching. His *Inferno* was based on Virgil and Plato.”

Dante is reported to have been so fascinated and enraptured by the ideas and philosophies of Plato and Virgil, pagan philosophers, that he believed they were divinely inspired. Here is an article on Virgil, from the *Americana*: “VIRGIL, pagan Roman poet, 70-19 B.C. Belonged to the

national school of pagan Roman thought, influenced by the Greek writers. Christians of the Middle Ages, including Dante, believed he had received some measure of divine inspiration.”

Plato was a pagan Greek philosopher, born in Athens, 427 B.C., a student of Socrates. He wrote the famous book *Phaedo*, on the immortality of the soul, and *this* book is the real origin of the mod-

IS THERE A HELL ?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

If hell does exist, where is it—and can those who are there ever get out?

phers. Certain writers of the Middle Ages had such tremendous influence on the Christian-professing world, that their writings and teachings came to be generally accepted and believed, until it became the doctrine of the Christian-professing world. Among these influential writers were Augustine and Dante Alighieri.

Some years ago, I ran across a book in a large library, titled

ern belief in the immortality of the soul. I have before me, a copy of the *Phaedo*, and in the introductory pages, I read this about Plato: "In fact, he acknowledges . . . three *kinds* of gods: superior, inferior, and intermediate."

There is the general statement of the popular belief about hell, and where that belief came from—actually from the imaginations of pagans who knew not God!

What About the Millions of Heathen?

Now, before we examine the common idea about hell to see whether it is TRUE, I want you to consider one or two FACTS: See where this concept of hell, if true, leads us! On this earth are some 4,500 million people. The most POPULOUS lands are China, India and other parts of Asia. In spite of missionaries from the West, actually *more than half* of all the people on this earth *have never so much as* HEARD the ONLY name by which men may be SAVED—the name of Jesus CHRIST! Now is there some *other* way by which men may be saved? The Bible says there is NOT!

That means that thousands of millions of people on this earth have lived, and DIED, without ever having known anything about Christian salvation—without SAVING KNOWLEDGE—never having heard the ONLY name by which men may be saved! Now think what that means! IF all *unsaved* go immediately to hell at death—the hell commonly believed in—then more than HALF of the people who have lived on this earth have been consigned there—and they are there, now, without ever having been given so much as a CHANCE to escape it!

Ask yourselves candidly, do you believe THAT is the plan by which an all-wise, all-merciful, loving GOD is working out his purpose here below?

Now *what is the TRUTH?*

We face this alternative: Either the Holy Bible is the inspired WORD OF GOD, BY WHICH THE CREATOR *reveals* the TRUTH on the subject, or else we must fling up our hands and confess WE JUST

DON'T KNOW—we are *ignorant* on the question—because no one has ever COME BACK from such an ever-burning hell to tell us about it, and SCIENCE knows nothing about it. We must believe what the BIBLE says, or we can believe *nothing*, if we are rational and honest!

Does the BIBLE say anything about "hell fire"? Did Jesus say something about hell fire? Yes, he did!

Hell Fire in the Bible

He said, in the passage most often quoted: "And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt" (Mark 9:47-49).

Now exactly what *is* this hell fire? This word *hell* is an English word. Mark wrote, originally, in the Greek language. The word originally inspired, which Mark actually wrote, was the Greek word *gehenna*, which certainly does refer to FIRE.

But in *most* passages in the New Testament where the English word *hell* is found in our English translations, the original Greek word was a *different* word, *hades*—which does NOT refer to FIRE at all, but has an altogether different meaning.

Incorrectly Translated "Hell"

Remember we merely read a translation of the Bible from its original languages. A leading Bible dictionary, called *A Dictionary of the Bible*, edited by James Hastings, says this:

"In our Authorized Version the word 'hell' is unfortunately used as the rendering of *three distinct words, with different meanings*. It represents, (1) the 'sheol' of the Hebrew Old Testament, and the 'hades' of . . . the New Testament. . . It is now *an entirely misleading rendering*, especially in the New Testament passages. The English revisers, therefore, have substituted the original Greek word 'hades' for 'hell' in

the New Testament. In the American revision the word 'hell' is entirely discarded in this connection. . . . The word 'hell' is translated (2) as the equivalent of the Greek word *tartaros*, (II Peter 2:4; compare with Jude 6), and, (3) as the equivalent of the Greek word 'gehenna.' "

The original Hebrew word *sheol* and the Greek *hades* mean the same—the GRAVE, and these original words are so translated in many places. *Hell* is an old English word, and 370 years ago, when the Authorized Version was translated, the people of England commonly talked about putting their potatoes in HELL for the winter—a good way of preserving potatoes—for the word then meant merely a hole in the ground that was covered up—a dark and silent place—a GRAVE. But PAGAN teachings that gained popular acceptance have caused people to apply to the English word the meaning of "hell" which came out of the imaginations of Dante.

The Greek word *tartaros* occurs only once in the New Testament and does not refer to humans, but the place of fallen angels. Its meaning, translated into English, is "darkness of the material universe," or "dark abyss" or "prison."

And now the Greek word *gehenna*. Here is the official DEFINITION of that very Greek word which was inspired by God, and written originally by Mark. I quote from Hastings: "Gehenna: the word occurs twelve times in the New Testament. This term 'gehenna' represents 'the Valley of Hinnom' (Nehemiah 11:30, II Kings 23:10, etc.). The place was . . . a deep narrow gorge in the vicinity of Jerusalem, understood to be on the south side. It is repeatedly mentioned in the Old Testament (Jeremiah 19:6, etc.). It became an object of horror to the Jews, and is said to have been made the receptacle for bones, the bodies of beasts and criminals, refuse and all unclean things. The terrible associations of the place . . . the *fires* said to have been kept burning in it in order to *consume* the foul and corrupt objects that were thrown into it, made it a natural and unmistakable symbol of

dire evil, . . . ABSOLUTE RUIN. So it came to designate the place of future punishment.”

Hell—a Place of Destruction

Gehenna was a place of DESTRUCTION and DEATH—not a place of living torture! Jesus was talking to Jews who understood all about this Gehenna or Valley of Hinnom. Utter DESTRUCTION by fire was complete. NOTHING was left, but ashes!

Every text in the Bible translated from this Greek word *gehenna* means complete destruction—not living torture—NOT eternal LIFE in torment! THE Bible says, in Romans 6:23, “The wages of sin is DEATH”—not ETERNAL LIFE in torture. The PUNISHMENT revealed in the BIBLE is DEATH—the *cessation* of life. Eternal life is the GIFT OF GOD!

Then WHY have we been believing that PUNISHMENT is ETERNAL LIFE in fire? And WHY have we been believing we already *have* eternal life and don't NEED to come to God through Christ to receive it as HIS GIFT?

The PUNISHMENT is DEATH. It is the *second* death, from which there shall be no resurrection! The PUNISHMENT is for ETERNITY—DEATH for eternity—ETERNAL punishment—but NOWHERE does THE BIBLE say anything about the PAGAN teaching of eternal punishing. It's eternal punishment, *not* eternal punishing!

When Jesus spoke of being cast into “gehenna FIRE,” he was using this expression as an illustration of the LAKE OF FIRE, which THE BIBLE reveals is to be THE PLACE of this final punishment—this second DEATH. He referred to Revelation 20:14: “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.”

THAT fire will be much *hotter* than Dante's imaginary HELL!

What Happens to “Hell”?

Do people go at DEATH to the fictitious hell of Dante's imagination to be TORTURED by flames of fire *forever*—and then are they to be brought OUT, to go into a JUDGMENT, to see if God had made a mistake in having punished them so long in this “hell”?

Notice Revelation 20:13-15: “And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and *hell delivered up the dead* which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And *death and hell were cast into the lake of fire*. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” The LAKE OF FIRE which JESUS referred to is a place of DEATH, not of eternal life—the SECOND DEATH—ETERNAL punishment!

Notice what Jesus said in Matthew 10:28: “. . . fear him which is able to DESTROY both soul and body in [GEHENNA].” Here in plain language JESUS said the SOUL could be *destroyed*—and that it would be

“
‘The main features of hell as conceived by Hindu, Persian, Egyptian, Grecian and Christian theologians are essentially the same’
(*Encyclopedia Americana*).
”

DESTROYED in this GEHENNA that has been falsely translated by the English word *hell*! Gehenna is a place of DESTRUCTION!

Again Jesus used this word *gehenna* as quoted in Matthew 23:33: “Ye serpents,” he said to the Pharisees, “. . . how can ye escape the damnation of [GEHENNA]?”—the second DEATH—eternal PUNISHMENT!

The ancient rebellious cities Sodom and Gomorrah suffered, as we read in Jude 7, the vengeance of ETERNAL FIRE. But they are not still burning. They were burned up FOREVER—eternal DESTRUCTION!

Now what happens in this “hell”—derived from the Greek word *gehenna*? Let the Holy Word of GOD answer: “For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the

proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts” (Mal. 4:1-3).

God Is Love—and Justice!

God is a God of LOVE—OR MERCY, as well as a God of ABSOLUTE JUSTICE! If he were the vain, angry, unjust god pictured by the pagans who invented this popular conception of heaven and hell, then, according to the common belief of the illustration of Lazarus and the Rich Man, saved mothers up in heaven are hearing the shrieks, seeing the indescribable AGONY, *writhing*, of their own lost children down in hell—actually able to carry on a conversation with them—yet UNABLE to help them.

Would THAT be the heavenly BLISS it is generally represented?

Psalm 37 OUGHT to make plain to us this matter of heaven and hell. Notice!

“For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away. For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever” (Ps. 37:9-12, 20, 22, 29).

And now, Psalm 104:35: “Let the sinners be consumed out of the
(Continued on page 38)

Job Security

(Continued from page 14)

how to establish happy homes and stable marriages. Humans will find opportunities to fully develop talents and abilities.

Women will rejoice in being homemakers, mothers and teachers of their children. Both parents will enjoy taking responsibility for teaching their children a great deal of their primary education. Children will be wanted and cherished. They will be needed to rebuild and beautify the earth.

God will heal the sick, blind, maimed and mentally damaged. "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened [by God's healing power], and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing . . ." (Isa. 35:5-6). No more millions of nonproductive hopeless lives or incurable diseases.

Everyone will know what it means to experience love from others. All will be taught to respect all other humans—regardless of race—for their incredible human potential. Every nation will be given its own land to develop the special talents and abilities God has given to each.

What a different world! At last, millions will experience the fulfillment of Christ's promise, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

Gradually Spreading Miracle

Don't misunderstand. God's government and blessings won't happen in all nations all at once. It will take time. Nations will have many wrong ways to change, many wrong ideas to unlearn and overcome.

God will first give a nation the chance to accept or refuse his ways. The consequences for repeated refusal to obey are indicated in Zech. 14:16-19.

Christ said the kingdom, or government, of God would be like leaven in a lump of dough (Matt. 13:33). It would gradually spread throughout the whole earth. God expects those who have learned and prospered from God's ways to

teach and help others less fortunate. Prosperous and successful individuals will not devote their whole lives to accumulating more and more wealth for themselves.

Wealth and abundance are not wrong. God wants all to prosper and be in health (III John 2). But under God's wonderful government a person's success and character will not be measured by the abundance of what he possesses. Success and character will be more measured in how a person helps, shares and serves others.

Education, at last, will be universal. There will be a universal language to understand God and his ways (Zeph. 3:9). No more will religious, political and economic confusion and strife be permitted to divide nations and lead humans into hate, animosity and war.

" . . . for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9).

God speed that happy age! That's good news really worth announcing to the world—and preparing one's self to take part in—*today!* □

HELL

(Continued from page 11)

earth, and let the wicked be no more."

And now, Isaiah 66:24: "And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

Never to Be Quenched?

"Neither shall their fire be QUENCHED." Does that mean burning forever and never burning up? Try this test: Put a piece of paper in a pan. Light it with a match. Now, *don't* QUENCH that fire! Don't put it out—for that's what "quench" means. Very soon the paper will *burn up*. Then put it down on the floor and step on it! Now it's merely ashes under the sole of your feet—precisely as THE BIBLE plainly says the wicked shall be! In Jeremiah 17:27, God

THE WEST

(Continued from page 32)

have not done. They have not kept the Ten Commandments. Both nationally and individually, lawlessness is a way of life in Britain and North America, and Australia and New Zealand, too. If God's promised blessing fell on us, he also promised to carry out national punishments if the patriarchs' descendants would persist in disobedience.

God said he would "break the pride" of the power of Jacob's descendants (Lev. 26:19). One by one the powerful overseas bases and gates of both America and Britain are being dismantled or taken over by other nations.

For the surprising reasons why the English-speaking world came into such blessings and now such national troubles, why not request a most unusual book? It's entitled *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. It can't hurt to see America and Britain from God's point of view. □

warned the Jews that Jerusalem would be *burned*, and the fire would *not be quenched*—unless they repented. In Jeremiah 52:13, you read the account of the burning of Jerusalem. That fire was NOT QUENCHED! It is NOT still burning!

Do you know that THE BIBLE teaches the *resurrection* of *all* who die? The apostle Paul said his HOPE was the hope of the RESURRECTION! As the resurrection is true doctrine, then the pagan myth of an eternal TORTURE, beginning at death, is as deceptive as Satan himself! If all UNSAVED—even all who never *heard* the ONLY name Jesus Christ—are roasting, screaming, in such a hell, and can never get out, HOW can there be a RESURRECTION!

Thank GOD!—there is to be a resurrection to JUDGMENT, as well as a resurrection to eternal life of the dead IN Christ! Yes, thank GOD, he so LOVED the world—we NEED not perish, but through Christ we may have EVERLASTING LIFE! □

Personal from...

(Continued from page 1)

banks in New York and Chicago, or executive heads of major industrial corporations.

I had entered the business world. And indeed that, too, was a world unto itself. In those days, we in the business world held college professors more or less in contempt, as impractical theoretical idealists without real knowledge based on EXPERIENCE.

But in October, 1947, starting Ambassador College with a faculty of eight and student body of four, I began for the first time to rub shoulders with college professors. Six had either PhDs or MAs, and two had BAs, but were taking special courses toward higher degrees. The faculty members prepared their own luncheon in a kitchen in our one-building college, and frequently I joined them. I observed they carried a specially developed professional manner, used the language of scholarship, and—yes, like other worlds—were a superior world unto themselves.

This was becoming interesting as I meditated on. More and more worlds continued flashing to mind. I thought of the sports world. It's even divided into worlds within the sports world—the world of baseball, football (U.S.), soccer (Britain and many other countries), tennis, basketball, ice hockey, track and field and many others. Each with its own language and terminology, its own printed media. How many wives pick out the sports section of the morning newspaper and place it at their husbands' plate with breakfast?

Then there's the labor world, the domestic political world, the social world and now surfacing, reminiscent of Sodom and Gomorrah, the emboldened and defiant "gay" world, flaunting their shame as though they were righteous and superior, asserting their "rights." They recognize one another instantly and form their own inner world.

Also now emerging in force is a world actually founded by the original mother Eve, organizing to demand "their rights" in the United States under the banner of

the ERA. The prophet Isaiah broke the original news story of their world for these last days. Speaking of "in that day"—our time now—"children are their oppressors, and women rule over them" (Isa. 3:12). I have known personally three women rulers, Mrs. Golda Meir, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and Mrs. Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka. And now we have the "Iron Lady," Margaret Thatcher, leading Britain, and Queen Elizabeth on the throne.

I have been in the advertising world and the newspaper world, and each is, indeed, a world of itself, with the common characteristics of a feeling of superiority and a certain disdain for those outside their worlds.

Then we must not overlook the exclusive professional military world—those making military service their profession, a closed world in itself. They, too, are lofty and superior, high above us ordinary civilians.

There are, too, the various religious worlds, each with its own personality and culture, and each esteeming itself loftier than other religions, sects or worlds.

All these many worlds, all loftier in their own minds than the others, nevertheless amalgamate into one overall world collectively inhabiting this planet Earth.

Actually, the earth and all in it was designed and created by the Almighty Ever-living God, purposed to be HIS world, in close association with and guided by him. But the world with all its subworlds actually is cut off from him, living separately and independent of him, virtually unaware of him as if he were nonexistent. Even to those who have some consciousness of him, to most of them he seems unreal—a sort of phantom or imaginary being.

Most people know little of other worlds outside their subworld—let alone a consciousness of any connection, association with or real knowledge of the supreme overall God who gives life, sustains the universe and is the direct Source of *all!*

But *WHY?* How did things get this way?

What was the origin—the source—of this amalgamated world with its many inner worlds collec-

tively? They do all have certain things in common, despite the differences and imagined respective superiorities.

It all originated in a very superior being—a superhuman—on the highest level of the feats of creation of the Almighty Creator. He was the super archangel, the cherub Lucifer—immortal, high above ordinary angels or even seraphs. Of this superbeing, God said, "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth" the very throne of Almighty God. "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity [lawlessness] was found in thee." But why the rebellious lawlessness in such a mighty and perfect superbeing? God reveals: "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy BEAUTY, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness . . ." (Ezek. 28:14-15, 17).

This superior created being was utterly BEAUTIFUL. He was exceedingly brilliant in mind. It went to his head. He, superior though he was, still was inferior to his Maker. But his brilliance, brightness, intellect, beauty, went to his head. He exaggerated even his exceeding brilliance and magnified himself above even his Creator. He became excessively vain in self-esteem. To elevate himself above his own Creator, he allowed VANITY to seize him—to pervert his mind into an attitude of extreme hostility. He inoculated the angels under him with this same attitude of hostile rebellion against their Creator. He attempted a spiritual military invasion and coup to seize the heavenly throne of the universe from God. He was cast back down to earth. Thus he became Satan the devil, and his angels became demons.

In the form of a serpent, he deceived mother Eve in the garden of Eden. In initiating the original ERA movement, she led the first Adam into a rebellious attitude of taking to himself the *spiritual* knowledge of good and evil. Thus the first human imbibed the ATTITUDE of hostility against the Creator God and against God's way of life.

But HOW have all succeeding humanity imbibed this attitude of self-centered motivation? The human mind is composed of human

brain plus the human spirit. There is a spirit in man (Job 32:8) that imparts comprehension of materialistic knowledge. This human spirit constrains (verse 18), influences, motivates, the human mind. Satan is a superpowered spirit being—the “prince of the power of the air” (Eph. 2:2). As such he “broadcasts” through the air we breathe. He thus works IN the natural mind of humans (same verse). In the early months of infancy of children Satan injects the attitude of self-centeredness. We call it human nature. This attitude is not parentally inherited from birth, but is injected spiritually through the human spirit from infancy by Satan. This has happened to all humans born from Adam and Eve.

Just what does this actually mean? God had—upon Adam’s rebellion—shut up the tree of life—symbolic of the Holy Spirit and God’s LOVE as a way of life. Mankind was left in an attitude of self-vanity, hostility against his Maker and others outside his “*empireical*” SELF. The spirit or attitude that motivated mankind was one of self-centeredness, covetousness, envy and jealousy toward others, competition leading to strife and violence, resentment of authority—all with self-esteem. God had closed off his Holy Spirit from man UNTIL the appearing of Christ, the second Adam.

Man was left under the sway of Satan and Satan’s attitude.

Man was left with self-love—self-esteem. But the SELF is *empireical*. It includes more than the person’s bare body and mind. It includes all he considers his—that is, his possessions, his family, those he is connected with selfishly—even his world!

A person’s individual “world” is like a part of the person’s SELF. That is why those of a subworld within the world as a whole have characteristics in common. They accept their own particular world in an attitude of superiority, yet looking with a sort of disdain upon others outside their world. It is, after all, a sort of self-centeredness. Also the average human mind tends to confine its horizons to narrow limits.

It was into such an amalgamated world of his time that Jesus came

as the Christ. He came to initiate an ENTIRELY NEW AND UTTERLY DIFFERENT WORLD. He said, “I will build my Church.” He did, but the world little recognizes it. Its teachings were suppressed within 20 to 40 years, and counterfeits escalated into great religions calling themselves Christian. Jesus called his disciples to “come out from among them” of this world and be separate. For they—God’s true Church—are the future WORLD TOMORROW—the coming KINGDOM OF GOD—in embryo. The Church is made up of disciples (students, learners), just as were the original apostles. They are LEARNING through impregnation of God’s Spirit to *overcome* the satanic attitude, submitting as little children to GOD’s way of life and government over them.

They are the affianced bride of the coming Christ, glorified as KING of kings and LORD of lords, ruling all nations—bringing to earth world PEACE. Then there shall be *love, happiness, joy, and tremendous achievement.*

It will be a cooperative world in which each person is as sincerely concerned for the good and well-being of others as for his own. It will be a world of happiness and joy, all working together under God and his government in refreshing exuberance toward achievements beyond anything even dreamed of today.

Right now this world is very dark and cataclysmic. Clouds gather but bright dawn is ahead.

Few, indeed, have understood what has actually happened in this world—the PURPOSE being worked out here below—the purpose for which God placed mankind on the earth.

Few, indeed, have known it as yet—but the supreme Creator God is reproducing himself in and through mankind. He made man in his image—after his likeness—form and shape. But man was made, as were the dumb animals, from the dust of the ground—of matter—earthy, with temporary physiochemical existence.

Yet man was made after the GOD kind—ultimately, by personal individual choice to be born into the GOD FAMILY. Unlike animals,

man from birth has a human spirit imparting the power of comprehension of materialistic KNOWLEDGE—as in the process of thinking, reasoning, decision making. The first Adam was offered, and rejected, eternal and inherent spirit LIFE. His one human spirit needed *another* Spirit—the Holy Spirit of GOD—to impregnate him with divine GOD-LIFE. Adam rejected this. He rejected the revelation of spiritual knowledge comprehended only through the Holy Spirit. He chose instead, to acquire by himself the spiritual knowledge of good and evil—although spiritual comprehension cannot enter the human mind except by the Holy Spirit of God (I Cor. 2:11). Thus the first man—and all mankind since—rejected GOD, God’s Spirit, and revealed knowledge from God. He cut himself off from contact and relationship with God. He shut himself off from the spiritual capacity to deal in peaceful and cooperative relationship with fellowman. His one human spirit has been tuned to the spiritual wavelength of Satan, and all mankind has been DECEIVED by Satan.

God shut off the Holy Spirit from all mankind until Christ, and then, even, it was opened ONLY to those specially called by God the Father (John 6:44). But those so called became students (disciples) of Jesus Christ. They embodied the Church of God, today still small but worldwide. They are the FIRST-fruits of God’s salvation.

As for the world as a whole, it was appointed to men once to die, and after this, by resurrection, the judgment (Heb. 9:27) in which the book of LIFE shall be opened to them (Rev. 20:11-12). Preceding this, all still alive during the coming Millennium, when Christ shall rule all nations of the earth, shall be called and be ruled and taught under Christ by those of the Church of God then made immortal children of the GOD FAMILY (Rev. 5:10, 2:26-27, 3:21. See also Matt. 25:31-34).

In the end, ALL humanity shall have learned their lesson, and all willing born into the GOD FAMILY. Truly, God is REPRODUCING HIMSELF! A wonderful PURPOSE is, truly, being worked out here below! □

SUBSCRIPTION

(Continued from page 6)

own free will and decision on a newsstand, it would only be considered cheap and of no value. But I wanted to make this the MOST VALUABLE magazine of all—the most valuable and helpful to those who read it.

Also I knew it must not be commercialized for profit or private gain. Therefore, although I had sold countless pages of magazine advertising in my career, I felt *The Plain Truth* must not be commercialized by selling advertising.

I had learned Jesus spoke truth when he said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." This world's way of life is "GET"—and God's way is "GIVE." I began to live the way of "GIVE" in my own life. And I found others saw the practicality of that way too. I started *The Plain Truth* February 1, 1934, with a cir-

ulation of about 350. I found that some of the readers wanted to follow the principle of "GIVE" and sent in unsolicited contributions to share with me in GIVING *The Plain Truth*. I had started broadcasting this same TRUTH, and I offered a free subscription to *The Plain Truth*. But I did not request contributions or financial support over the air.

This operation has always been one of "GIVE"—not of "GET." The

God whose TRUTH we give and share with millions has blessed this Work and it has grown remarkably. Today *The Plain Truth* is one of the leading mass-circulation magazines on earth—circulation now passing 4½ million copies per month in six languages over all inhabited continents. It is supported by the tithes and free-will contributions of those who voluntarily, without solicitation or request, have become co-workers with us in this Work of "GIVE." □

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Marriage

(Continued from page 30)

young adulthood, they and their friends will keep your home filled with laughter and enthusiasm. Through each other, your children and their friends—and finally your grandchildren—you build a circle of friends, of warmth, of love and of joy.

If you have loved and taught and trained your children as you should, they will provide a deep sense of satisfaction, fulfillment and even security as you get older. For they will want to help you—as you have helped them. All of this makes the idea of having a complete family another wonderful and worthy goal toward which your marriage can point.

4 build together the home and learn the give way as a family unit

Does all this sound old-fashioned? Like something from the distant past?

It is!

Yet it is also the wave of the future and an ideal the entire world

will be learning about in a few years! For as all longtime *Plain Truth* readers know, there is a new world coming. There is a new society ahead that will be founded upon a way of life based on the Ten Commandments. The "in" thing will be serving, helping and building your family, your neighbors, your community.

A happy home provides a place for *character building* that is hard to beat. In it each mate has to give of himself or herself constantly to the mate, children and for the common good of the family. In sickness and in health, in good times and hard times, each member of a properly founded family learns commitment to the common cause. Each must learn to sacrifice and serve for the common good.

My own mother came from such a family—seven daughters and one son. As a boy, I visited the big frame house where my mother and her brother and sisters had grown up. Over the years, it became obvious to me that they had gone through a lot of joys and trials together that had built a deep and wonderful bond of commitment.

Ruby, the eldest, had sacrificed in order to help the younger ones

complete college. Each, in turn, then joined in helping the younger ones in whatever way they could to acquire a full college education. They had a family goal—that all would attain a college degree and make something of themselves in the big world outside.

Loving, serving and encouraging one another became part of this family way of life. This was a great source of strength to them—individually as well as collectively.

When considering *who, when* and *what kind* of marriage you want, be sure that you carefully talk these goals over with your betrothed or with your mate.

Goal-setting in your marriage and working *together* to reach those goals can add a depth and meaning to your marriage that many do not have. It can help you look beyond the immediate trials and problems inherent in any marriage involving two normal, imperfect human beings. And it can help you keep your eyes on the big picture—why the Creator made us male and female, why he instituted marriage and why the building of a strong and stable marriage is excellent preparation for your ultimate goal—the kingdom of God. □