

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding

VOL. XVIII, NUMBER 3

AUGUST, 1953

"Peace in Our Time?"

American armed forces are now stationed in 49 foreign countries! How long can we continue to hold the free world together?

by Herman L. Hoeh

MILLIONS today *hope* for the best, but fear the worst *is coming!* Our children are facing a world convulsing in the throes of war and preparations for war. In the last forty years, the statesmen and religious leaders of the world have tried every means to bring about "peace in our time."

But there is no peace!

The League of Nations, formed to make the world safe for democracy, was shipwrecked by the ambitions of Hitler, Mussolini, and the Japanese warlords. Shortly before the second world war ravished Europe, Asia and Africa, the Prime Minister of England, Sir Neville Chamberlain, met with Hitler to dismember Czechoslovakia and bring "peace in our time."

Then WAR struck!

The nations united against Fascist aggression and constructed the United Nations Organization, admittedly this world's LAST HOPE of peace. But within weeks after the close of the war, Russia began the new *cold war*—and *hot wars* too!

Korea Shipwrecks the U.N.

In the inflated prosperity that is deluding so many, we are forgetting that the world's admitted *last hope* to bring peace is falling to pieces! The United Nations are *not* united. There is no real unity against the sinister advancement of communism. The war in Korea, the talks about peace have stalled commu-

nist aggression *for the time being.*

But the trend is far more dangerous than appears on the surface. *Talk of peace now is merely postponing the inevitable—TOTAL WAR!*

The wars in Korea and the other trouble spots in Asia have postponed the immediate threat of war; but in the final analysis, *these local struggles have shipwrecked the last human effort to save humanity from the holocaust of total war and fiery annihilation too terrible to describe.*

Russia Plans 20 Years of War!

From behind Moscow's Kremlin walls is emerging an insidious plot to rule the earth. Russia is preparing a long-range plan to master the world—a plan that is calculated to maintain constant little wars and the threat of war. Communist agents are infiltrating all Asia. While we blindly go on enjoying the fleeting hope of lasting prosperity, the evil hand of communism is slowly and silently reaching up to pick the richest plum in the Orient—the oil- and rubber-rich East Indies. And America is doing nothing about it, *hoping* that a "do nothing" policy will produce peace and freedom!

The attitude of the Western World is to slow things down, to stall for time, hoping for the best, but living in constant mental fears that the worst may suddenly come.

This kind of policy means that we are actually *inviting* Russia to saddle on us and our children ten to twenty years of

constant and continual warfare of which Korea is *just the beginning!* Even news analysts and commentators admit this.

Rebellion in Europe

Russia is also stalling for time. She is at the moment unable to launch a victorious war against America and the West. Russia is groggy, dizzy with her own momentary failures to master her slave peoples. While she is succeeding in Asia, where she is using as propaganda the hatred for colonial powers, she is at a great disadvantage in Europe. Eastern Europe is filled with nationalism and hates Russian domination. Eastern Europeans want to be free from communist tyranny.

Through the columns of The PLAIN TRUTH, we have been telling you for years that Russia could not maintain her hold on Europe—that she would succeed in uniting Asia, but would lose Europe! Prophecy says so! Already there are bombings, riots, sabotage, murdering of officials in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland and other satellite countries.

But while Eastern Europe struggles against Russia, America is bungling her European policy. Our government is afraid to offend France because France still does not trust Germany. Instead of uniting Europe on our side, we are creating dissension and disgust. Europe doesn't want our money to dominate them. Just as trouble in Korea broke out between Korean and American "al-

lies," so we are going to discover *too late* that Europe won't accept our domination—that fascism will once again rise in Europe!

Already fascism is surging forward in Italy. A new sense of nationalism is awakening in Germany. France realizes now more than ever that her entire form of government will have to be changed—that she will need the leadership of a "strong man." The signs are everywhere, if we would only look. Our domination is being resented in almost every capital of the world. Instead of crushing communism, we are aiding the development of a *third force* in Europe—*Fascism!* Our own alliances are destined to break up and we will find ourselves with few friends—left in a world filled with enemies who lust for the might and wealth that we possess.

Our present policies are leading us closer, not to peace, but to the final contest for world mastery—the final WAR which the world shudders to face—where whole cities will become *livid crematoriums* of twisted steel and burning rubble, where the countryside will become a desolate graveyard of starving and dying refugees! No, *there is no way left by which the statesmen of THIS WORLD can bring peace.* The world's admitted last hope, the United Nations, is hopelessly wrecked. War is inevitable. It is only a matter of TIME.

When will we awaken to the realization that humanity is on the brink of oblivion? Our world leaders KNOW what is ahead, but *they are afraid to let you know* how terrible it will be. They are frightened themselves, but don't know what to do about it!

Most Important Activity on Earth

When we look on the world scene, how *utterly puny* are the organized human efforts to prevent world suicide. Yet all this *human* planning to bring peace *seems so important.* We have grown up to accept the idea that there could be no more important work than what *men* are devising. Of course it appears strange that publishing and preaching the good news of *God's intervention* and of a Supreme World Government could be MORE IMPORTANT than all the efforts of this world to bring about peace.

Have you ever stopped to reason why?

Many, perhaps *you*, have assumed that man is all important, that God is so far away. We judge all things by comparison. Even though we realize that this work of God—"The World Tomorrow"—which is carrying the good news of the Kingdom of God, is GROWING so rapidly that it will soon become *the largest and most-listened-to* radio broadcast in the world, yet we often let our-

selves think that it doesn't really matter anyway. God, we reason, is not politically influencing State legislatures and political conventions; He is not converting Congress nor the President, nor is He changing the governments of this world through the efforts of His work—this work in which we all have a part. But *do* these organizations really matter? They will all perish in a few short years, but God's work, His purpose for mankind, will *never* perish.

WHY World Needs Good News

Why does the gospel need to go *now* to the world as a witness? Yes, WHY?

The world needs world government, but it can't produce one. It has failed in its last chance by its own admission! The gospel is the good news of the coming World Government which will bring peace by *changing* human hearts and minds, by imparting the *nature of God* to mortal beings who only have *human* nature filled with lusts that bring on wars (James 4:1).

People want peace but they don't know *how* to find it. Peace can come ONLY by divine intervention. *There is no*

other way, but few seem to realize it.

Does the world want God to intervene? Of course NOT! The world wouldn't accept God's advice even if He came here in person today. The world wants to think it has a better way. Men would tell God that He spoiled everything just at the moment they were about to work out a solution to all the world's ills. That is exactly what most of your friends and neighbors would say if God would intervene today and make the world follow His ways of peace.

The world is like a little child. If you are a parent, maybe you have told one of your children not to put his finger into a light socket, lest he shock himself. Now, what would your child have thought of you if you hadn't said anything about it and he hurt himself. What would he naturally do? Why *blame* you for not warning him! But suppose you *warned* little Johnnie not to put his finger into the light socket, and he didn't obey. What would he say and do? He would *remember* what you said. Johnnie would have learned his lesson. He would begin to respect your advice and seek your counsel.

It is exactly the same with the world, which is like a little child not yet mature. If God, through this work, would not have the gospel broadcast to the world *now*, your neighbors would *blame* God for not warning them about the terrible consequences soon to overtake it.

That is WHY the gospel must go as a witness to all nations—so all will *remember* that God was right after all, that if they had only *listened* wars would not have happened, there would not have been such unbearable anguish. When God *does* intervene in this very living generation, when man is about to annihilate himself, the world *will be* WILLING to listen to God's ways and laws which they have despised.

How plain it is! How imperative is the need that this gospel go to all the world with ever-increasing power bringing the only hope for humanity—the *good news of the kingdom of God* which will bring peace to a suffering and distraught humanity. Now that YOU KNOW what is going to happen, now that YOU UNDERSTAND what God has commissioned all of us to do, are you going to yield yourself to Him in earnest prayer, in whole-hearted submission, in constant Bible study, in tithes and offerings so that a sick humanity will *remember* the witness of the gospel and finally turn to God—so that those whom God is calling might hear the TRUTH now and turn to Him and *escape* the terrible calamities soon to fall on this earth?

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

TO ALL OF EUROPE:
RADIO LUXEMBOURG—4:15 P.M.
—Thursdays Luxembourg time.

Sundays Only During Summer
TO THE NATION & CANADA:
XERF—1570 on dial (extreme top of dial) Sundays, 7:15 P.M. Central Standard time.

XEG—1050 on dial, Sundays, 8:30 P.M. Central Standard time.

XELO—800 on dial, Sundays, 9:00 P.M. Central Standard time.
(8:00 Mountain Standard time.)

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST:
XERB—50,000 watts—1090 on dial
—7:00 P.M. Sundays.

XEDM—1580 on dial—6:30 P.M. Sundays.

KRIA—Burbank—1490 k.c.—9:30 A.M., Sundays.

KXL—Portland—10,000 watts. 750 on dial—2:30 P.M., Sundays.

KPDQ—Portland—800 on dial—8:30 A.M., Sundays.

KVI—Seattle-Tacoma—570, first on dial—10:30 P.M. Sundays.

KVSM—San Francisco—1050 on dial—4:00 P.M. Sundays.

OTHER STATIONS

WAIT—Chicago—820 on dial—1:00 P.M. Sundays.

KMAC—San Antonio—630 on dial—7:00 P.M. Sundays.

Can the Devil Heal?

Here are startling facts about a diabolical counterfeit of the true manifestations of the Holy Spirit. This counterfeit has caused the world to sneer at God's healing power!

by Raymond F. McNair

A FEW DAYS ago I attended a highly advertised healing service. Of the thousands who came, there were three wheel chair patients who had come hoping to be healed. What I am now going to relate will amaze you!

After prayer, the minister, pointing to a crippled woman said, "The Lord has shown me that you will walk before this meeting is over." A little later he shouted, "God has revealed to me that you will walk out through that church door on your own power and strength yet tonight."

Two ushers helped her out of her wheel chair. She took a few steps forward, but had to be supported all the way.

"You are healed! Praise God! Now you can walk," the minister said.

Next, he asked, "Can you feel the power of the Lord in your body?"

"No," she replied.

He then asked, "Can't you feel the power of God moving in your body like little shocks of electricity?"

Again she said, "No."

When the so-called healing service was over there had been no healings! The woman did not so much as take *one step* on her own power and strength. She had NOT been healed.

Even had this woman immediately gotten out of her wheel chair and walked, we would not have definitely known that she had been genuinely healed until further *proof* had been furnished demonstrating that she was really afflicted or infirm in the first place.

Healing The Forgiveness of Sins

First of all, we must understand *what healing really is!*

HEALING is the FORGIVENESS OF SINS—*physical sins* (Mark 2:9-11).

Sin is the transgression of LAW (1 Jo. 3:4). There are TWO types or kinds of laws, (1) spiritual and (2) physical. The wages or penalty of sin is DEATH (Rom. 6:23).

The penalty of breaking God's *spiritual law* is eternal death—the SECOND DEATH from which there will be no resurrection (Rev. 20:14; 21:8). The penalty of breaking God's *physical laws* is pain, suffering and the first or natural death that passes upon all mankind (Heb. 9:27).

Then how is it possible for us to be healed—to have our (physical) sins forgiven?

When Jesus Christ came to this earth and suffered and died on the cross, pouring out His very life blood, he paid the penalty for both our SPIRITUAL and PHYSICAL transgressions.

Through the blood of Christ, our *spiritual* sins are forgiven; but it is through the SCOURINGS and SUFFERINGS of Christ that our *physical* sins are pardoned.

Jesus, on our behalf, paid for our PHYSICAL as well as our SPIRITUAL transgressions. "Who his own self bare our *sins* in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: *by whose STRIPES ye were HEALED*" (1 Pe. 2:24). Jesus lived a perfect life. He never once violated God's spiritual or *physical* laws. But He permitted Himself to be beaten and lashed with whips to pay the *penalty* of sickness and suffering which *our* physical sins have brought on us.

Who Can Forgive Sins?

To prove to the Scribes that healing was nothing less than the FORGIVENESS of *physical sins*, Christ said, "Whether is it easier to say to the *sick* of palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may *know* that the Son of man hath power on earth to FORGIVE SINS. (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house" (Mark 2:9-11).

After Jesus had healed another man, he commanded him, "Behold, thou art made whole: SIN NO MORE, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (Jo. 5:14). Yes, Christ knew that if this man again broke God's physical laws something worse might come upon him; therefore he gave him a solemn warning not to break the laws of God again.

Since *healing* is the FORGIVENESS OF SINS, *only God* can heal, for none but God can *forgive sins*! Neither Satan nor his false ministers can heal!

Satan Afflicts

It is an interesting *fact* that though *Satan cannot heal the sick* or do other divine miracles, yet he is an AFFLICTER,

and is directly or indirectly the cause of most of this world's sickness, disease and suffering. Yes, the devil *afflicts* mankind with sickness and disease; but never does he liberate man from these sufferings. To do so would be contrary to his character—his nature. His nature is to do evil, to deceive, afflict, destroy, but never to do good in any manner, shape or form.

God permitted the lying, accusing devil to *afflict* Job, but commanded him to "save his life" (Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6).

Paul wrote concerning himself, "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a THORN IN THE FLESH, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure" (1 Cor. 12:7-8).

Paul told the church at Corinth to deliver a certain fornicator "unto Satan for the *destruction of the flesh*" (1 Cor. 5:5) in order that this fornicator might be brought to repentance.

Christ healed a woman whom SATAN HAD BOUND with an affliction for 18 years (Lu. 13:11-16).

On another occasion a man who had an epileptic son—this epilepsy was caused by the indwelling of an evil, demoniac spirit—asked Christ to have mercy on his child. Jesus cured him by casting the *unclean spirit* out of the boy (Lu. 9:37-39).

These are only a few of the many scriptures proving that Satan not only AFFLICTS people with infirmities and sickness, but that one or more of his host of wicked spirits or demons sometimes actually possess or get inside of people and cause them to go insane. That's the teaching of *your Bible*. Will you believe it, or do you follow the evolutionistic psychologists who sneer at the very idea of the demon spirits Jesus spoke of so often?

Healing—A Gift of the Holy Spirit

Healing is *one* of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that God has bestowed upon mankind for our benefit. Paul asks, "Have all the gifts of healing?" (1 Cor. 12:30). No, but "God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then GIFTS OF HEALING . . ." (1 Cor. 12:28).

It is through God's Holy Spirit that the different spiritual gifts are bestowed. "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the GIFTS OF HEALING by the same Spirit" (I Cor. 12:8-9).

Since *healing* is a good and perfect gift, divine healing power can only come from God, for "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the FATHER..." (Ja. 1:17).

Therefore any man who is *not* of God (their *fruits* reveal them) but who claims to have the power of healing from God, is a *liar*; for God gives these powers to His TRUE SERVANTS ONLY.

Ministers Empowered to Heal

Christ commanded his ministers to "Go . . . into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15) . . . And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; . . . they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" verses 17, 18.

In the book of James, Christians are commanded, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" (James 5:14-15).

God heals through His *true ministers*. That is His PROMISE.

Does God hear every prayer? No! Here's why! "God beareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and DOETH HIS WILL, him He beareth" (John 9:3-7). If a man is not of God, he can do nothing (John 9:33).

Some have been led to believe that God answers practically every prayer offered in the name of Jesus Christ; but *this is not true*.

First, according to 1 John 5:14, "If we ask any thing according to His will, he heareth us." Secondly, "Whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, and do those things that are PLEASING IN HIS SIGHT" (Jo. 3:22). Are we to wonder that some so-called ministers never receive answers to their prayers!

False Ministers Prophesied

Christ said, "Take heed that no man DECEIVE YOU. For MANY shall come in my name saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many" (Mt. 24:4).

We are told that "such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; (says the apostle Paul)

for SATAN HIMSELF IS TRANSFORMED INTO AN ANGEL OF LIGHT. Therefore it is no great thing if HIS MINISTERS also be transformed AS THE MINISTERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, whose end shall be according to their works" (11 Cor. 11:13-15).

Notice, that these ministers come in Christ's name, and are transformed as the ministers of righteousness—but they are great deceivers!

Satan's Ministers Perform Miracles

We have now seen, according to Scripture, that Satan's ministers, who come as ministers of righteousness, *cannot perform divine miracles*. The next question is, "Can they, through the power of the devil, do any miracles?"

The answer is an emphatic YES!

Demons, who are fallen angels or wicked spirits, unceasingly strive to deceive and lead astray the human race. The devil and his ministers certainly do have *miraculous* powers, but not *divine* powers!

These demons often work through the false ministers. They have power to perform signs and lying wonders to deceive gullible mankind. "And I saw three unclean spirits . . . For they are the SPIRITS OF DEVILS (or demons), working miracles . . ." (Rev. 16:13-14).

Paul told the Thessalonians that the great false prophet's coming would be according to "the working of SATAN WITH ALL POWER AND SIGNS AND LYING WONDERS" (II Thes. 2:9). In Revelation 19:20 we are told that this false prophet (the spiritual leader of the great universal church) wrought MIRACLES before the beast (Roman Empire).

The Bible everywhere speaks against those who use supernatural *diabolical* powers such as palmistry, fortune telling, sorcery, witchcraft, necromancy, wizardry and those who deal with familiar spirits. "For all that do these things are an ABOMINATION unto the LORD . . ." (Deut. 18:12).

False Ministers Claim Gift of Healing

There are many preachers—ministers whom the Bible plainly shows to be the instruments of the devil—who profess to have divine healing powers from God. They, too, claim to be Christ's ministers even though they fight the law of God, and teach diametrically opposite to the cardinal points of the Bible.

Such ministers are *not of God*! They are not faithfully teaching God's Word and His laws as revealed in the Bible! Then how is it POSSIBLE that God HEARS and ANSWERS their prayers? Do they really have power from God to

heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons, and perform other *divine* miracles?

NO!

They are not ministers of Christ, and do not have power from Him to do the least miracle!

Satan Can't Cast Out Satan

In Luke 11:14-20 we read, "And he (Christ) was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered. But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils . . . But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth. If SATAN also be DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF; how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub. And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore shall they be your judges. But if I WITH THE FINGER OF GOD cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you" (Luke 11:14-20). Satan never casts out his own demons!

On another occasion, "John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, FORBID HIM NOT: for there is no man which shall DO A MIRACLE IN MY NAME, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part." (Mark 9:38-40).

In other words, Christ told his disciples that this man was a *man of God* even though he might not have understood some points as well as they—even though he didn't follow them. Otherwise he would not have been able to use the name of Christ and cast out devils as he had been doing.

Some ministers who might not know or teach the full truth at the start of their ministry have apparently received many answers to their prayers. Some have healed the sick and cast out demons.

It seems, however, the very instant such a minister is presented with a new point of truth from God's Word, but will not accept and obey it, that from that very moment God departs from him just as God departed from King Saul after he refused to obey God's commands. If we reject knowledge, God will also reject us (Hosea 4:6).

Let us remember, then, that a minister may be true to what he knows at the beginning of his ministry. But if he refuses to "grow in grace and knowledge" and to obey God's laws when they

are revealed, God will *reject* that minister.

What Will Christ Say?

But do not many who bear the **FRUITS of the devil** claim to heal? Yes! Do *they* not tell you that **MANY** have been healed through their ministry? **YES!**—*They claim so!*

That is precisely what *they* will also tell Jesus Christ on the Judgment Day, but will he believe them? **NO!**

Christ said, "**MANY** will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord have we not *prophe-sied in thy name?* and *in thy name* have **CAST OUT DEVILS?** and *in thy name* done many *wonderful WORKS?* And then will I profess unto them, I *never knew you:* depart from me, **YE THAT WORK INIQUITY**" (Mt. 7:22-23).

What is iniquity? It is wicked doing. Healing the sick is certainly not iniquity, but here we are told that some will *claim* to heal—to do good in this way—but that Christ will tell them that they had done **INIQUITY!**

Notice, that these false ministers **CLAIM** to work miracles, but didn't really do good—did *not* really heal—they worked *iniquity!* To them Christ says, "**DEPART FROM ME, ye that work INIQUITY.**"

If a so-called minister *fight*s the law of God, then the Bible brands such a minister as a preacher of unrighteousness—as a minister of the devil. "To the *law* and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is **NO LIGHT (truth)** in them" (Isa. 8:20). "It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they (the *false ministers*) have **MADE VOID THY LAW**" (Psa. 119:126). That's just what Satan's false preachers of our day are doing!

If we know of any man who claims to have power to perform miracles, but who refuses to believe and faithfully teach *obedience to God and His LAWS*, then we know that such a man is not of God—that he doesn't have any miraculous powers from the *true* God. If he has any *apparent* power, it must come from another source. That source must be *Satan* the devil!

But how can one really *know* whether those *claiming* to have divine healing powers from God can really heal—whether they are really of God? Yes, just how can we know?

Jesus gives the answer in Matthew 7:15-20. "... You shall **KNOW THEM BY THEIR FRUITS** . . . Every good tree bringeth forth *good fruit*; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth *evil fruit* . . . Wherefore by **THEIR FRUITS** ye shall *know* them."

False ministers may have very smooth, buttered tongues with which to deceive the unstable; but if you really know the

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding.

VOL. XVIII

No. 3

Published by
THE RADIO CHURCH OF GOD

Edited by
HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Box 111, Pasadena, Calif.

Sent **FREE** to all who request it,
as the Lord provides. Address
all communications to the editor.

Copyright, August, 1953
By the Radio Church of God

NOTICE: Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. **IMPORTANT!**

Word of God as you should, you will not be deceived (Mt. 24:24). You will **KNOW** by their *fruits*—*not* by their *words*—that such are not the ministers of Jesus Christ. You need to *study* your Bible to always be sure.

It sometimes takes a bit of patient waiting to see what kind of fruit a man is going to bear. Each minister must be *tested* and *weighed* in the balances of the Word of God to see if the *fruits* of his life are good fruits or if he is just trying to impress you with his spirituality by high-toned, religious sounding words.

Let's look at *facts*. Is the "fruit" the *product*, the *result* of today's "churchianity" really good? Has the teaching of the thousands of ministers in today's organized churches *really changed* the lives of the people for *good*? Has the crime rate gone up or down? Has the divorce rate increased or decreased? **WHY** do so many ministers condone divorce and remarriage which Jesus called adultery (Mr. 10:1-12)? Do the "fruits" of such churches and ministers prove that they really belong to Christ?

We must "**PROVE ALL THINGS;** (and) *hold fast* that which is *good*" (I Thess. 5:21).

Let's Get It Straight

You have probably heard someone remark, "I know that most of these divine healing ministers can't be of God, for they don't teach the Word of God as they should. I know from the **FRUITS OF THEIR LIVES** that they aren't living according to the teachings of the Bible. However, it still **APPEARS** to me that some of them perform divine miracles. I have *heard* of crippled people throwing down their crutches; have seen

wheel chair patients rise and walk; have heard of the blind seeing, and the deaf hearing. Therefore they must have miraculous power from God.

But, are they really healed? Let me take you behind the scenes to see what happens.

Behind the Scenes

Before we draw hasty conclusions from what someone else has *said*, let us go back stage and examine some of the things that actually take place at some of these wildfire meetings where many mouths talk loud and long concerning divine miracles.

Perhaps while attending what was supposed to have been a "Christian" meeting, you may have witnessed people yelling and screaming, others falling over backwards; still others writhing in horrifying convulsions; some roll on the floor; others "dance in the spirit"—some try climbing trees, some bark like dogs, crow like chickens, hiss like snakes, and flap their arms as though they were eagles ready to mount on high. Others of them jerk and thrash around as though they were imitating serpents, and some do obscene things which would not even bear repetition. This is to mention only a few of the many "capers" that take place at some of these meetings. The tragic part of it all is that most of those who do such things actually believe that it is the Holy Spirit in them causing them to do such! More than once people have lost their minds and have been committed to insane asylums after taking part in such meetings!

Is such a spirit from God? Is such a spirit the Holy Spirit, or is it Satan's **COUNTERFEIT**, the demoniac spirit, that makes people act like that?

A true minister of God isn't supposed to *find fault* or *criticize* **UNNECESSARILY**—and never to scoff or ridicule—but Christ and all of the early apostles *sharply criticized* the religious hypocrites of their day—freely condemned their *wrong beliefs* and *practices*. Christ set the example by calling these deceivers "wolves in sheeps clothing," "whited sepulchers," "hypocrites," "vipers" and "fools." He didn't flatter, commend or in any way try to whitewash them, or their *sins*. *Neither should a true minister of God today!*

Now can you honestly conceive of Jesus Christ or any of the apostles ever "cutting such capers" as those just mentioned?

Would they have acted like imbeciles or raving maniacs?

The truth of the matter is that they never did act like that, nor would they act so foolishly if they were here today.

(Please continue on page 14)

Power for the Asking

by Roderick C. Meredith

CATHERINE was going to *die* before long. The doctors had said so. And they should know. *Or should they?*

Anyway, her operation was to be in about ten more days. The doctors had said it would help—but one lung was already shot through with tuberculosis, and would have to be removed. In her condition, *death* was probably only a matter of months.

She didn't want to die! She had hoped the doctors could help—but they only shook their heads sadly and stared at the floor. They could give her a few more months perhaps—but that was all.

Why would God let her die like this? WHY?

A Real Example

Haven't YOU known of instances like this? Would a just and loving God let people die this way—without any chance of recovery, without hope?

Apparently He does. Hundreds of people die prematurely every year who call themselves Christians. They think they are God's children. And yet their bodies *rot away* with deadly cancer, or their lungs are shot through and wrecked with tuberculosis.

Catherine's case is a real example of one who found that this world's help was *not enough*. Like so many of us, she always relied on doctors and drugs when she was sick. She trusted *human strength* and ability to deliver her from every trouble.

Oh, of course since she was a "Christian," she trusted in God for—WHAT! Yes, *what?* A *sentimental feeling?*

Did she *really* expect God to supernaturally intervene and *do anything?*

No.

AND NEITHER DO MOST OF YOU!

Help Needed

When you are sick or in trouble, you may pray about it. But do you have the faith and the understanding to leave it *completely* in God's hands—to absolutely *know* that He will deliver His children from sickness and trials of every kind? Very few people do.

When we don't seem to have the wisdom or the power to solve our problems we often become frustrated and unhappy. *Some commit suicide!*

We completely *forget* and *ignore* the fact that we have the *right* to call on

the Supreme Creator of Heaven and Earth for help with all our problems. The greatest *wisdom* and *power* in all the universe will be with every one of us—*IF* we will only do our part.

Do you believe in the God and Father of Jesus of Nazareth? You may think so, but do your *works* prove it? Remember that "faith without *works* is dead" (James 2:20). Your faith must be proved by *acting* on it—by *doing* something about it!

Jesus Christ set a *perfect example* that we "should follow his steps" (1 Pet. 2:21). He lived a full and abundant life—a life filled with *love* and *power* from God. He knew how to keep in contact with, and draw upon the *Supreme Power of the Universe*.

HOW MUCH we need that same *dynamic force* for good in our lives today! Yet most people are in reality *cut off* from contact with that supreme power.

This world is filled with *sick, frustrated, and miserably unhappy* people! We *NEED* the true God in our lives today!

If God be God to you—if you believe the Bible is His word and that *He means what He says in it*—then read on and discover the *right way, the revealed way*, to utilize God's Supreme Power in *your* life.

Christ the Example

Can you imagine Christ acting as if God had "gone way off somewhere"?

Yet that is the *exact attitude* displayed by most "Christians" of today. Do they completely rely on God to *heal* them when they are sick, to *rescue* them from disaster, to *bless* them in material as well as spiritual things? Of course not. But the disciples saw that Christ, unlike most people, actually *expected* God to intervene and heal the sick, cast out demons, and even to quiet a storm on the sea. They, too, wanted that kind of intimate contact with God.

By His fruits, they knew that Christ understood the *correct way* to draw close to the Eternal God, and to call upon His power to help in every pressing situation.

That *key*, that *correct way* to call upon God's power, is something you and I should be utilizing *every day of our lives!* Its use can put new *meaning* and *power* into our lives!

But this "key" has been *incorrectly* employed by many people of many dif-

ferent religions. Remember that Christ is *our example*. He knew how to use this "key" perfectly. His way *gets results!*

Christ Teaches

In Luke 11:1-13, we read that the disciples came and asked Jesus *the way* to establish right contact with God. "Lord, *teach us to pray*," they asked. People to not know *how* to pray until they are properly taught. That, probably, is *your* trouble.

Then Christ gave them a type or pattern of a prayer that will *get results*.

Let us analyze this *perfect example*. The prayer is addressed to "Our Father which art in heaven." When you pray, think first of all of God as your Father. Not *your* Father only, but "*Our Father*." Remember that there are others who are trying to serve their Creator and Spiritual Father, and that God loves us all *far more* than a human father would be capable of doing.

Moreover, He has power to help you in ways that would be *impossible* for a human father. Would your earthly father let you rot away and die of disease if he could possibly help it? But God *can* help it, and He has *promised* to *heal* in a number of places including Ps. 103:3 and James 5:14. (Write for Mr. Armstrong's booklet on "Healing.")

Claim God's *promises* when you pray, and always think of Him as *your Father*.

"Which art in heaven," reminds us that God is not an ordinary Father, but one who has all power and should be worshipped. We must be humble and reverent when we pray to the true God.

"Hallowed be thy name," shows that God's name—and *all that it stands for*—is to be held in reverence. God's name will someday be *our name* if we overcome and are *born of God*. *THAT NAME CARRIES AUTHORITY TO RULE*. It must always be respected.

What to Ask

"Thy kingdom come" is the first request of this perfect prayer. *First of all* we should learn to pray for God's kingdom—God's government—God's *RULE*—to come on this earth. *How many* so-called "Christians" really want God to *rule* their lives? Most carnal-minded men use every imaginable device to hide their eyes from the fact that God is *Supreme Ruler*. Christians should *PRAY* that God will *rule this earth*. Only His rule

will bring about the peace and happiness that this world is striving in *vain* to achieve (Is. 11).

"Thy will be done, as in Heaven, so in earth," teaches us to *surrender our wills* to God as we pray—to acknowledge His Rule—*His Authority*. Remember that *God knows what is best*. You need to *study* God's word so that you will learn the principles of God's will—and can pray accordingly.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:17, "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the *will of the Lord* is."

Drink in of God's word so that you will begin to think as God thinks, and to have God's will made a part of your very character. "Let this *mind* be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). Then you will automatically pray according to God's will, as revealed in the Bible, and your *prayers will be answered*.

"Give us day by day our daily bread" certainly shows that God desires that we ask for our material needs. But notice that we are not to ask for *great* wealth, but our *daily bread*. God has *promised* to supply every *need* (Phil. 4:19). It is God's will that we prosper and be in health (III Jn. 2), but being made wealthy might easily prove a stumbling block to our faith. So remember Christ's example of only asking for our *daily bread*—not necessarily the sustenance for several years in advance.

Forgive Others; Resist Devil

"And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive everyone that is indebted to us." You may ask God's forgiveness *only if you first forgive others*. When you kneel before God in prayer, never come before Him with feelings of bitterness, resentfulness, or hate. If you cannot first rid yourself of these feelings, ask God to *clean you up* and replace the spirit of *hate* with His Spirit of *love*. And love is charitable, and patient with others.

It is a wonderful feeling to know that you hate no man, but in your way, however clumsily, are trying to show love to everyone.

God *hears* and *answers* the prayers of a man in this spirit.

"And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil." God himself tempts no man (James 1:13). But he does permit us to be tempted by Satan and our own lusts. We should constantly pray that He would not permit us to be *brought into*, or *partake of*, any temptation—that He would give us the spiritual *power* to master any wrong desires.

"But deliver us from evil," should be translated, "but deliver us from the Evil One (Satan)." The original Greek

means this and most commentaries give this as the correct translation. Ask God each day to give you the strength to "resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

"Be *sober*, be *vigilant*; because your adversary the *devil*, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). Satan the devil will try his best to upset you day and night! Ask God for strength and faith.

Ask What You Need

Jesus continued teaching his disciples (Luke 11:5-13) about prayer by giving them a parable. It shows that if we are really in dire *need*, as the man who had an unexpected guest, we can be sure that God will answer our prayer if we throw ourselves completely on His mercy.

The disciples were still unconverted, because the Holy Spirit had not yet been given. Jesus told them (v. 13), "If ye then, *being evil*, know how to give good gifts to your children: *how much more* shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? God is *more than willing* to give us of His Spirit!

Do you need wisdom, knowledge, faith, love? These are all *gifts* of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12 and 13). *Ask* God for these gifts. He is more willing to give you these things than you are to feed *your own hungry child*.

This is His will. So ask in FAITH!

Two Things to Avoid

During His "Sermon on the Mount," Christ *assumed* (Mat. 6:5-8) that His true followers would pray. He did not say "If you pray," but "*when thou prayest*." He *knew* that anyone who was truly serving God would be *praying often*.

Are you?

He cautioned the disciples never to pray "to be seen of men," but to enter into a closet or "secret place," and there commune with their Heavenly Father. Christ taught that it was *wrong* to make long prayers in front of others to "show off" (Mat. 23:14). Preachers and "deacons" who delight in this sort of thing are *disobeying God*.

And have you ever heard certain denominations repeat prayers over and over again? Christ said, "But when ye pray, *use not vain repetitions*, as the *heathen do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking" (v. 7).

Memorized prayers—including the "Lord's Prayer"—soon lose their meaning and sincerity.

Nowhere in the entire New Testament is the "Lord's Prayer" repeated. The apostles didn't repeat it over and

over again. Jesus gave it only as a pattern or example after which we could fashion *our own* prayers.

This world's churches are in *error* when they practice repeating *any* prayer over and over again each week. Avoid this error. *And try not to return thanks in the same way at the table every meal*.

When you pray, don't just "rattle off" so many words. Think about your blessings, your needs, and pray from the *heart*.

Don't Be Ashamed

We should be careful not to pray "to be seen of men." *But* does this mean that we should be overly secretive—as if we were ashamed—when we pray?

Absolutely not!

Many "babes in Christ" are faced with this problem. Some of you are afraid to pray as often as you should *because you are afraid other people will know about it!* Have no such fear! Should the nearness of your wife, husband, or children prevent you from maintaining an intimate contact with your creator and God? Of course not!

In Luke 9:18 and 28, we find two examples of where Christ—our *perfect example*—prayed a short distance from his disciples and they knew *where* He was and *what* He was doing.

So *don't* be ashamed if anyone knows you are praying! Just be careful not to pray "to be seen of men," and try hard to find a closet or "private place" where you will not be disturbed.

When Jesus was staying at Peter's home with his disciples, "rising up *a great while before day*, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there *prayed*" (Mark 1:35).

You *can* be alone with God if you will follow Christ's example and *make a way!*

Position in Prayer

The Bible records many different positions in prayer. But it *always* shows that in private, personal prayer, you should *kneel* on *both* knees. It has always been a custom to kneel on *one* knee to a king or other ruler as a sign of *respect* and *esteem*. But the Bible always records that we should bow *both* knees to God in *reverence* and *worship*.

I Kings 8:54 and Ezra 9:5 show an example of a very suitable position in prayer. Notice that Solomon and Ezra kneeled upon *both* knees and spread out their hands—upward—toward God. This is a position of humility and supplication. You will come more nearly praying *fervently* if you are in such a position.

God may not answer "sleepytyme prayers" that you mumble to yourself in

(Please continue on page 10)

Science Disproves Evolution

Evolution is the foundation and philosophy of this world's education and its way of life. Millions are taught to assume WITHOUT PROOF that evolution is true—that the Genesis account of creation is "superstitious and unscientific." Here are scientific facts that will surprise you!

by Herman L. Hoeh

PART I

FOR SEVERAL generations evolution has been fashionable. *Almost without notice*, evolution has been transformed from a controversial scientific theory into the accepted basis of this world's way of life—its way of thinking and acting.

Because people *assume* evolution is true, they *also assume* that man is becoming wiser and better, that they do NOT need God to deliver them from the rapidly increasing danger of world destruction.

This deception of substituting the philosophy of evolution for the teaching of Scripture has resulted from the *failure to learn that evolution and creation are opposed to one another—that they have OPPOSITE GOALS.*

What Is the Goal of Evolution?

Stop to think! If evolution were true, you would be foolish to live by the Bible. There would be no need of a God who had the power to enact and reveal spiritual laws regulating human relationships. Natural laws of "progress" would be regulating your "development." Your goal would be to try to prolong your pitifully short life by *conforming* to the world, by struggling and competing with your neighbors for survival. If evolution were true, your survival would not depend on obedience to God's revealed way, but upon conforming to traditions and customs evolved by human society in a vain attempt to control its environment and rule itself.

"The goal of evolution in general," says H. H. Newman, "*is adaptation to the conditions of life as they happen to be at any particular time.*" (From *Evolution, Genetics, and Eugenics*, pp. 8, 9.)

That's all evolution has to offer—years and ages of sickness and suffering as the struggle for survival continues—birth and final DEATH as each individual perishes by the wayside in evolution's "march to progress."

Does Creation Have a Goal?

The Bible reveals that even though

the PHYSICAL creation was completed, *creation is still going on!*

Yes, God is still working. He is creating out of human beings *new creatures*, His very own sons, members of the God family who are to become perfect spiritual characters.

Instead of conforming to the customs of this world, Jesus came to reveal laws which can give you a more abundant life here and now, free from worry and fear, *if you obey them*. He came to reveal *the way* you can become a new creation and gain eternal life.

Conformity to the world and reliance on *one's own human powers* to struggle against environment—that's evolution!

But creation means to be *transformed*—changed from submitting to the frailties and lusts of this world to reliance on God's power to *overcome* your environment and your natural human tendencies.

"Be *not conformed* to this world: but be ye *transformed* by the *renewing of your mind*, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:2). How different this is when compared to the goal of evolution! Creation and evolution can't both be true!

The "Gods" of Evolution

The past decades have witnessed a profound change of thought among evolutionists. In the last century, evolutionists supposedly turned the "Creator out of doors." The halls of evolutionary science were quickly stripped of the "relics" which proved that creation did occur. Scientists have never allowed the God of creation to reenter their intellectual and materialistic halls.

But many evolutionists have since developed their own "gods" that are "scientifically inclined." Very common are articles written by men of scientific note stating "Why I believe in God." The heathen gods of nature are being transformed into the modern gods of science—*nature* and its attributes!

Here is what one evolutionist wrote: "No opposition in present-day thinking is *sharper* than that between the

supernaturalists who maintain that God has, by a series of special revelations and interventions in human affairs, moulded the course of history, and the *naturalists (evolutionists) who maintain that MAN HAS CREATED THE GODS IN HIS OWN IMAGE.*" (From *New Views of Evolution*, by George Perrigo Conger, pp. 172, 173). Evolution inevitably leads to a *hazy deification of nature and of natural law.*

Few realize it, but evolution is not new. The greatest men of the heathen world rejected creation. They believed in a kind of evolution of the universe and in the gods of nature. They recognized the awesomeness of the physical creation and in their deliberate ignorance gave it divine attributes. They refused to believe that it was merely the handiwork of Supreme Mind and Power—of the Eternal Creator God.

Plato, Thales, Anaximander, Empedocles, Aristotle were all believers in various forms of evolution. Anaximander held that man came from fish. Aristotle had substantially the modern conception of evolution of all life from a primordial soft mass of living matter. Even Augustine and Thomas Aquinas, both theologians of the Catholic Church, were *theistic evolutionists*, combining certain doctrines of creation with the *heathen philosophy* of gradual natural development.

What Is the Definition of Evolution?

An *exact* definition of evolution can never satisfy the various beliefs of those who accept evolution. There are about as many theories of evolution as there are denominations of religious belief.

Lacking any real proofs, evolutionists undoubtedly seek to invent their own theories to satisfy their intellectual *pride*, which is the basic *appeal* of evolution.

The fundamental definitions of evolution are that (1) beings now living are *descendants of different kinds* of beings which have lived in the past; (2) that the various forms of life now existing have *arisen gradually* and usually, though not always, through slow pro-

gressive changes; and (3) that these changes have arisen from *natural causes* which still operate and which can be studied experimentally.

Even this narrow description would not be accepted completely by certain theorists.

Notice how very limited in scope evolution really is. Why are the ORIGINS OF THE UNIVERSE AND OF LIFE NOT MENTIONED? There is a very good reason! Evolution can NOT account for the origin of life or the universe! *Very few evolutionists today will admit that their theory involves origins.* By cleverly side stepping this basic consideration, *materialists hope to divert arguments* that would be *fatal* to their cause.

Theistic evolutionists, however, will admit God started the process of evolution by an original creation.

Universe ASSUMED to Have Already Existed

Did you ever take note of the usual ASSUMPTION that the stuff of which the universe is composed ALREADY EXISTED?

It is taken for granted that the systems of the universe are *organizing* themselves. Yet if evolutionists were asked to prove their assumptions, *they would deny that evolution involves these considerations.* Evolution is not concerned with origins, they say! They don't want to admit God into their knowledge, and so they plead ignorance!

Only by dismissing this from their theory do they hope to *evade* the NECESSITY OF CREATION. Some evolutionists admit, however, that they have no real proof. "Evolution," says Mr. Conger, pages 91, 92 of his previously mentioned book, "is in the last analysis *not a matter of evidence*, but a matter of *inference*." "Let us then proclaim in precise and unmistakable language that our FAITH in evolution is unshaken."

Nearly every child is taught that evolution is *an appeal to reason*. What children are *not* taught is that evolution can not be proved by reason, but rather is a matter of *human faith*. Actually both evolution and creation are matters of faith because neither can be demonstrated in a scientific laboratory experiment.

In the last century when scientific research was just beginning on a grand scale, evolution was *thought* to have solved the problem of the existence of the universe and of life so completely that there was no need of God nor of special creation. All *superficial* and *assumed* evidence was said to point in the direction of a materialistic explanation of the world.

(Please continue on page 15)

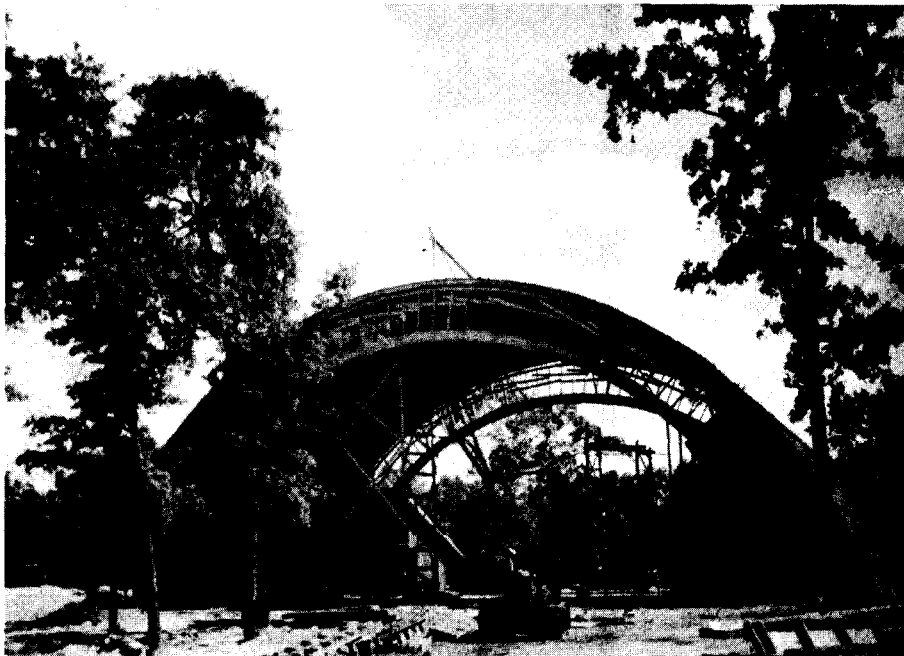
Tabernacle Progresses

HERE are shown two views of the big Tabernacle under construction near Gladewater, Texas. Work is again progressing.

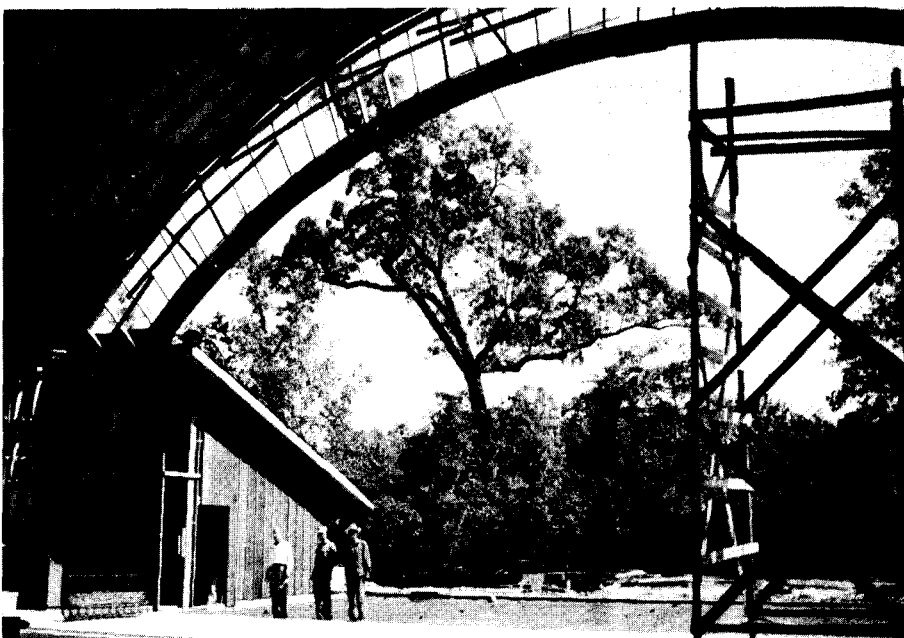
Only approximately half of the main auditorium is shown here. In front of this is to be the room that will serve as dining hall at the large festivals, and as local church and school room through-

out the year; and in front of that, the large lounge and fellowship room, about 34 by 100 feet in size.

Lack of sufficient funds has caused work to drag. It will take united effort of all, and real continuous sacrifice, if work is permitted to progress fast enough to have it ready for the Feast of Tabernacles September 24 to October 1.



Above is center dome of main auditorium. When completed it will be twice as wide as here shown. Only a third of finished floor space is shown here. It will require the combined effort and sacrifice of all of us to complete it in time for the Feast of Tabernacles.



This close-up gives you a better view of the height of the ceiling from inside main auditorium, with kitchen and restrooms area shown at far left. Notice beautiful grounds shown in these pictures.

Power For Asking

(Continued from page 7)

bed just before dropping off to sleep. If you want an answer, better GET OUT OF THAT BED and kneel before your Creator.

In public or at the dinner table, you may pray either standing or seated—whichever way you feel would honor God most in each situation. In Mat. 14:19, Christ commanded the people to sit down before he blessed the loaves and fishes.

But in private He, "kneeled down, and prayed" (Mat. 22:41). In your personal prayers, you should kneel before God and pray *ferently* (James 5:16).

Concentrate your WHOLE BEING on communing with the Creator of heaven and earth—and your own loving spiritual Father. A correct position in prayer will help you do this.

How Often to Pray

In Acts 13:22, we read that David was a *man after God's own heart*. Read some of the Psalms. Many of the Psalms are simply David's prayers. He prayed to God in time of trouble, for guidance, in thanksgiving. In *every circumstance* David went to God in prayer.

Don't think you are "bothering" God by sharing your joys and your problems with Him. *Talk to God often—in every circumstance*. That is undoubtedly one of the main reasons that David was a man after God's own heart.

If you want to be a child of God, then "get acquainted" with your Heavenly Father. Talk to Him *often*. *Share your life* with God. In Ps. 55:17, David wrote, "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice." David went to God in prayer *three times a day*.

We read of God's prophet Daniel (Dan. 6:10), ". . . he kneeled upon his knees *three times a day*, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." These examples are not commands, but they certainly show that to kneel in prayer *three times a day* is a good way to bring God and His power into our lives.

"He that hath an ear, let him hear."

The apostle Paul was inspired to write the Thessalonians (1 Thes. 5:17), "Pray without ceasing." This means that we are never to *discontinue* our prayer life. It also—with many other scriptures—shows that we should be *constantly* in an attitude or spirit of prayer. Talk to God as you go about your work or play. Ask Him to direct your *every thought and action*.

When you seem to be losing your temper, or when you are in doubt about a certain course of action—*stop and*

think, "Would Jesus do that if He were here today?" Ask God to show you, and *study* your Bible so you will *know* what God would have you do. Then ask God for the *wisdom*, the *faith*, and the *power* to rightly carry out what you know is right.

This simple process will *change your life*! Your life will then have more *meaning*, and more *real happiness*, than you have ever before experienced.

How Long to Pray

Prayer should be one of the most important and *most enjoyable* activities of your life.

If you really love God as your Father, you will *want* to spend a great deal of time talking to Him.

Your spiritual food is obtained by contact with God through Bible study and prayer. Preparing and eating your material food takes at least two hours each day. Isn't your "spiritual food" *even more important*? Spend *more time* acquiring it.

Time is precious. Use your time where it *counts*. It's better to miss a few *physical* meals, better to *fast* once in a while, than to get "too busy" to drink in the spiritual things from God.

That is the very *purpose* of your life!

Sometimes you will need to spend a *long session* with God. Christ prayed *all night* before choosing His twelve disciples.

When you have a tremendous decision to make, or when facing serious trouble, remember that example. In such a crisis, spend a *long time* in God's presence. Pray with all your might. God *will bear*. And it will be an experience that you will never forget.

What to Pray

Do you have trouble knowing what to pray about? First of all, "count your blessings" and thank God for "every good and every perfect gift." How little most appreciate God's boundless love!

Then *STUDY* your Bible and find what God's true servants prayed about. Get your mind *away from self* once in a while. Paul said to pray for the saints and for himself—God's servant (Ephes. 5:17-20). He wrote that he remembered the Philippian church in every prayer (Philipp. 1:4). Apply these principles to God's true ministers, His work, and His true churches of today.

Are you separated from other true Christians but want to have a greater part in helping them and God's work? Then read Colossians 4:11-13. Paul describes one of his helpers, Epaphras, as, "always *laboring fervently* for you *in prayers* . . ." This man's *LABOR* was in *prayer*! That was *his part* in God's work that Paul referred to especially.

It can be YOUR PART as well! Paul said (v. 13), "For I bear him record, that he hath a great ZEALE for you . . ."

Do you have a *zeal* to help God's children? Do you get down on your knees *every day* and ask God to help and direct them? Do you pray for God's ministers and His work?

Your part in God's great work may be contributing what you should in tithes and offerings, and *crying out* to God day and night to guide and protect His servants. Mr. Armstrong and God's other true ministers are only human. We have a job beyond our human power to perform. *We need your prayers!*

You should have *more than enough* to pray about. Once you really "get acquainted" with God in prayer, you will often have the feeling that you hate to stop communing with Him and attend to your other duties. It will be more pleasant to talk to God than to your dearest friend, and your life will have new purpose and meaning.

Power in Prayer

If you learn to pray as Christ did, if you apply the Bible principles contained in this article, then you will have *more power* at your disposal than this world dreams of.

When you come to know God intimately—and rely on Him with faith and obedience—He will *literally* move heaven and earth to help you!

God inspired the apostle James to cite the answered prayer of the prophet Elijah as an incentive *for us* to pray in *faith* (James 5:16-18).

Notice, Elijah had passions—temptations and weaknesses—just like you. But he prayed *earnestly* and God actually *shut the heavens* and it didn't rain for three and a half years! Then he prayed again, and it rained once more.

"For with God NOTHING shall be impossible (Luke 1:37).

When a crisis comes, when you are sick or afflicted, KNOW that God is a God of *power*! You can tap the supreme source of all POWER *just by getting down on your knees in a private place and fervently beseeching God to intervene and help you*.

Learn to EXPECT an answer. God reveals Himself as a *real* God—a *living, acting* God. *Take God at His word!*

Next month we will show you the *Conditions of Answered Prayer*. This will reveal the seven basic conditions you *must* fulfill to be certain that God will answer your prayers.

Don't miss it.

And remember that God's power is available to make your life richer, fuller, and more righteous. All you have to do is *ask for it*.

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Questions

FROM OUR READERS

HERE are the *Bible* answers to questions which can be answered briefly in short space. *Send in your questions.* While we cannot promise that all questions will find space for answer in this department, we shall try to answer all that are vital and in the general interest of our readers.

WHY Doesn't God Heal Everyone Today?

God is the ALMIGHTY. Nothing is impossible with Him (Matt. 19:26). He *could* heal every sickness, disease, or infirmity. But He doesn't!

Why?

Since God is not healing all today, there must be a reason *why* He allows suffering to continue. Almost no one seems to understand the answer to this question.

God is letting this world go its own way in defiance of His laws. He is permitting humanity to *learn by hard experience*, by suffering, sickness, by mental anguish, that the ways that seem right to man end in sorrow and death.

The Creator set physical laws as well as spiritual laws in motion. When we violate the physical laws, we become ill. Cancer, heart trouble, and hundreds of other diseases afflicting human beings are the result of *broken* law, of violations of God's revealed way of life. Yet mankind doesn't believe this. Instead of inquiring into the laws that would keep us healthy, humanity seeks drugs to alleviate the *results* of physical sins, but is not willing to learn the *causes* of human woes.

Sickness is the *consequence* of physical sin; healing is the *forgiveness* of physical sin. Until men learn not to break God's laws with impunity, the world will *not* be healed.

Only a few were healed in Old Testament times (Luke 4:27). The world didn't want God to help them. They wanted to solve their own problems.

The Father sent Christ to preach the gospel and to heal; but He healed *only* those who personally asked or *who had friends who asked on their behalf*. Jesus did not go about begging people to be healed.

The true ministers of Jesus will follow

Jesus' example today. They will not go to the unbelieving in hospitals or insane asylums who would not accept them as God's ministers. God's ministers are to pray for those *who want to be healed by God*—those who call for the elders (Jas. 5:14).

Jesus healed those who had *faith* that He could perform what He promised. When a woman was healed, He said: "Thy *faith* hath made thee whole" (Mark 5:34). God will not heal anyone who refuses to *believe* that He is both able and willing to heal. It is always God's will to heal, but we must first *believe* that Christ paid the penalty of our physical sins by suffering His body to be wounded for us (Isa. 53:5; I Peter 2:24).

Many are not being healed because they are not willing to practice the laws of life that will keep them healthy. Notice that Jesus said to a man whom He healed: "*Sin no more*, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14).

John was inspired to write: "Whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, *because we keep his commandments*, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" (I John 3:22). The world doesn't want to obey God and live by the laws that lead to health. That is *why* not everyone is being healed today!

What Happens to the "Unsaved" at Christ's Return?

The woeful misunderstanding about what *will* happen to humanity at the second coming of Christ stems from not knowing THE PURPOSE of His return, nor understanding who the "unsaved" are.

Some teach that Christ will destroy all the "unsaved" and allow the earth to be uninhabited for 1000 years. Others contend that Christ comes at the end of this physical world when all the "unsaved" will be cast into a lurid place called "hell."

Let's notice, first, WHY Jesus is coming again.

Unless God should intervene in world affairs by sending His Son a second time, humanity would wipe itself off the face of this earth in atomic and hydrogen warfare. No flesh could otherwise be saved from the horrible destruction that the nations are planning this very moment to inflict upon one another (Matt. 24:22).

Jesus Christ will come again—not to destroy human life, but to *save it* from annihilation! He is coming to ENFORCE peace, to establish the kingdom—the government or rule of God on this earth (Dan. 2:44; Rev. 11:15).

He is also coming to deliver Israel and Judah from soon-coming slavery and establish them once again in the land of Palestine (Jer. 30:7-9). This proves that there will be mortal human beings on earth after Christ comes.

Jesus promised that when His kingdom is established, all who overcome temptation and sin will sit with Him on His throne ruling the nations with a rod of iron (Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21). In order to rule with Him, all true Christians who died in past ages must be resurrected and granted immortality (I Cor. 15:51-52). But *where* will Christians who have been redeemed from every race and nation rule? In heaven, or on earth?

"THEY SHALL REIGN ON EARTH" (Rev. 5:9-10).

The government of God will rule the nations of this earth, the "unsaved", fleshly, human mortals who will finally cry out for divine help to save them from total annihilation. This is the time spoken of in Micah, chapter four: "And *many NATIONS* shall come, and say, Come, and let us go to the mountain of the Lord—the Kingdom of God—"and He will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for the LAW shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Strong nations will have to be punished *until* they quit practicing war!

No, the world won't be desolate. "The Gentiles shall come . . . from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit" (Jer. 16:19).

Christ is coming to CONVERT the world to the ways of peace. He is coming to bring salvation for ALL humanity. The nations which have been deceived will have their blindness removed, will learn and understand the TRUTH and will have their *first* opportunity to be saved! They will continue to be fleshly mortal creatures just as we are today. They will multiply and fill the earth with children
(Please continue on page 16)

How Pagan Holidays Entered the Church

Here is an astounding revelation, making plain when pagan holidays—Sunday, Christmas, New Year's Day—first crept into the church.

by Herman L. Hoeh

PART IX

IT WILL come as a shocking surprise. You probably have never noticed it, but it is true!

Instead of being veiled in misunderstanding and mystery, the first introduction of *pagan holidays* into the church is recorded in your very own Bible.

Sunday did *not* begin with the popes at Rome. Easter and the host of other religious holidays did *not* begin with Emperor Constantine. In the New Testament is amazing *proof* that pagan holidays were cleverly introduced into the church in the days of the apostles—*proof* that the apostles were inspired to forbid Christians to observe them.

Notice how plain it is.

The Letter to the Galatians

In his letter to the Galatians, Paul warned Christians that among them were false teachers, Gentile deceivers, professing great knowledge and philosophy, who deliberately wormed their way into the good graces of the heathen converts trying to turn them backward *into their former ways*.

Paul said to them in Galatians 4:8-11: "Howbeit then, *when you knew not God, you did service to them which by nature are no gods*. But now, *after you have known God, HOW TURN YOU BACK AGAIN to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto you desire AGAIN to be in bondage? You observe days, and months, and times, and years.*" I am alarmed about you, he concludes!

What is this that Paul is saying?

Read it again!

Did he say, "Ye observe the Sabbath and holydays"? NO! Paul SAYS you are observing "Days and months, and times, and years."

It does *not* say holy days and sabbath! *Nowhere* in all the Bible can you find one text calling God's occasions by the names "days, months, times and years"!

What Days Were These?

Notice the entire chapter—yes, the

entire Epistle to the Galatians. In the first three chapters Paul speaks to those in the congregation who are beguiled into *Judaism, which Jesus condemned as the tradition of the elders*. Judaism made the laws of God of no effect! But in the fourth chapter Paul *ceases* to speak about Judaizers. He is now writing to the GENTILE converts, those who "were in bondage under the elements of the world." Gal. 4:3.

There were *Gentile* converts, who in times past did not know God, who were cut off from Him (See Eph. 2:12), who "were slaves to gods which were no gods at all." They had been serving demons and idols, not the Living God. False teachers were coming among them, perverting the true gospel, beguiling them to *turn again to their former ways*. Paul was alarmed. They were departing from the gospel and RETURNING to *what*? "Days, and months, and times and years."

Pagan holidays! They couldn't be returning to God's festivals. They never heard of them before Paul preached about them.

These Galatians were not observing the occasions God instituted, but the old pagan days—days which were creeping into the church in Paul's day and which now masquerade under Christian sounding names. Paul denounces such vain practices.

Here is the beginning of the observance of *pagan* days by the church and God's condemnation of it. "Many of the holy days in the religious calendar of Christendom were *borrowed*, as is well known, *from the festivals of ancient paganism.*" (*Rest Days*, p. 306.) We are NOT TO LEARN the way of the heathen (Jer. 10).

Christians are here admonished to quit following *modernized* heathen celebrations that are for no good use or purpose—counterfeit days that are attempts to fill the void in the lives of religious people.

What Are "Times"?

Turn to Leviticus 19:26 and Deu-

teronomy 18:10, 14 where Moses, according to the command of God, told the Israelites *not to observe TIMES*. This is ABSOLUTE PROOF that the days Paul is forbidding are pagan and not God-given. To observe *times* originally was a heathen practice of divination often attached to the heavenly bodies. In Greece it developed into *regular seasons*.

Some church leaders today try to make you believe Paul was condemning Jews for returning to the Sabbath and days of God, which they claim were in the Law of Moses. But the Law of Moses forbade observance of "times." Paul was writing to *Gentiles* who wanted to return to observing the "days" associated with "Times"—Gentile days—Sunday, Easter, Christmas.

The Catholic Church "father," Chrysostom, admits that these superstitious *times* which Paul forbids, were practiced by "Christians" in his day, but *without the idols as in days of old*. He says: "Many were superstitiously addicted to the observance of *times*, and made divination and conjectures upon them . . . In the celebration of these *times* (they) set up lamps in the marketplace, and crown their doors with garlands."—From *Bingham's Antiquities of the Christian Church*, pp. 1123, 1124.

Besides *times*, the Greeks observed special *days* in honor of the dead. "The rites took place on the . . . unlucky *days* accompanied by complete idleness and cessation of business." From *Rest Days*, p. 79. Today the largest church in the world celebrates pagan days in honor of the dead, all Souls' Day, All Saints' Day called Halloween by the world.

During the *months* of the year, festivals were held in honor of the Greek gods, Apollo (April, October), Zeus (February, June), Artemas (April), Bacchus (January) and many others which you can read in the *Encyclopedia Americana*, article "Festival."

Also certain *years* were set aside quadrennially and biennially during which were national idolatrous feasts and the celebration of the Olympic,

Ishmian, Nemean and Pythian games. Every one of these were connected with idolatrous worship and ceremony.

Paul was forbidding the return to these heathen practices by Gentile converts—not the days Jesus observed, setting us an example that we should follow his steps. Many of the present holidays of Christendom were celebrated in the heathen world *when Paul and Christ were on earth*, but they refused to observe them and commanded the church not to observe them.

Holy Days and Sabbaths

Although speaking of Gentile practices in Galatians, Paul, in his letter to the Colossians, certainly is speaking of the days God instituted. In Colossians 2:16 Paul is *thought* by many to have abolished these days. Let's study to see if he did.

First, stop to consider! Is it logical that Paul would have commanded the Gentiles in Corinth and elsewhere to observe God's festivals, and then contradict himself by telling the Colossians not to observe them? Yet most Churches would make Paul just that inconsistent.

The truth is *so plain* here in Colossians. What is Paul writing to the saints in Colosse? "Let no *man* therefore *judge* you . . ." Does this say "God has abolished these"? Look at the verse again. It says, "Let no *man* . . . *judge* you" concerning these matters. To *judge* is not to *abolish*. Paul is warning the Colossians not to let any MAN judge them about certain matters. Why?

"But why do you judge your brother? . . . for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ . . . So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Romans 14:10, 12.

God is the Judge! Not *man*. It is by the WORD OF GOD that we are all going to be judged, not the ideas of man. (John 12:48.) Since we are to live as those who are to be judged *by the word of God*, then we have to go to *other passages of scripture* to find HOW GOD WILL JUDGE US with reference to meats, drinks and festive occasions. In Colossians 2:16 Paul does NOT mention anything being *abolished*. He ONLY says that we are *not to let men judge us* with regard to these things. It doesn't matter what human beings think, but it does matter what GOD THINKS.

So let's examine the scripture to see what God's standard for Christians is.

Traditions of Men

Paul begins the second chapter of Colossians with warnings against those who were seeking to beguile the church after the philosophy and traditions of men (verse 8). Then he mentions that both Jews and Gentiles have been *rec-*

onciled to God by the death of Jesus Christ and both have become circumcised in the heart. But how could the Gentiles, *uncircumcised* in the flesh, come into this relationship to God together with physically circumcised Jews?

By the fact that Christ was circumcised for them, thus "blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." (Col. 2:14.)

Now what was this *handwriting of ordinances* that was *against* men? Evidently the same as mentioned in Eph. 2:13-16 which put "*enmity* between Jew and Gentile." But what is it?

The ten commandments? No.

They are NEVER called ordinances. They were written by the finger of God, not by the hand of Moses. They constitute the law of liberty (James 1:25), holy, just and good (Ro. 7:12). The sabbath, one of its points, was made FOR MAN, not *against* man (Mark 2:27). This law could not have been meant by Paul because it is not abolished but eternal (Ps. 111:8) and BY IT WE ARE TO BE JUDGED according to the apostle James (Jas. 2:12).

Could the *handwriting of ordinances against us* be the statutes which ordained the holy days *forever*? No. The *entire* 119 Psalm, the longest in the Bible, and *inspired* by God, proves that the statutes and judgments of God, which define sin and regulate human relations, are *eternal, good, making wise the ignorant*. These were *not against us* but *for us*. So the laws regulating the holy days, as well as the sabbath, are still in force and by them we shall be judged.

The *passover* was instituted as an ordinance, and Jesus commanded his disciples to observe it with new symbols forever. Paul commanded the Gentiles at Corinth, as we have seen, to keep this ordinance. (I Cor. 11:2, 20-34.)

If the commandments, statutes and judgments of God were all made *for us*, then the handwriting of ordinances which were AGAINST us must have been the ritualistic laws "added because of transgressions, *till* the seed should come to whom the promise was made." (Gal. 3:19.)

Here it is at last! A group of laws added *until* a specific time because of *transgression*. Since there must be a law *before* there is *transgression* (Rom. 4:15), it is no wonder that this "handwriting of ordinances" was ADDED. And it was added BECAUSE OF transgression, yet it could not justify the person who performed *its works*! It was a yoke! (Acts 13:39; 15:10.) Therefore this handwriting of ordinances was not commanded the Gentiles. (Acts 15:24.)

But what were the specific laws included in these ordinances? Hebrews 9:10-15 has the answer!

These handwritten ordinances of Moses, given to Israel for a limited time only, *not forever*, "stood *only* in meats and drinks, and diverse washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them UNTIL the time of reformation." This is a system of physical rituals relating to the Levitical priesthood, drink offerings, sacrifices and physical precepts regulating bathing when unclean. These ordinances were to cease as soon as *the sacrifice that could take away sins* would be offered. Once a sacrifice purges sin, there is no need of offerings for sin. (Heb. 10:2.) Christ was that sacrifice.

So we see that Paul is telling the Colossians to know the word of God so thoroughly that they could *refute* any MAN who would dare to sit in *judgment* of them for trusting in the sacrifice of Christ in place of the offerings of the law contained in ordinances.

What Does "In Respect of" Mean?

What does the Apostle mean when he tells the Colossians not to let any *man* judge them "in respect of an holy-day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days"?

This verse does not teach as some believe that the Sabbath is binding but *not* the holy days and new moons. Neither does it say that *all* are abolished.

This verse states ONLY that Christians are *not* to allow any MAN to *judge* them "in respect of" these days. The phrase "in respect of," as found in the common versions, is ambiguous. It is also rendered "in part of" in the margin of the King James Version. Moffatt renders it plainly: "So let none take you to task . . . in connexion with observance of festivals or new moons or sabbaths." It does *not* read: Let none take you to task because these days are abolished. Not at all!

It says *just the opposite*—let no *person* take you to task or judge you "in connexion with" the *observance* of these occasions. It is GOD who shall judge you *in connexion with* your observance or "in respect of" these days.

The Greek phrase translated "in respect of" is used by Paul (according to Thayer's *Lexicon of the New Testament*, p. 401 "where the writer means to intimate that there are *other* matters, to be separated from that which he has specified." That is, Paul is speaking of a *particular* matter concerning these days. It is *in connexion* with the *sacrifices* held on these days that Paul wants the Colossians to understand they must not allow men to judge them. It is *the part or the manner of observance* that enters Paul's mind, not the question of wheth-

er the days are to be kept holy. That Paul takes for granted as the practice of Christians.

Paul had just been mentioning the *ordinances* that were consummated in Christ—no longer in force. Converts are not to offer sacrifices on these days because the ordinances regulating the sacrifices are abolished. But that doesn't abolish the *days*!

No! Because these days began to be instituted BEFORE the ordinances prescribing sacrifices and offerings were ADDED.

The weekly and annual sabbaths were NOT instituted for the purpose of sacrifice. God says: "For I spake *not* unto your fathers, *nor* commanded them *in the day* that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices: But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you." (Jeremiah 7:22, 23.)

God commanded *no* sacrifices (except the passover, which is still continued under different symbols today) when he revealed the holy days to Israel. Israel was then in Egypt, ready to be led out. Sacrifices were placed on these days, *later*, AS ON EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK, EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR, because of transgression. (Exodus 29:38.) With the sacrifice of Christ having taken place, Paul wants the Christians to know that they are not to be judged by the handwriting of ordinances regulating these rituals.

But *the days are still to be kept holy* because they were instituted as *everlasting* statutes, *not* by the handwriting of ordinances, which was abolished with the death of Christ.

The sabbath day began at creation, and the annual festivals began to be instituted as MEMORIALS OF THE PLAN OF GOD *before* the old covenant was made and *before* sacrifices were imposed to teach men the need of Jesus Christ and the power of the Spirit of God.

Shadows

Paul continues his thought in Col. 2:17 by speaking about *shadows* of things to come; "but the body is of Christ." What could Paul have meant by shadows?

"Shadows" are mentioned in several places in Hebrews. Priests who offer gifts "serve unto the example and *shadow* of heavenly things." (Heb. 8:5.) And again: "For the law having a shadow of *good things to come*, and not the very image of the things, can never with those *sacrifices* which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect." (Heb. 10:1.)

These two verses show that the shadows were the *sacrifices* and ritualistic offerings made by the priests according to the law. The BODY that casts the shadow is *Christ*, but the shadows—the continuous round of offerings, sacrifices and washings—were "not the very image" "of the heavenly things" which Jesus Christ is now performing for us at the right hand of God as our High Priest. (Heb. 9:11.)

Contrary to what many believe, *the Bible nowhere speaks of the sabbath, the holy days and the new moons as shadows*. They are *memorials*. See Exodus 12, and Leviticus 23 where they are called thus. But we do find that the entire book of Hebrews is written to show that the shadowy carnal ordinances once performed by the Levites have been abolished and *changed* into the spiritual precepts of the priesthood of Melchizedek, in which Christ, as High Priest, is reconciling those who are now called to God.

How plan these verses are in Colossians and Galatians when we understand the Bible as a whole!

Can the Devil Heal?

(Continued from page 5)

The Bible does not even remotely intimate that any of them ever acted like "bughouse" inmates.

To the contrary, every word or action recorded in the Bible of the *saints'* lives shows that they were *sound minded*.

"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a SOUND MIND" (II Tim. 1:7). When one receives the Holy Spirit he has a SOUNDER mind than ever before, and the things he does will make sense—not nonsense!

Obscene assemblies are not meetings of true brethren, fellowshiping through the Holy Spirit. The Bible very definitely tells us HOW we are to conduct ourselves in the House or Church of God. In *God's church* "all things (are to) be done *decently* and in *order*" (I Cor. 14:40). "For *God is not* the AUTHOR OF CONFUSION, but of peace, as in *all churches of the SAINTS*." (Verse 33.)

Certainly in the usual kind of miracle-working meetings of *today* all things are *not done decently*, neither are they kept in *order* as they should be. In these meetings there is usually *much* CONFUSION—many people babbling, praying, muttering, screaming and shouting all at once—*contrary to Bible teaching*.

Of course, the great majority who witness such DEMONSTRATIONS actually believe they have seen a genuine healing. Many, after seeing one of these *fake healings*, think within themselves, "This

is a great miracle. This man must be of God, otherwise how could he do these things?"

The thing that quite naturally follows such a deception is for the person to say, "Well, I sure want to have a part in this great work of the Lord. I'm going to support this God-called man."

Out comes the wallet, and into the collection plate goes five, ten, or perhaps a hundred or more dollars—the *result of another HOAX*.

Yes, many have been deceived! Most have been led to believe that fake healing, counterfeit tongues speaking, and the many other Satanic COUNTERFEITS were genuine. In actuality they are such heinously inferior imitations that no *sane person* would ever want them if he really knew what he was getting.

There are many gifts of the Holy Spirit, but, remember, Satan has a cheap COUNTERFEIT for every gift of the Holy Spirit as enumerated in I Corinthians 12:4-11.

Don't forget that a counterfeit appears to be the genuine to an unskilled person. It usually takes a skilled counterfeit detector to discern the make-believe imitation.

So it is concerning this subject—we must trace the fruits of this type of *insanity* back to its author—back to Satan the devil.

The sooner this *counterfeit* apparent-healing and tongues gift, and this spurious so-called "Holy Ghost"—this unholy spirit—is discovered and *properly labelled*, the sooner we will be able to begin closing the doors of our mental institutions.

Divine Healing For All Ages

Don't think for one second that this is to deny or in any way try to refute *divine healing*. To the contrary, it merely points out that Satan has cheap, diabolical COUNTERFEITS for all of the true gifts of the Holy Spirit. He is most anxious to pawn these off on unsuspecting souls if they will only let him.

Yes, the devil would like to give you the *counterfeit* so that you, too, will become perverted like he and his co-demons are in their miserable and rebellious state of *lawlessness*—so that you would be deprived of the real things that God has in store for all who love, serve and obey Him (I Cor. 2:9).

If you have been attending such devil infested, den-of-demons meetings, then God's solemn command to you is to ". . . come out of her (this Babylonish confusion of Churchianity), MY PEOPLE, that ye *be not partakers of her sins*, and that ye receive not of her plagues." (Rev. 18:4).

Yes, if you have been frequenting

such meetings where the demons get together to have a gala time, then you should immediately *withdraw* yourself, and your children from it, that is, —if you value their *sanity*, and your own.

In Conclusion

To summarize, Satan has *his ministers* —many of them—and they can and do perform many great signs, and lying, counterfeit miracles and wonders. But there is no Bible example of them ever healing the sick, raising the dead, casting out demons, or performing any *divine* miracles.

If Satan and his ministers could heal, then how could we ever *know* whether God or the devil had healed us? God has not left us in doubt! Satan and his ministers *cannot* perform these *DIVINE* miracles though they have *many* *IMITATIONS*.

Only God through His *TRUE* ministers can heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out devils, and perform *DIVINE MIRACLES*.

Study your Bible and *pray unceasingly* that you may *prove* by the "fruits" whether or not a minister is totally yielded in *faith* and *obedience* as a servant of the true God and through whom *He will work*.

Science Disproves Evolution

(Continued from page 9)

Once evolution was assumed as the *inevitable conclusion*, people continued to take it for granted as true. But careful scientific tests have *DISPROVED ALL THE ORIGINAL "PROOFS"* OF EVOLUTION. They are unscientific, every one! And no new "proofs" have stood nor can stand the test of experiment, either.

"In other words," said Mr. Conger, page 92, "the evolutionists do not doubt for a moment that evolution has occurred; but when it comes to the question of just precisely *how* evolution occurs, they are at a loss to answer."

How very true!

What Is the True Definition of Creation?

According to the Genesis account, creation asserts that (1) beings now living have descended from the *same kind* of organisms which were created by God; (2) that *within created kinds* there are processes of change causing the appearance of *varieties*, but never new kinds—the *races* of mankind are an example; (3) that these physical or mental changes which have appeared *since* creation have arisen through natu-

ral and supernatural causes though always in accordance with principles of natural laws and (4) that the natural or physical laws now operating were set in motion to sustain life and the universe, which was originally brought into being by the power of God the Creator.

What do you see as the differences between materialistic evolution and special creation? There are fundamentally *two* differences.

One is that materialistic evolution evades the explanation of origins. It purports to explain it by denying the possibility of an original creation. Special creation claims to give the *only adequate* explanation of the origin of life and matter.

The *second* difference is that evolution claims that life has continually evolved through long ages, beginning with single celled creatures, branching into the plant and animal worlds, through ages during which invertebrates, fish, amphibia, reptiles and mammals have evolved until today, when man is the pinnacle of development.

The Genesis account of creation explains that kinds do *not* vary into new and different kinds with the passage of ages, but that there may be innumerable variations *within* the created kinds. Man was created whole and complete, from the hand of God, rather than evolved through long ages during which certain anthropoids developed into men as materialists claim.

Now, here is *THE VITAL KEY*. *Processes of change* CAN BE PUT TO EXPERIMENTAL TEST. If experimentation proves that certain kinds of life can give rise to *different* kinds, then the only proof of God—the necessity of creation—would be destroyed.

But, if we *disprove* the possibility of evolution and prove scientific whatever part of special creation admits of proof, then we have *no excuse* for rejecting faith in the remainder of the Bible revelation on creation. It is the only rational explanation OF THOSE FACTS OF ORIGIN WHICH WE CAN'T DETERMINE BY EXPERIMENT. According to special creation, not even the first man could have known the details of creation, because he was not there at its beginning.

What Is the Origin of Matter?

The view that matter is eternal is illogical because RADIOACTIVITY has proved the NECESSITY OF CREATION of radioactive matter. Radioactivity is the partial disintegration of atoms by the shooting out of various particles from the nucleus. In this way uranium gradually disintegrates into lead. THERE MUST OF NECESSITY HAVE BEEN AN

INSTANT IN WHICH RADIOACTIVE ELEMENTS GIVE OFF THEIR FIRST PARTICLES, WHICH WOULD BE THE TIME OF THEIR CREATION. And as radioactive elements must have been created, so also it logically follows that *all matter* had its creation at that same time.

Matter could not have organized itself into the great intricacies by chance without a Creator, any more than the watch can say to the watchmaker, "I made myself." Chance origin of matter is not possible because all matter behaves according to fixed law.

Men of science admit this. Sir James Jeans says: "Everything points with overwhelming force to a definite event, or series of events, of *creation* at some time or times, not indefinitely remote. The universe can not have arisen by chance out of its present ingredients, and neither can it have always been the same as now."

Sir Oliver Lodge says further: "We cannot understand the existence either of ourselves or of an external world unless we postulate some kind of creation. Creation involves design and purpose and mental activity, and necessarily implies a Creator of some kind." He says further, "I claim that the material universe with its variously designed atoms, and the way they have been used in the construction of all objects, mineral, vegetable, and animal, that we see around us, is a sign also of gigantic design and purpose, and is a glorious work of art."

If your children would say these same words to their evolutionist teachers, they would probably smile and reply that the law of conservation of matter and energy prohibits belief in any creation. This law used to be worded to state that neither matter nor energy could be created or destroyed *by any means known to science*. Notice the last phrase which most people carelessly disregard.

Science does not know any means by which the stuff that composes the world came into existence. But that does not prove anything. Science hasn't disproved creation. Science is merely *admitting* that it doesn't know. Scientists can never know if they deliberately confine themselves to material things only and reject the revelation of God which could provide them with the proper approach to further research.

Radioactivity proves that the universe is degenerating — not evolving. There would be a scientific contradiction unless, at some time in the past, matter was *created* and is *NOT ANY LONGER BEING BROUGHT INTO BEING*. If evolution were true, matter should be evolving.

Since evolution can't account for the origin of matter, can it account for

the origin of life on this planet? Is evolution the *method* God is using?

How Did Physical Life Really Begin?

Did life arise by spontaneous generation? Or from highly complex chemicals? Is it scientific to believe that dead matter can give birth to that which is alive?

This is not a question to be evaded as do too many evolutionists! It is time to prove scientifically whether life could have evolved from dead matter without the intervention of a supernatural power to impart life to matter.

In a recent scientific book there are six major man-devised theories listed concerning the origin of life. Last of all was a description of *creation* as a possible explanation for the origin of life. It was described as a "religious answer (that) suggests that life was created by an agent working *outside* the realms of matter and science."

Just notice how subtly this definition is worded. It merely *suggests* that life was created. And that act was done by an agent working *OUTSIDE* scientific means. This text which is very popular in schools has so defined creation as to imply that it might be *unscientific* to hold such a view since the suggested agent worked "outside" the realms of matter.

Scientists today usually do not believe in spontaneous generation as such, although all their theories about an *organic* beginning of life are actually new versions of it. The Italian, Redi, proved that "life must arise from living organ-

isms" and can't arise spontaneously from dead matter. Louis Pasteur proved that even dormant micro-organisms in the air can not arise through *abiogenesis* or spontaneous generation. In other words *biogenesis*—the amply proved law that life must come from life—is the only logical explanation. There is no more thoroughly demonstrated principle in the scientific world than that *it takes life to produce life*.

Then how can you account for life?

By the creation of living matter. The first bit of life could never have arisen from the warm ocean slime spontaneously, because there are no natural laws that could produce life from dead matter. It takes life to impart life.

The Scripture reveals that *God has life within Himself, inherently.* (Acts 17:25; and John 5:26). God does not live by the same kind of life that animals have. He imparts eternal life only to His children begotten by His life-giving Spirit. But God by his infinite power imparted far less important mortal life to dead matter. Notice that this is *in accordance with the principle of scientific law* of which He is the Author, that it takes *life* to produce life.

It took the *energy* of God, the *power* of God to bring matter into being, just as it took the *living* God to impart mortal life to matter. There is nothing unscientific about these principles. Both these events are not now occurring in the universe. Creation of the *physical* universe is completed.

(To Be Continued)

Question Box

(Continued from page 11)

in a time of peace (Isa. 11). But immortals in the Kingdom of God will rule over them.

What good news! Millions who are blinded now—the "unsaved"—will come to salvation in the millennium and finally inherit the kingdom of God as immortal members in the very divine family of God (Matt. 25:31, 34).

But notice, also, that Christ is coming to take *vengeance* on those who refuse to repent, those who reject the rule of God (Zech. 14:16-19). He will take "vengeance on them that know not God"—those who refuse to obey His commandments (I John 2:4)—"and that obey not the gospel" (II Thess. 1:8).

This does not say *every* "unsaved" person, but only those who continue rebelling against the authority of God and who war against Him as He returns to bring peace, safety and salvation to the world (Rev. 19).

One denomination quotes II Thess. 2:8-9 as proof that *all* the wicked will be destroyed. Rather, this scripture speaks of "that wicked"—the false prophet—"even him"—*one* man, not many men, who will be destroyed.

Today, only the *few* are called to salvation (I Cor. 1:26). The great day of salvation is yet to come for the millions of "unsaved." "God has concluded them all in unbelief"—Israel, and the Gentiles, too—"that He might have *mercy* upon all" (Romans 11:32).

The PLAIN TRUTH

Printed in the U.S.A.

Box 111—Pasadena, California
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

(Sec. 34.65 (e), P.L.&R.)

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 703

Pasadena, California