



Ambassador College

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE



an open letter from

THE EDITOR

I FEEL I must immediately have a real heart-to-heart talk with my growing family of students, sharing with you thoughts that came to my mind — while they are still fresh and vivid.

It concerns the *most important* thing in life and eternity for *you*. But at the moment, I was thinking about myself. Every person — yes, even you — is his own worst enemy. All my life I have been impelled to fight my worst enemy — that troublesome inner *self*, which by nature is desperately wicked. I was not born with a mild, submissive, weak-willed inner *self*. Had I been, I probably never could have been used as God's instrument in bearing His message to you. My mother has often mentioned I was a very strong-willed boy; and while I was still young enough to be under parental discipline, I caused her and my father no end of trouble.

Since growing into the age of self-discipline, this same evil, determined inner self has caused *me* no end of trouble. And I should add that since I gave that self over to God, it surely must have tried His patience!

That brings us to the point. The thought that came to my mind concerned this very troublesome inner self. How, came the question, can I myself ever become finally *saved*, and inherit eternal life in the Kingdom of God, with such a powerful, seemingly irresistible inner force of evil constantly pulling the other way? When God says "there shall in no wise enter into it [the Kingdom of God] anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie" (Rev. 21:27), it surely seemed impossible that I should be able to "overcome," and "endure unto the end."

But the same instant the answer flashed to mind — God will save me! I can't save myself. When I look at this troublesome, naturally evil self, so human and full of faults and weaknesses, so beset by temptations of pride and the flesh, with all its limitations and shortcomings; knowing that to be finally saved I must *GROW* in grace and God's knowledge — must develop in righteous holy character — must overcome this *self* and temptations and weaknesses — and must *endure* through trial and test and opposition and discouragement unto the end — well, when I look at it this way, it seems utterly *HOPELESS* to expect ever to be saved.

And I wondered, as this thought flashed
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AMBASSADOR COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

LESSON 19

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About Our Cover . . .

This 1000-year-old, hand-lettered Greek manuscript (shown open and closed) containing the four gospels of the New Testament, is part of the Ambassador College rare book collection. Your Bible reveals that Jesus Christ came to *correct* the "fault" with His *first* marriage and to confirm a **NEW MARRIAGE COVENANT**! The "New Testament" part of your Bible spells out the terms or conditions of Christ's *second* marriage agreement. It tells exactly *who* the bride will be and *when* Christ will marry her!

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THE NEW COVENANT AND TESTAMENT

MOST professing Christians have assumed that God's law and His *covenants* have nothing whatever to do with Jesus Christ and New Testament Christianity!

No wonder so many can't understand *why* God promised to make a *New Covenant*; with whom the New Covenant will be made; and what terms and conditions will regulate it!

You need to know and *act* on the answers to these vital questions so God can make the **NEW COVENANT** with **YOU!** Unless He does, you won't be able to receive the **PROMISES** contained in **THE NEW TESTAMENT** — the *will* of Jesus Christ!

We Desperately Need Help!

Remember that the Israelites were given every incentive to live by God's royal law of love for hundreds of years. But they failed miserably!

We are human beings just as were the people of Old Covenant times. *We* also will fail miserably if we place our confidence in *our own* human power to obey God's law. History *thunders* its warning to us! There is a very good *reason* why we fail to obey God.

Let's be sure we understand it!

God is fashioning and molding man by allowing him to learn by his own experiences, and the experiences of others. God made man a free moral agent in order that he may choose whether or not he will follow God's great royal law of love — the law which can make him supremely happy.

But man does not have the *power*, of himself, to follow this law even though he may finally choose to do so.

Here is where *God* comes into the picture.

Only one who has a *Godly* nature and *Godly* power can live in perfect obedience to the spiritual law God has ordained! We do not have a Godly nature now. But God promises to give us, in this life, the *power* to ultimately achieve all we *really* long for and desire — the things which come *only* through living in harmony with His law. But *only IF* we will realize our *own* weakness — *our own* inability to obey the Royal Law of Love — and surrender our own wills to Him.

Only when we **SURRENDER** to God will He

begin to complete us *spiritually* by begetting us with His Spirit of power and love. Only then can we begin to obey His **SPIRITUAL** laws and experience the blessings God bestows on His obedient children.

Finally, if we grow and overcome spiritually, God will bestow the supreme gift of all — *eternal life* as the born-again sons of His divine Family — the **KINGDOM OF GOD!**

This glorious future *can be yours* — if you are willing to let God **CHANGE YOU!**

Christ's Warning

Notice what Christ warns us about depending upon *our own* ability to obey Him.

Jesus Christ explained how we can have eternal life. He said: "If thou wilt enter into life, *keep* the commandments" (Mat. 19:17).

But in the previous lesson we saw that for over seven hundred years of human history, man has *proven he cannot keep the commandments*. Did Christ, the living Son of God, verify by His next statement the fact that this is *impossible for man, of himself*, to do? Notice what He said:

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God" (Mat. 19:24).

Even Christ's own disciples, when they heard these words, were "*exceedingly amazed*," and asked, "Who then *can* be saved?" (Verse 25.)

Christ then revealed *the only way* by which it *can* be done: "With *men* this is *impossible*; but with *God* all things are possible"! (Verse 26.) With God's *Spirit* — God's love and power placed within us — it can be done!!

What mortal men — you and I — need for salvation is a *miraculous change* of our human nature — which must begin with our *spiritual* begetting by the Spirit of God!

We Need Our Creator's Spirit

God is the Supreme Creator (Gen. 1:1; John 1:1-3). He created all the animals, birds and fish. But He made no *covenant* with them by which they may become anything higher. They *are* lowly and will *remain* lowly.

Product of Man's Mind . . .



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The creative genius of man's God-given *mind* is amply demonstrated by the fantastically complex devices he designs and builds. Shown is the Ambassador College IBM 360 Computer which serves the ever-growing needs of God's Work.

God has not given them marvelous hands or creative brains by which they can plan, design and build things as God does. These lowly creations of God resemble Him in no respect.

But God made *man* ENTIRELY DIFFERENT!

God said, in declaring His *plan* for molding man into His highest creation, "Let us make *man* in our image" (Gen. 1:26). God did *not* say He planned to do this with any other of His vast number of creations. God has planned to MOLD ONLY MAN INTO HIS SPIRITUAL CHARACTER "IMAGE"! And of the dust of the ground God fashioned only *man* in the *external* form — the *external* dimensions or "likeness" — of God, as we learned in previous lessons.

But God did *not*, at that time, place *within* man a *divine* nature whereby we would also resemble God *inwardly* — SPIRITUALLY. We do *not* yet possess God's *divine* nature.

Adam had a fleshly, *carnal* nature within him — and like begets like. That's the kind of nature you and I have today! For Adam is the father of fleshly mankind. So man now resembles God in *external* form and shape only — *not* in spiritual character, nature and composition.

God has fashioned man, *unlike* sticks and stones, birds and beasts, with *inherent capabilities* for *marvelous* achievements. He has equipped

man with marvelous *hands* that can fashion things; given to man a *tongue and language* by which he can communicate the most intricate of ideas to his fellowman; and, above all, given to man a *brain* capable of approaching, to a degree at this time, the very creative powers of God! And God now offers man a covenant by which he can be created in God's very own character "image" also!

Our *potentialities* are so great that we can even become *members* of the Family of God — for we can ultimately be BORN into the ruling Kingdom of God! These are the plain teachings of *your* Bible! How *wonderful* is God's PURPOSE for mankind!

God inspired Isaiah to say, "O Lord, thou art our *Father* [the One who can *beget* us spiritually]; we are the *clay*, and Thou our *potter*; and we all are the work of thy hand" (Isa. 64:8). We are made of the *earth* and God is *fashioning* us to be like Him. "The first man Adam was made a living *soul*" [*psuche* or *nephesh*] — a breathing flesh and blood human being subject to eternal death. But "the *last* Adam [*Christ* — who, like the *first* Adam, was the *first* of His kind — the Father's *new* kind of *spiritually* begotten and born creations] was made a quickening *spirit*," having received eternal life and the very nature of God at His resurrection.

You, too, can become one of these new creations *if* you choose to allow God to create you in His *spiritual* “image” (I Cor. 15:45; Eph. 4:22-24).

Having realized how utterly incapable we are to achieve, of ourselves, the supreme goal that God has set before us, let us now examine the

true glories the New Covenant holds out to us. And let us examine the steps we must *now* take in order to receive help through the Holy Spirit of God so we will be *prepared* to enter into the New Covenant marriage with Jesus Christ when He returns.

Now we are ready for the lesson itself.

LESSON 19

Why a NEW Covenant Is Necessary

1. Did Christ, the God of the “Old Testament,” promise that He would make a *new* covenant — a *new marriage agreement* — with Israel and Judah even before Old Covenant Israel had gone into captivity for disobeying His Law? Jer. 31:31. Does Heb. 8:8 also verify this?

COMMENT: Note that the New Covenant was *STILL FUTURE* when Paul wrote the book of Hebrews.

2. Does the reason that a New Covenant must be made lie in the fact that there was a *fault* involved with the Old Covenant? Heb. 8:7.

3. What was this fault — was it in the Law? Ps. 19:7 and Rom. 7:12. Since the fault was *not* in the Law, which is “perfect,” nor with God who was able to keep His part of the covenant, then must the fault have been with “them” — the people? Heb. 8:8. Notice especially the first five and last seven words.

COMMENT: The law is *perfect*. But the PEOPLE were *weak* — *spiritually weak*! Therefore, they did not *keep their part of the Old Covenant marriage agreement*.

4. But under the terms of the *New Covenant*, what does God propose to do? Heb. 8:10; Jer. 31:33 and II Cor. 3:3.

COMMENT: Under the old marriage covenant, God wrote His laws on two tables of *stone*. The people could *see* the law with their *eyes*, but the law was *not within their hearts and minds*. The law was *not a part* of them. But under the terms of the New Covenant, Christ promises that He will make a marriage agreement only with those who are *now* having the principles of His Law written in their hearts and minds by the Holy Spirit.

Remember this, for it is extremely important!! Christ will marry His “bride” — the collective members of His Church — only when she has prepared herself by *practicing obedience* to His law.

According to the terms of the new mar-

riage covenant, we must first be tested and proved to see whether we really want to obey God. The Old Covenant, remember, was made with Israel *before* she was fully tried and tested. The new marriage covenant will not be made until *after* we have been tried and tested and are “born again.” Then we will be members of the *spiritual* Kingdom of God — Israel according to the *spirit*, no longer possessing sinful human nature.

The New Covenant is a far *better* covenant than the Old Covenant was. The *Old* Covenant was *national* — *to one nation only* — to Israel. It promised *only temporary material earthly blessings*. It had *no promise of the Holy Spirit and eternal life*. The Old Covenant Israelites had no promise of receiving the Holy Spirit which could have written God’s law in their hearts and minds.

But the *New Covenant* marriage agreement into which we can enter will *completely correct* the fault of the Old Covenant by making it possible for us to obey God’s law *perfectly* in its spiritual intent! For at the resurrection, Christ’s Spirit-born Church will be given a *completely new* nature — the *spiritual* nature of God — which will enable born-again Christians to obey Him *perfectly* forever! (I John 3:9.) It is then that Christ will marry His *perfectly obedient* Church.

Terms of the New Covenant

1. Is the “Lord” the *messenger* who came to herald the terms of the New Covenant? Mal. 3:1, last part. Was this messenger *Jesus Christ*? Mark 1:14.

2. Is the message of this New Covenant obviously a part of the *gospel message* — the good news — Christ preached? Mark 1:1, 14, 15. Is repentance and belief in the Gospel a part of what modern Israelites must do in order to enter into this New Covenant with Christ? Verse 15. Does Mat. 15:24 verify the fact that

Christ was sent only to the “lost” — the *scattered* — “sheep” or people of *Israel* to herald the Gospel of the Kingdom? But did Christ *later* instruct His *disciples* to preach the Gospel — which contains the message of the *New Covenant* — to *all the world*? Mat. 24:14 and 28:19-20.

3. Do Gentiles now have any hope of ever being partakers of the promises of the covenants — the promises contained in the covenants made with Abraham and the promises of the New Covenant? Eph. 2:11, 12. In what way may a Gentile — one having no blood relationship to Abraham — come into the New Covenant relationship? Verse 13; Gal. 3:29 and Rom. 11:13, 17.

COMMENT: In past lessons we learned how a Gentile may come into the New Covenant relationship: “*IF* ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and *heirs* according to the promise” (Gal. 3:29). The New Covenant is, in this way, open to *all* peoples of the world.

Notice that this New Covenant is *conditional* — “*if*.” Both Israelites and Gentiles must *surrender themselves* to Christ and begin learning to OBEY HIM (II Cor. 3:3).

But the New Covenant marriage, *unlike* the Old Covenant, is actually *preceded* by a *will* — that is, a *testament*.

4. Did Jesus leave a “testament,” or *will*, at His death? Heb. 9:15-17. What is the purpose of Christ’s will?

COMMENT: As we learned in Lesson 18, a *testament* is a *will* — it declares a person’s *will* as to the disposal of his *possessions* after his *death*.

Christ left, at His death, a will — a *testament* — in which all people may become beneficiaries or heirs of His possessions. For it was to the *one* seed — *Christ* — to whom this earth was given as an eternal inheritance (Gen. 22:18; Gal. 3:16-19).

Christ was the only One who ever obeyed God’s Law perfectly and could claim the earth as an inheritance. So it was He who could, and did, leave a *testament* or *will* at His death so that His “heirs” (Gal. 3:29) may also receive, through Him, eternal inheritance of the earth.

Bear in mind that the new *testament* or *will* of Jesus Christ has been in force since His death. But His testament or will has *CONDITIONS* which we must meet *before* we can inherit the promises.

The Greek word for “testament” also means “covenant.” Since the new *testament* involves our agreement to fulfill these conditions, it also becomes a *covenant* — and that new covenant will not be confirmed or established with us — we won’t *inherit* the promises of eternal inheritance of the earth and sonship in the ruling,

spiritual Kingdom of God — *until* we are first made IMMORTAL and have God’s nature so we *can’t sin!* (II Peter 1:4; I John 3:9.)

As we learned in Lesson 18, the first part of the Bible should *not* be titled “The Old Testament.” For the question of the death of either party to that covenant did *not* enter into the agreement as it would had it been a *will* — a *testament*. The Old Covenant was simply an *agreement* — “You do this and I’ll do that.”

The second part of the Bible would then naturally bear the title, “*The New Covenant*” — the *new agreement* — for it reveals fully the *New Covenant* which God offers to the present-day blood descendants of old Israel, and to *all* people of the earth through Christ.

Also, this latter part of the Bible could bear within its title the word “*Testament*,” for “if we are Christ’s, we are [considered as] Abraham’s seed and *HEIRS* of the promises” to be *established* by the New Covenant.

So — *properly* the title of the second part of the Bible should be, “THE NEW COVENANT AND TESTAMENT.” The Greek, in which this latter part of the Bible was originally written, uses the Greek title “*Diatheke*” which is translated *interchangeably* as “covenant” and “testament.”

New Covenant Not Yet Completed

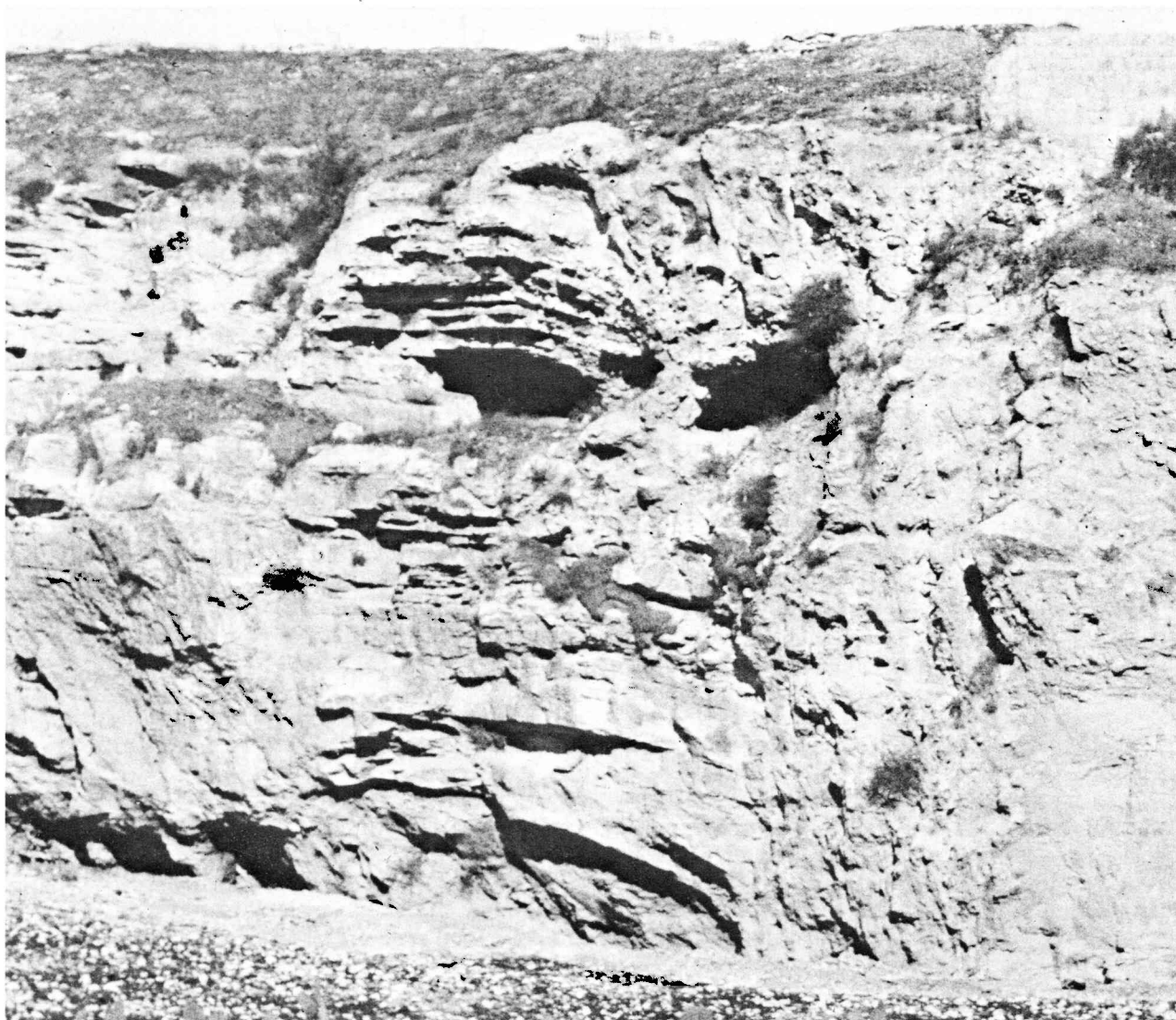
1. Is Jesus Christ the minister of the New Covenant? Heb. 8:6. Was He to *confirm* the covenant for one “week”? Dan. 9:26-27. But was His ministry to be cut in *half*? Verse 27. Will Christ *complete* His work of confirming the New Covenant in the future? Same verse. Also Heb. 8:10 and Jer. 31:31-34.

COMMENT: A “day” in the prophecy of Daniel 9:27 represents a year in fulfillment (Num. 14:34; Ezek. 4:3-6). Christ ministered three-and-a-half years — *one half* of this prophetic “week.”

For three-and-one-half years He *confirmed* — spelled out the *terms* of — THE NEW COVENANT with His disciples who recorded them for us today. By dying for our sins in the *midst* of the “week,” He put the final *stamp* on the covenant and made it binding with His blood. Through Him, *all people* can now enter into the New Covenant and become *heirs* “according to the promise” which God made to Abraham (Gal. 3:29).

But Daniel 9:26-27 reveals that there yet *remains* three-and-one-half years of Christ’s ministry to be FULFILLED! Let’s understand.

When Jesus returns to this earth He will *fulfill* the covenant He made with Abraham. Abraham and his *spiritual* seed through Christ will then inherit the world and eternal life. Jesus will also



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GOLGOTHA — It was upon this small hill, just outside the walls of Jerusalem, that Jesus Christ was killed! Natural caves strangely appear as the eye sockets of a human skull — hence the Hebrew name *Golgotha*, which means “the place of the skull.”

ESTABLISH the covenant He made with His spiritual Church *before* His return by **MARRYING THE CHURCH!**

And it is at Christ’s return that He will make the **NEW COVENANT** with His people Israel. For *three-and-one-half* years, Christ will complete His ministry to Israel by teaching them His ways and writing His Laws in their hearts and upon their minds by the Holy Spirit (Heb. 8:6-10).

2. Does Rev. 19:7-9 describe the glorious *marriage* of Christ, the “Lamb,” to His purified, **SINLESS** Church when He returns? Read also II Cor. 11:2.

COMMENT: All who are born again as spirit beings will, at Christ’s second coming, be *officially* invited to enter into the New Covenant

marriage with Him. This is the way Christ will *establish* or **COMPLETE** the New Covenant with *them*.

Christ to Marry Again!

Some may ask, “How can Jesus Christ marry the New Testament Church since He was already married to ancient Israel under the Old Covenant?”

The fact is Jesus Christ is no longer “bound” by marriage to ancient Israel! That marriage contract has been dissolved! He is now free, according to the laws governing marriage, to marry *again*. Notice how.

1. After ancient Israel had disobeyed God’s law, followed the customs of the heathen and

served their false gods, did the Lord Christ plead with them to turn from their *adulterous* ways? Jer. 3:14. Did God “put away”—*divorce*—Israel because of her sins? Isa. 50:1; Jer. 3:6, 8 and Isa. 59:1-2.

COMMENT: When ancient Israel broke God's marriage covenant, they were actually committing *spiritual* “adultery.” They followed the customs of heathen peoples and worshipped their pagan idols instead of the LORD Christ Who was their “Husband.”

Because God is HOLY, He does not “co-exist” with sin! Therefore He was forced to separate His “wife”—ancient Israel—from Himself. (Isa. 50:1.)

Even though God had given Israel a bill of divorcement for her sins, God was, however, not free to “marry” again according to the Law! Adultery is not a cause for the dissolution of a marriage. That's why the Eternal said, “I AM [STILL] MARRIED UNTO YOU” (Jer. 3:14).

The LORD—the human Jesus Christ of the New Testament—was still bound by His part of the conditions of the marriage contract.

These conditions were, however, limited by *death*! Only the death of one of the partners of a marriage covenant can sever the marriage relationship—for marriage is binding until death, as we learned in the previous lesson.

Jesus Christ's death on the stake at Golgotha freed Him from His first marriage contract with ancient Israel. The Lord Christ of the Old Testament—God in the *flesh*—had died! Now He is free to marry a repentant, forgiven, sin-free “spiritual Israel”—the New Testament Church *born again*—when He returns!

Remember, Jesus promises to make a NEW COVENANT — A NEW MARRIAGE AGREEMENT — when He returns. That new marriage contract will be made with “spiritual” Israel — converted Israelites and Gentiles — finally born of the Spirit.

This time His wife will remain faithful. Why? Because at the resurrection His Church will have been born into the Kingdom of God as a perfect spiritual nation.

Once born of God, their new *spiritual* nature and power will enable them to keep His laws *perfectly* (I John 3:9) — the same laws which are still the terms and conditions of the marriage agreement — the New Covenant — Christ will make with His spiritual Church at His return.

Christ Came So We Can KEEP the Law

Some believe Christ came to “do away with the law.” Just what *was* the *purpose* of Christ's coming, anyway?

Most people are totally ignorant of the *most basic knowledge* they should know. Those who have set themselves up as ministers have not taught the people the truth, nor do they themselves know it.

Here's the truth from your Bible!

1. Did Christ come to “do away with the law” — to “nail the law to the cross”? What did Christ, *Himself*, say? *He* should know *why* He came. What are *His* words? Mat. 5:17. Do verses 18 and 19 also show He did *not* come to destroy the law? On what two great things does Christ say “hang *all* the law”? Mat. 22:40, 37-39.

COMMENT: God's great Royal Law of Love has always existed. It, with its ten points — the Ten Commandments — was in effect from the Garden of Eden. The law stands fast *forever*. Love of God as revealed by His law will never become obsolete (Ps. 111:7, 8). It is the people who have been unable to bring themselves into harmony with this highest of all laws!

Christ here *repeats* twice for *emphasis* that He did *not* come to destroy — to do away with — the law.

2. On the other hand, what *did* Christ say He came to *do*? Mat. 5:17, last nine words. What did Christ *mean* by the words, “I AM COME ... TO FULFILL”? See comment.

COMMENT: CHRIST “FULFILLED THE LAW” PERFECTLY BY *OBEYING IT*! Obviously by Christ's “fulfilling” of the Law He did NOT ANNUL THE LAW! He *demonstrated* the power of the Holy Spirit of God which, if placed within man, enables him to fulfill — to keep — the spiritual law. For with God *all* things are possible (Mat. 19:26).

Christ was the first-begotten of many brethren. He was a mortal human being, just as you and I, but He was *begotten* of the Holy Spirit of God at his *physical* conception, whereas with you and me, begetting by the Holy Spirit comes *later* in life — after we have repented of sin, accepted Christ's sacrifice for our sins, and been baptized (Acts 2:38).

Christ came to pay with His own life the penalty of our sins, which is *eternal* death. He makes it *possible* for us to receive the Holy Spirit of *power* whereby we can *fulfill the law* also, and thereby ultimately enter into the *New Covenant* relationship with Him!

With the advent of the *New Covenant* promise of the Holy Spirit *with which* to keep the Law, God can *now magnify* — *enlarge* — His commandments from the keeping of the *law in the letter*, as commanded under the *Old Covenant*, to the original intent that God desired from the beginning in the Garden of Eden.

God can *now* require the keeping of the law

in the *spirit* — in its *spiritual* intent. This is utterly IMPOSSIBLE for carnal man *without* God's Spirit!! But man can have the *spiritual power* of the Holy Spirit to accomplish this feat, *if* he will surrender to God!

And so Christ also came to *magnify* the law. This is *why* He said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them in old time [by God's law-givers under the *Old Covenant*], thou shalt not *commit* adultery [*physically*]: but I say unto you, that whosoever *looketh* on a woman to lust after her [*mentally*] *hath* [*already*] *committed* adultery with her in his heart" (Mat. 5:27, 28). Now it is counted a sin if one lets the *thought* of adultery enter the mind, or lets it dwell on sinful acts of any other kind.

In these two ways, then, Christ came to "fulfill the Law": He, Himself, fulfilled it by *obeying* it, and has made it possible for "whomsoever will" to fulfill or obey it in the *spirit*, as well as the letter!

Preparation We Must Make as Prospective Bride

1. What *purpose* has the Old Covenant period served?

COMMENT: It has been necessary for God to *make man realize*, through centuries of experience, the ageless fact that true happiness comes only by living in accordance with God's great eternal law of love; and to make man realize that he is utterly incapable of doing so by his own power.

The *Old Covenant* has done just that! Down through the centuries the Israelites have been known as the nation of God. Yet we know that Israel never did keep His law. Thus Israel has become an example to the people of the world that all of *carnal* mankind, of themselves, cannot keep God's law either.

But now God has sent His Son to this unhappy and sin-ridden world with the joyful news — the "Good News"—of the arrival of His spiritual power, and the announcement of a *New Covenant*. A covenant whereby we can be *begotten* again, *grow* again and, at Christ's coming, be *born again* — this time having a *NEW* and *totally different* nature — a SPIRITUAL NATURE!

2. Each of us must now receive the *Holy Spirit* which will set in motion the *changes* that must occur within us before we can be "born again" with the spirit body and *holy spiritual nature* we must have so Christ can *establish* His new marriage covenant with us.

But what, in detail, are the conditions we must fulfill in order to *receive* the Holy Spirit necessary to help bring about these changes? What does Christ say *you* must do now in order to receive the Holy Spirit? Acts 2:38 and 5:32.

COMMENT: Here you have the very essence of what you must do now to become a member of the Church which Christ will marry at His coming. Three things are necessary for *you* to do now *in order to receive the promised Holy Spirit* which places you in His Church (I Cor. 12:13). YOU MUST REPENT, BELIEVE, AND BE BAPTIZED!

But exactly what does all this mean? Let's understand:

FIRST: You must "REPENT"—be totally broken up about and *sorry* for your old *sinful* way of life, and *completely surrender yourself* to the *loving rule* of God — for God will save *no one* He cannot rule.

Christ *purchases* true Christians with His blood which He shed on the stake for the penalty of their sins so that they need not die eternal death. That is, *Christ purchases those who are willing to prepare now to enter into the New Covenant with Him* at His coming, and He has promised now to place the Holy Spirit within them.

Those who agree to enter into the New Covenant with Christ thereby agree to become Christ's *purchased servants* — they agree to do His will. And, as "*servants of Christ*, doing the will of God," you will be doing His will this time — *unlike* those under the Old Covenant — "*from the heart*" (Eph. 6:6). For God will, under the terms of the New Covenant, be inscribing His law "*in the fleshly tables of your heart*" (Jer. 31:33 and Ezek. 11:19-20), by His Holy Spirit within you! (II Cor. 3:3.)

SECOND: You must BELIEVE that Christ is your Savior, and your present High Priest, and coming Ruler. And you must *believe* He will send the Holy Spirit of *power* to help you SUBDUCE your old carnal nature and *change* you.

Christ, by paying with His life for the sins of all mankind, has made it possible for *all* to enter into *eternal* life. No wonder when we look at the *failure* of the Israelites to keep the law under the Old Covenant, we realize that *we* need a Savior — Christ — to pay for our sins and send us His power. We realize the *lessons* of the Old Covenant have been our "schoolmaster" to bring us unto Christ (Gal. 3:24). And that it is only right and proper that we acknowledge Him as our Redeemer, our coming Ruler and King, and our *Husband*!

THIRD: You must BE BAPTIZED.

Be sure to write for the free booklet, *All About Water Baptism*.

So to summarize, you must: (1) repent, (2) believe, (3) be baptized.

After you have done this, what does *God* promise to do, according to the terms of Christ's Will or Testament? "...and you *shall* receive

the gift of the Holy Spirit”!! (Acts 2:38.) This is what God *promises* to do as His part.

There it is!

This is the spirit of *power* that came upon the apostles just after Christ’s death (Acts 2:4). And *these* are the prior requirements for entering into the new covenant relationship with Christ at the resurrection — at His soon coming. It is then that we will inherit all the other marvelous things that the New Covenant promises — eternal life, sonship in the Kingdom of God, and the earth as an *everlasting* possession.

The Holy Spirit imparts the *power* we need to PREPARE OURSELVES NOW so we can receive all of these blessings!

The Decision Is Yours

If you intend to enter into the New Covenant marriage with Christ, you should begin PREPARATION NOW! Later may be *too late*. But the decision is *yours* to make. God will not force you. He leaves you free to CHOOSE. Notice:

1. When God offered the Old Covenant to ancient Israel, did He coerce them into entering this covenant with Him, or did He allow them to *voluntarily decide* whether they would enter into it? Ex. 19:3, 5-8. Notice the word “*if*” in verse 5.

COMMENT: The word “*if*” shows that God did *not* force the people of ancient Israel to enter into the Old Covenant with Him.

2. Did God coerce the *next* generation of Israelites, forty years later, to enter this same Covenant with Him, or did He allow them to *choose* whether or not they would do so? Deut. 30:19. Note the words, “*choose life*.”

COMMENT: Christ will not force anyone into entering a covenant with Him. Nor will He force you into a decision to *start preparing* to enter the New Covenant with Him at His coming. Why?

God created mankind with abilities like His own — beings with *minds* like His own, though limited — beings who can *choose* — beings who are FREE MORAL AGENTS, and who are not mere automatons like the rest of His material creation.

Christ never did *force* anyone to covenant with Him, and He never will! For He is in the process of forming beings who are *learning to choose correctly*! They are the ones who will become God’s *supreme spiritual creation*!

God will *advise* though — He says, “*choose life*.” You also are a free moral agent just as were the former generations to which the other covenant — the Old Covenant — was offered. What will be *your choice*?

The New Covenant promises life — *eternal life* — and a close relationship with Christ as His

collective bride. And all the other blessings that will attend this high calling.

What are you going to do *now* about the New Covenant which is to be offered when Christ comes? If you *choose not* to prepare yourself now for entry into this Covenant by refusing to allow God to place His *Spirit* of eternal life within you, you will *not* be changed into a spirit being at Christ’s soon coming.

God will not make the *new marriage covenant* with you if you remain a *human* being. In order to attend the wedding supper of the Lamb, you must be “born again” as a *spirit* being — just as God is!

Persistent refusal to submit to God and begin preparation can only lead to *eternal death*!

The time is *NOW at hand* for you to make a decision. THINK DEEPLY on this matter as you meditate on this lesson and the lessons just ahead. These will continue to give God’s detailed instructions on *how* you can finally enter into the New Covenant, “*husband-wife*” relationship with the living Jesus Christ, your Redeemer.

God Works Through His Church

The evidence is now crystal clear. In order to *inherit* eternal life you must also stand ready to enter into this New Covenant relationship with Christ. That’s the only way to be born again of the life-giving Holy Spirit of God, and inherit all His promises.

But to whom should you turn for guidance in preparing yourself to enter into the New Covenant marriage with Christ? Does God have a CHURCH on earth today from which you can receive this special guidance? Or do you suppose you can qualify with the guidance of just *any* church?

God does not leave you in the dark about this vital knowledge. He clearly reveals the fact that He does have a church, and shows you *HOW* you can *identify* it from over 450 *differing* sects and denominations in the world today!

Which church? — that’s the big question! The Bible plainly reveals the answer. Let’s understand what it says.

1. Long before Moses and Mount Sinai, did God have a *Priest* upon the earth who *represented Him*, and carried out His work? Gen. 14:18, 19.

2. Later, did God call Moses to be His *servant*? Ex. 3:11, 12. Did God have *Moses* deliver the terms of the Old Covenant to the Israelites at Mount Sinai? Ex. 19:3-8; 24:1 and 24:3.

3. Wasn’t it *another mortal flesh-and-blood human being* — Jesus Christ (Heb. 2:9, 14) — who came to announce, for God, the terms of

the *New Covenant* to mankind? Mal. 3:1 and Mark 1:14.

COMMENT: God uses *human beings* to represent Him in His religious dealings with mankind. After God personally gave the Ten Commandments to the people at Mount Sinai, it was a *human being* — Moses — who gave the terms of the Old Covenant to the people on the behalf of God. Then God used Christ, in His *human form*, to announce the conditions of the New Covenant. And *today* God uses certain human beings — His called ministers — to represent Him in His dealings with His Church and the world.

The Gospel is the message about the soon-coming Kingdom of God on earth. The gospel message therefore includes the New Covenant message showing how Christians may covenant with Christ to rule the world with Him in a “husband-wife” relationship in the future, spirit-governed Kingdom of God.

4. Christ was here on earth but a short time. Did He promise to establish *His Church*? Matt. 16:18.

COMMENT: Jesus Christ founded His *one* true church (Acts 2). It perpetuated and proclaimed the message of the New Covenant through all the ages so God’s elect could receive the Holy Spirit, and thus prepare to enter the Kingdom at His return.

5. Was this Church to be composed of many

different denominations? Or was Christ’s Church to be but *ONE* church? Matt. 16:18. Was His church to have the “keys” to the Kingdom — the knowledge of *how* to enter the Kingdom of God? Verse 19.

COMMENT: One of *the most important keys* is to know that there *is to be* a New Covenant and know *how* to enter into it — to know how to *keep your part* of it so that God may forever fulfill His part.

And as the terms of the New Covenant are a part of our Saviour’s Testament or *Will*, the *true* Church of God today is the *executor or administrator* of this will by which we may obtain the Holy Spirit for entrance into God’s Kingdom.

Christ founded His Church for this purpose!

The very fact that God’s Church knows *why* this Will was made — its *true* intent and purpose — together with the proof that it *is* the *true* Church God established for executing this Will, makes His ministers its executors! Only *ONE* Church possesses the “keys” of God’s Kingdom today!

God’s true Church is not a shouting, emotional “pentecostal”-type of church. (Write for the free booklet, *The Tongues Question*.) God’s Spirit is “the Spirit of a sound mind” (II Tim. 1:7), in a sound church which has the “keys” of the Kingdom.

6. After the New Covenant was made known, when did the *promised* Holy Spirit first enter into those who knew how to receive the gift of

MOSES’ CALLING —

God spoke to Moses from a burning bush and commissioned him to deliver Israel from Egypt. God has always worked *through* human beings whom He specially calls to serve Him and His people.

Ambassador College



the Holy Spirit? Acts 1:4, 5; 2:1-4. By the entrance of the Holy Spirit into these people — by being spiritually begotten of God — were they thus PUT WITHIN THE “BODY” OF CHRIST — the Church of God? I Cor. 12:12-13.

COMMENT: These people, by surrendering their wills to God and being begotten by God's Spirit, became the *members* of His spiritual body — the Church of God. They became the members of that body just like your eyes, arms, legs, etc. are members of your physical body and subject to your will. Acts 2 gives us the origin of the true *spiritual Church of God on the earth!*

7. Don't the following references clearly show that God's *true* Church should bear the name “CHURCH OF GOD”? Read each of these vital *proofs*: Acts 20:28; I Cor. 1:2, 10:32, 11:22 and 15:9; II Cor. 1:1; I Thes. 2:14; II Thes. 1:4; I Tim. 3:5 and Gal. 1:13.

8. Has Christ's one true Church continued to exist through the centuries? Rev. 1:20; 2:1, 8, 12, 18 and 3:1, 7-8, 14.

COMMENT: Though God's Church has always been small in number, it has continued to be the executor and administrator of Christ's New Covenant and will.

These seven literal Churches mentioned here existed in the time of the apostles. But they also represent the seven eras or *successive stages* of the true Church of God from the time of the apostles until today. These Churches are traceable through history! Be sure to write for your free copy of the *revealing* booklet, *A True History of the True Church*, for more information.

9. Has the Philadelphia Era of God's Church kept God's truth and *not denied* His name? Rev. 3:8. Does Jesus make it possible for His Church to carry on His Work today? Same verse. Notice the words “open door.” How did He say His true servants could be identified? Matt. 7:20.

COMMENT: Today, God is working through the “PHILADELPHIA” ERA of His church. The spiritual “fruits” *alone* amply prove which church is doing His Work! It is called by *His* name, “Church of God.”

10. Is the Headquarters of God's *true* Church today to be found in India, Italy, Germany or Africa? Or is it to be found in an *Israelitish* nation? Matt. 15:24.

COMMENT: Christ was sent to Israel. As the Jews have temporarily refused to receive Christ, God is now working through the wealthiest and strongest of the other nations of Israel — the United States of America. Only its *prosperity*

has made it possible to proclaim God's final message to the world via the powerful media of *radio*, television and the printing press.

Which Church?

1. There is a *special* Spirit in God's Church — the *Holy* Spirit of God. And by *His* Spirit we are baptized — put into — *His* Church. But does Paul *warn* you about receiving a *different* “spirit”? II Cor. 11:4.

COMMENT: This *different* spirit is the spirit of “*anti-Christ*” (I John 2:18; 4:3). It is *against* Christ and His truth. It *splits* groups into *denominations*. It is *not* the Holy Spirit which *unites* the one true Church of God.

Do *not* make the fatal mistake of attempting to *covenant* with God through the *wrong* church. If you do, the apostle John here warns you will receive the *wrong spirit*. You will be led into *not* keeping the commands of God as revealed in His Word, the Bible.

2. Are other warnings given against attempting to covenant with God through false churches? Mark 13:6. Does Satan make *his* ministers appear as angels of light and truth? II Cor. 11:13-15.

COMMENT: *Many* — not the few, but *many* — will come in Christ's name, claiming to be Christ's true ministers, and will *deceive* the *many*. This has happened!

Remember that God has only *ONE* true Church in which you can *grow spiritually*, once begotten by His Spirit. IF you choose the *wrong* church, you will be fed the *wrong* spiritual food and will *die spiritually* — for it is *SPIRITUAL POISON!*

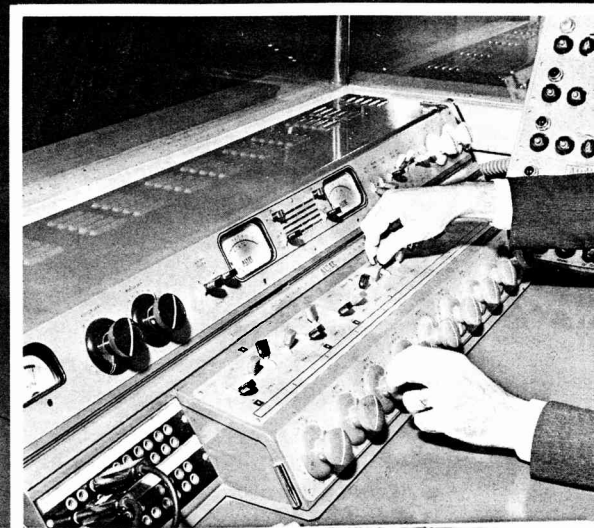
Finally, keep in mind that God's final *warning message to all the earth* must be carried by the mass media of radio, television and the printing press. That is the only way it can be preached *worldwide!* The work of the true Church of God today is a *WORLDWIDE* ministry conducted by a *WORLDWIDE CHURCH!*

But don't be deceived. There are *other* churches which have *appropriated* God's *true* church name, “Church of God,” just as most ministers have *appropriated* Christ's name by claiming to be His ministers!

If there is any question in your mind as to *identity* of God's true Church today, then write to the Editor in care of our office nearest you for more information. (See addresses on page 2.) Be sure to mention you have completed Lesson 19 of the Ambassador College Correspondence Course.

Coming in the next lesson — a detailed study of the Holy Spirit, revealing what it is, what it has done, and exactly what it can do for you!

Good News Girdles the Globe!



H. Armstrong Roberts, Ambassador College Photos

The power of radio carries The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast WORLDWIDE via hundreds of radio stations!

an open letter from

THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

through my mind, how many of my students are tempted to look at it the same way — to feel a sense of futility and helplessness — perhaps to become discouraged and lose faith?

Ah, that's the key word — FAITH!

Our plight isn't hopeless at all!

Of course, of ourselves it *is* impossible to be saved. But with GOD it *is certain* — if we yield to Him and TRUST Him. We shall be saved, *not* by our own power to overcome and develop perfect characters, but through FAITH IN GOD'S POWER!

But right here is where 999 out of 1,000 be-

come deceived by the fables of this time. And when the blind lead the blind, they both fall into the ditch!

Because we *can't* save ourselves — we *can't* master the evil inner self — we *can't* always resist every temptation — we *can't* keep God's holy Law perfectly — and, of ourselves we would fail to overcome, to grow in spiritual character, and to endure to the end; the false teaching is going out that JESUS DID THESE THINGS FOR US — that we don't need to do them. Millions today believe that God imputes Jesus' righteousness to us, counting us as righteous when we are *not*!

There couldn't be a more soul-damning delusion of the devil!

No, Jesus didn't live a good life for you, in your stead! You are not excused from keeping God's commandments, living a righteous holy

life, overcoming, growing in spiritual character, and enduring in spite of all opposition, persecution, trial and test unto the end. You and *I* must actually *do* these things in order to be saved!

Here is the great mystery! Since we *must* do these things to be saved, yet are utterly *unable* to do them, it is natural to conclude either that God sent Jesus to do it for us and excuse us from accomplishing it, or else to become discouraged and be tempted to quit trying.

The true answer is the KEY to salvation!

We can't save ourselves. GOD will save us! But how?

Not by saving us *in* our sins — not by deceiving Himself into counting us righteous by imputing Jesus' righteousness to us while we remain *unrighteous* — BUT BY SAVING US FROM OUR SINS, by giving us His very own Spirit — HIS POWER to overcome these cantankerous selves, HIS LOVE to actually fulfill His law, HIS PEACE to avoid strife with enemies and resentment and bitterness at their injustices, HIS PATIENCE to endure!

We can't save ourselves — GOD must save us! But He does it by *changing* us, through His indwelling divine supernatural power, from what we have been into the holy, righteous characters He wills to make of us! He does it by forgiving past sins not only, but *cleansing* us from sinning now and in the future!

God does not look upon our hopeless plight — our evil natures, our weaknesses and inabilities — and say, "Poor, helpless humans! Since they are unable to master and overcome their evil natures, to keep my Law, to endure trial and test and temptation, and to grow into holy characters; I'll be merciful and have my Son do it for them, and save them just as they are in all their sins."

Instead, God who knows our every weakness, and who Himself is *responsible* for this human nature in every one of us, sent His Son into the world to proclaim HIS MESSAGE to us that we must yield to GOD's government over our lives — that we must REPENT and turn from our *filth* of the flesh and pride of mind and heart. He sent His Son into the world to be tempted in all points as we are — human as we are — to prove that a human *can*, with the help of the Spirit of God, live without sin — TO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR US THAT WE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS STEPS and live also without sinning! He sent His Son into the world to die for us — not living a good life in our stead, but paying the penalty of all our past sins in our stead — that we might be reconciled to God, so that we might receive His Spirit, begetting us as His SONS, so that God through the power of

His Spirit may CHANGE us from mortal sinners into immortal holy sons of God!

Some hotels and restaurants, catering to tourists who may be in old clothes and dirty from traveling, post a sign, "COME AS YOU ARE!"

The favorite "invitation" or "altar-call" hymn sung by the popular denominations in revival or evangelistic services is "JUST AS I AM."

But *be not deceived* — GOD WON'T RECEIVE YOU JUST AS YOU ARE! You can't sit down at His immaculate holy table with your wrinkled, soiled clothes and dirty hands, which symbolically represent the human sinning condition. No, you must be first WASHED in the blood of the lamb Jesus Christ — and before Jesus as your Saviour and Mediator with God can wash you of the filth of your sins, YOU MUST FIRST REPENT OF TRANSGRESSING GOD'S HOLY LAW, WHICH MEANS TO BE SO SORRY THAT YOU FORSAKE YOUR WAY AND THE WORLD'S WAY, AND TURN TO A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S LAWS AND WAYS!

Of course, you'll have to come *as you are* to Christ for CLEANSING from the filth of your past life — but *confessing* your filthy, sinful condition, asking *Him* to cleanse you and to wash you in His blood, because you can't cleanse yourself — so that He may present you chaste and pure and spiritually clean to His Father, that you may then receive the indwelling POWER of God *which will enable you to overcome*, and keep God's Law, and live as His sons ought to live!

Jesus showed by His life that we *can*, if we rely upon God in faith for the power to do so, live the way of God's will as expressed in His Spiritual Law! Of Himself, even Jesus said He could not do it — "the Father that dwelleth in me," He said, "He doeth the works." And again: "The works that I do shall ye do also."

And so it was that, almost the same instant the temptation to doubt the final result came to my mind as I thought of my own weaknesses, faults, and limitations, the answer flashed strong and firm: "GOD WON'T LET ME FALL!" (Read Jude 24, and II Peter 1:10.)

"He may punish me more yet to chasten and teach me and to make me righteous, but He won't let me fail — He will impute His very own righteousness *by implanting it into my life* until, through His power energizing me, I'm really living it — ETERNALLY!"

And that comforting and definite ASSURANCE of the final result, based on God's own unbreakable PROMISES, just warmed my heart and made me feel good clear through — and so I had to come immediately to the typewriter to share this glorious assurance with all of you!

What our STUDENTS SAY

"Dear Mr. Armstrong: This is addressed to you as the Editor of the Ambassador College Correspondence Course. Many people are undoubtedly responsible for the end product. Through you I would like to thank them and you for the opportunity to take this course.

"When I attended college, there was an archway under which I often passed. Written on the arch was 'And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.' I don't know now whether this even seemed plausible; its author I neither knew nor questioned. What a surprise to find it years later in the Bible! How often the truth is under our noses. This was a lesson that took many years and detours to learn.

"The Bible is truth, of course, and the foundation of all knowledge — and perhaps it could have been understood by just the reading, had men not departed so far from its wisdom. But, I thank God that he has provided this means for helping me and so many others to understand this truth."

— Mrs. R. C. W., Stowe, Vermont

Tried Others Courses

"I have just completed Test One of your Correspondence Course and have to admit that it was the most thought-provoking test that I have ever taken. While I was pretty sure of my answers, I did turn back to review. When I read the questions on Lesson One and knowing what I have learned in Lessons 2-4, I just had to reread because now I was able to understand what I was reading a lot better.

"I really enjoy your course and eagerly look forward to each new lesson. I am only 20 years old, but I had already turned my back on God. I tried coming back through various 'Bible Study' courses, but none of them excited me. Most of these courses present information booklets and lessons, and ask a few simple questions that even if you just glanced at them, you could still get a grade of 100% easily.

"Thanks to your question-type course I can't just read a piece of paper. I have to search to see what you are trying to put across. This is why I enjoy your course and feel that I'm learning. I have to search.

"I enjoy history very much and therefore enjoy your course that much more. When I search out and find for myself what the course states

about various countries to be true, what else can I do but admit the 'plain truth'?"

—Mr. J. L. C., New York City

No Comparison

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I have just finished Test Three in the Correspondence Course. There is nothing anywhere to compare in bringing men to the *true* knowledge of God. I thank God and you and the staff writers for this most excellent 'way' to learn."

—Mr. George J., Fairfield, Ohio

From Around the World

"Thank you very much for Correspondence Course Lesson Number 15.... What a joy to have now received enlightenment about my problem on 'hell' and 'hell fire.' God's grace is immeasurably great. It is stirring to experience daily how our Almighty Father gives a helping hand even to His most unworthy child."

—Woman, Sydney, Australia

"Thank you very much for the 15th and 16th lessons and for *The PLAIN TRUTH*. It is always a joyful day for me when I receive this precious literature. With heart and mind I am always interested in the Work of God. I study the Correspondence Course eagerly and God opens my mind more and more to the plain truth of the Bible. It has become my heart's desire and I don't want to stop studying...."

—W. H., Nennslingen, West Germany

"A great change has taken place in my life to the point where I am obliged to study the course at 4 a.m. in the morning. Owing to the work I have, it is impossible for me to study during the day because I never get any peace then. I always listen to your broadcasts and I am always interested in your Correspondence Course. I wish to continue it."

— 62-year-old lady, Vuillafans, France

"I would like to relate to you how pleased I am with the Correspondence Course which I am taking. I have finished Lesson 3, and have truly enjoyed it, and am looking forward to my next lesson so very much. It is truly amazing how much one can learn through Bible study, and I might add, I never knew it could be so exciting. At first I didn't think I would have the time to devote to the course since I have a family and am quite busy. However, I make time and look forward to the Bible study so very much. Thank you again for making it possible for others to receive this wonderful course."

—Woman, Harpenden, Herts., England

"I am absolutely thrilled by the Correspondence Course and study it carefully. How much I regret that dozens of years have gone by during which time I was in ignorance of Christian truths — no matter how frequently I endeavoured to read my Bible!"

—Man, Republic of Cameroun,
West Africa

"I would be happy if you would only send your Correspondence Course Lessons more rapidly. The study of this course is bringing me more joy than anything else and is strengthening me greatly while waiting for the return of Jesus Christ."

—Man, Port-au-Prince, Haiti,
West Indies

From an Immigrant

"I thank you very much for sending me these lessons. I hope you will send me more. First of all they are eye-opening. Second, it is very exciting to learn so much out of the Bible after reading it for so many years. I thought I was pretty smart in Bible knowledge, but it is the other way around. At 56, I start for the first time to really understand what the Bible said to us. I can't be thankful enough. We came to America, learned English, and now we are taught how to read our Bible. It is overwhelming to know that God has chosen us, given us His Word to know and live by and to be aware of what is going to happen in the future."

—E. K. S., Kalamazoo, Michigan

Seeks God's Approval

"I have just received my third lesson along with *The PLAIN TRUTH*. How wonderful to study and understand the Bible. For the first time in my life I have begun to realize the meaning of what God really meant when He said, 'Study to show thyself approved unto God.' In each of your lessons you mention that half an hour a day is required for each lesson. I find that I am now spending a very enjoyable and enlightening *two hours daily* and that at long last I am really beginning to understand the Bible and what it really means to mankind."

—Student, Missouri

"I agree with M. H. of Memphis, Tennessee, that this study is the greatest thing that can happen to anyone. It really does bring out the truth. For years I longed to understand the Bible. And others would try to explain it to me, but so much of what they would tell me I couldn't believe, especially about being tormented in 'hell fire' for eternity. I wanted to shout that they were all liars! A loving God

would not do that to us. Now I know they are liars when they teach that. Thank God for opening my eyes to the truth and having you send out such a wonderful study course."

—Mrs. L. J., Benkelman, Nebraska

Referral

"Through a friend of mine I learned of your Correspondence Course. He insisted it was free. I also know that God directed me, for I was earnestly seeking and praying for guidance. I became so enthused after receiving my first 4 lessons and test, that I wanted to tell everyone I came in contact with who was also interested in learning."

—Mrs. Charles H., Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania

• *Be sure they're really interested in the truth, Mrs. H., otherwise you may chase them away from it, as well as make them angry!*

Grateful Teen-ager

"I am writing to tell you that I am enjoying taking the Correspondence Course... Before starting the Course, I browsed through the Bible, but I couldn't get much out of it. One evening I turned the radio on to listen to the World Tomorrow program, and near the end I heard you announce that Ambassador College was offering a Correspondence Course free of charge. That same evening I decided to send for it, and believe me, I am very, very happy taking the course."

"Sometimes I have a chore or two to do and I have a set time to do them, but I always study the Bible before this time. I sit down thinking I'll get through in time, but when I look at the clock, I see that once more I've been so interested that the time has simply vanished."

"I believe with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength that God will return soon to gather His elect from the four corners of the earth. I am 18 years old and what I get from the Bible I cannot get from any classroom."

—L. K., Wabbaseka, Arkansas

Sickened!

"I've just finished my first Correspondence Course test and made a very high grade after reviewing the last four lessons. I find the study of the Bible so fascinating. Yes, I had read the Bible before, but the meaning of much of it was lost completely. It is becoming much clearer now... The widespread hostility toward the Bible, the distortion of, and the downright disbelief of it among so-called 'good church members' is sickening."

—D. W., Connersville, Indiana