



ountain

THE FOUNTAIN is published once every six weeks. It is supported by free-will offering from Christian friends who have the burden to see the Word of God reach as many as possible. We depend on the all sufficient grace and providence of the Lord to meet our every need. The magazine is free of charge and is sent upon request.

OUR AIM is to unite all Christian brothers and sisters who have the same burden to preach the Gospel unto all nations. We preach none other than Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

WHAT WE BELIEVE The Bible is the basis of our faith. We believe that the whole Bible, every chapter, every verse as originally given is inspired by God.

"You (Jesus) are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

(Matthew 16:16)

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (I Timothy 1:15)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God -- not because of works, lest any man should boast."

(Ephesians 2:8,9)

PUBLISHER: The Winnipeg Chinese Christian Fellowship

Secretary General: Shu-po Kwan

Address: The Fountain

P.O. Box 1172

Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 2Y4,
Canada.

Far East Correspondence Address:

The Fountain,

c/o Mr. W. Wong,

P.O. Box 4688,

Aberdeen Post Office,

Aberdeen, Hong Kong.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts."

(Zechariah 4:6)

"When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'"

(Matthew 9:36-38)

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Blessed is the nation
whose
God is the Lord.

Psalms 33:12

How blessed is everyone
who
fears the Lord,
who walks in His ways.

Psalms 128:1

JULY 11, 1976

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CIRCULATION: 7,000 COPIES

We welcome written contributions both expository and evangelistic in nature. Articles may include testimonies, short reflective prose, stories, biographies, book reviews, Bible studies, topical discussions, poems, translated works and news of Christian groups. Please avoid adopting a didactic approach. The name and address of the author must accompany all contributions. Pseudonyms may be used, but anonymous articles will not be published.

"We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, since we have been running all about in search of it. How has it happened...that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate an understanding? We have been assured...in the Sacred Writings that 'Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.' I firmly believe this."

Benjamin Franklin

"Government cannot provide values to persons who have none, or who have lost those they had. It cannot provide inner peace...In particular, government cannot cope with the crisis in values that is sweeping the Western World. It cannot respond to the fact that so many of our young people do not believe what those before them have believed."

Daniel P. Moynihan
Former U.S. Ambassador
to the United Nations.

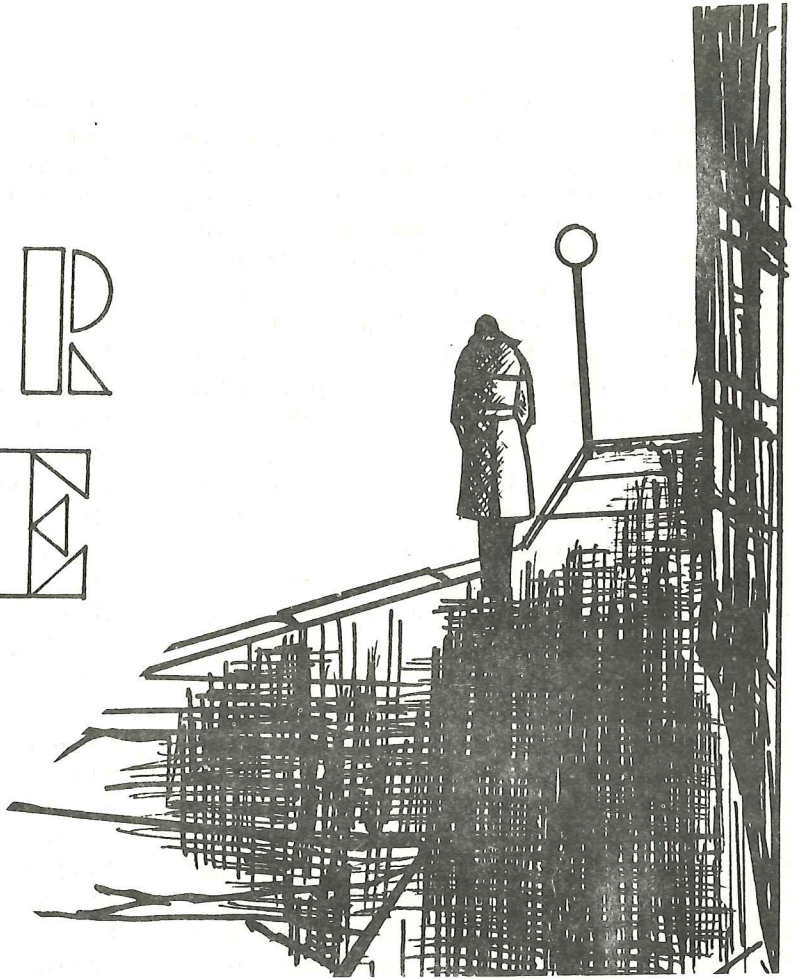
"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."

John 14:27

THE INNER DRIVE

- Simon -

Exerpts from the life
of Charles Colson,
former Special Counsel
to President Nixon.



Watergate has raised so many questions. Can humanism ever be the answer for our society? There is an almost sanctified notion that man can do anything if he puts his will to it. This was once my credo.

-Charles W. Colson -

The primaries of the 1976 United States Presidential Election is almost finished. The candidates are busy scheduling another wave of campaign for being the next President. Yet, the scar of the Nixon years and the Watergate scandals remains on the voters' mind and even reflect in their way of casting ballots. Scores of books have been written on Watergate, while the movie "All the President's Men" has created much impact on the viewers. Among the President's men is Charles Colson, the former Special Counsel to President Nixon.

In his book Born Again, Colson painted a vivid picture of his life, from his high school days till after he left the jail sentence. He was guilty of planting false stories in the press that would hurt the trial of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, the one who leaked top secret government documents to the press. Little did he knew that Judge Gerhard Gesell would give him such a stiff sentence of three years imprisonment when he volunteered to a charge that was not even mentioned in the Watergate indictment. The years in prison and other events through his Watergate trials proved to him that his credo of driving and pushing cannot get him anywhere.

Pride, mixed with deep-seated patriotism motivated him to join the Marine Corps in the height of the Ko-

rean War when he was only a second year student at university. The recruiting officer challenged him. "You are a bit premature, Colson.. First, we will have to see whether you are good enough for the Marine Corps." The drive to be "good enough" motivated him to prove to others that he could make it. Finally, they assigned him to a division led by General Puller. He learnt and followed Puller's philosophy of life-- when a man throws everything into it, he can do the impossible. Although he never actually joined any war, the kind of training urged him to be even more determined. All these was ingrained in his mind.

Colson left the Marine Corps after ten years of service, because he found that his interest in politics has outgrown the excitement in service. He enrolled in the law school of George Washington University at night and worked during the daytime. It was during this time that he joined the staff of Leverett Saltonstall, a senior senator from Massachusetts, after his first year in the university. He became Saltonstall's chief assistant two years later and managed his re-election campaign in 1960. A young and inexperienced strategist with a zealous heart. Finding that the candidate was on the verge of losing his battle, Colson being Saltonstall's campaign manager had to fight hard. So he turned to all the illegal tactics which had already been used as standard tricks in practical politics. He forged a letter and sent to each and every Irish sounding name in Boston linking the name of John F. Kennedy, the Democratic presidential candidate, and Saltonstall who was a Republican. It worked and Saltonstall won handily. He strived to make it, even though it was illegal.

After this incident, Colson wanted to have a new challenge in practicing law. He turned down the offer from Saltonstall to stay and started a law partnership with Charles Morin

in the Boston-Washington area. Both came from the lower middle-class family, and having the same longing to prove that they could make it.

Yet the acquaintance with Richard Nixon made him yearn for his political life again. He met a man of uncommon intellect and capacity, with visions for his country which Colson shared. They both understood each other because they were men who knew hard work all their lives, both seeking that most elusive goal of all -- acceptance and the respect of those who had spurned them in earlier years. He took a four-month leave of absence to help in the 1968 election when Nixon won. There was little time left for other things as personal interest crowded his life. After the election, he waited for Nixon's call to serve him in the White House. Finally it came in the late fall of 1969 and Colson was appointed as Special Counsel to the President. His office was next to Nixon's, a limousine was assigned to him and a beeper to call him when he was not close to any phone. It was a twenty hours day, seven days a week job. Nixon used him as one who could cut through the red tape and "break China". "It was just straight ahead, pushing and driving, the simple formula I had followed all my life," he confessed later. This was the way that brought him closer and closer to the President and to decision-making power. A rise to political stardom within years from a Marine lieutenant. Now he sat at conference tables and also sorted through thick files of record to arrive at crucial decisions.

During his three years in the Nixon administration, Colson found that machismo and toughness were equated with trust and loyalty. His job as a special assistant to do anything to produce results had displaced the value of fair play. There was no check on the methods of achieving results and sooner or later made something like Watergate inevitable. Under this set of rules, he participated in the in-

vestigation of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg.

He resigned after Nixon's reelection when he found that he had lost his enthusiasm in politics. On the election night, the celebration party was dull, nobody celebrated heartily when Nixon was the first man to have won over sixty percent of the votes. Nixon locked himself in the White House adding up returns with his top aides. No sense of triumph was present in the air and Colson was especially quiet. Tired maybe, but Colson felt that something

WHERE WAS THE OLD COMPETITIVE ZEST?

was dead inside. It was different from the time he refused Saltonstall's offer for something better. Now he wanted to retreat.

On his last mission as Special Counsel, he went to Moscow to open the jammed doors of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. His wife Patty was filled with excitement, as this was their first trip of international diplomacy. Colson sat at her side briefed by Soviet experts and tried to share Patty's excitement, yet deep inside was a familiar deadness which he felt since the election night.

He returned to his law practice

in February, 1973 and when he met with his clients he could not concentrate. He asked himself, "Where was the old competitive zest?" He went through a quick checklist. Marriage -- happy. Alcohol -- no problem. Career -- fulfilled. Health -- good. Nothing was wrong. Yet his sense of achievement and his drive to success was gone. Only he could find the difference when he met with Tom Phillips, the president of Raytheon Company, an electronic manufacturer and the largest company in New England. There was a new compassion in his eyes and a gentleness in his voice. Tom said, "Chuck, I had gotten to the point where I didn't think my life was worth anything. Now everything is changed -- attitudes, values, the whole bit."

Watergate may have affected him a bit, yet, it was the deadness in his heart that troubled him most. As he thought later, "Tom represented everything the Watergate and Washington were not: decency, openness, truth. I thought of Tom's words during this stormy time; even more often I recalled the expression on his face, something radiant, peaceful, and very real."

He took a holiday with his wife to the East coast. There he arranged a meeting with Tom Phillips without telling anybody.

Tom spoke right on Watergate, "The problem with all of you, including you, Chuck -- you simply had to go for another guy's jugular. You had to try to destroy your enemies, and on government as well. If you had put your faith in God, and if your cause was just, He would have guided you." Colson was impressed by the way Phillips ran his company in the competitive world of business trying to follow God's ways. As he looked at facts and figures, the Raytheon Company had soared in both sales and profits after Tom's conversion.

Tom read him a chapter in the book Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis on pride to him which said,

"For pride is spiritual cancer; it eats up the very possibility of love, or contentment, or even common sense."

Yet it was the deep sense of pride in Richard Nixon's office that he most admired. In his mind he thought that if C. S. Lewis was right, then pride must be the obstacle to the peace and gentleness that he saw in Tom Phillips.

Then Colson left and took with him the pocketbook Mere Christianity. He did not want to believe in Christ until he had a fuller understanding and analysis of what it meant. However the visit touched him and Phillips' words pierced his heart. Filled with tears he drove out of Phillips' driveway. He was crying. He forgot about pretence. He needed somebody's help, so he started to pray, "God, I don't know how to find You, but I'm

PRIDE IS SPIRITUAL CANCER, IT EATS UP...

going to try!"

He and his wife continued their trip to the coast of Maine and stayed there for a vacation. He opened his note pad and listed out arguments to the questions of "Is there a God?" and "Should I believe in Christ who came to die for me?" With his law training, he found that C. S. Lewis was a dis-

ciplined intellectual, so lucid, so relentlessly logical. After reading the book, he found that believing in Christ was like a gate before him. There was no way to walk around it. He would step through, or remain outside.

One week later, an early Friday morning, he stared at the sea saying, "Lord Jesus, I believe You. I accept You. Please come into my life. I commit it to You." With the few words came something more to him: strength and serenity, a wonderful new assurance about life, a fresh perception of himself and the world around him.

He wrote to Tom Phillips and told him of the step that he had taken.

Colson, a man full of pride had finally bowed down to realize that driving and pushing was not the way to full fulfillment of life. All through his life, he knew that when a man threw himself into it, he could do the impossible. This philosophy of life had slowly left him. When he was disappointed, he could not force himself to be happy and push himself through. His achievements in Nixon's administration were written into history and his decisions had cut deep into the lives of the American. The record was admirable to many who could not be in his position and for those who were deeply involved in their daily life, preparing themselves for a brighter day to come.

As a continuation of his quote in the front, he said,

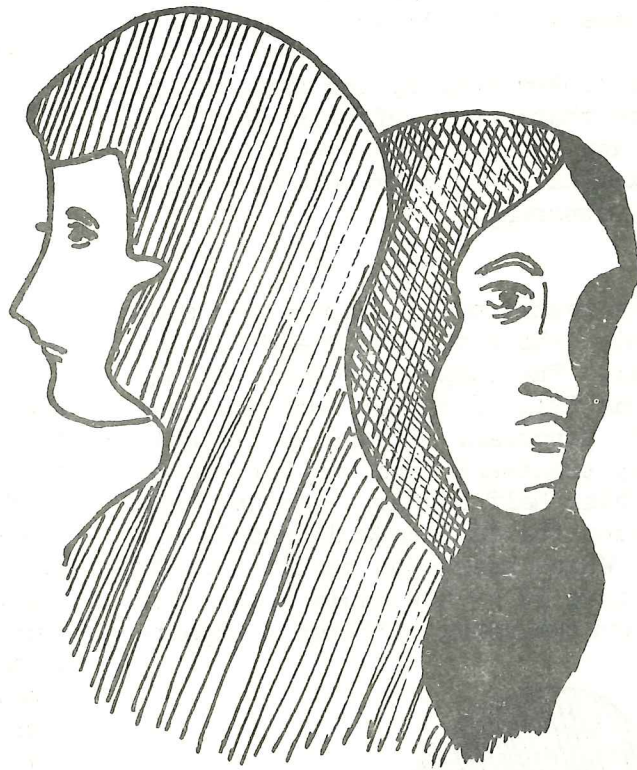
"Having seen through Watergate how vulnerable man can be, I no longer believe I am master of my destiny. I need God." □

ANNOUNCEMENT

Free Assistance for New Students who come to study in Canada in the Fall. Please refer to Chinese side page 10.

Issues OF LIFE

- George Lo -



It was late at night. I put aside my books trying to rest my mind a little. The final examination was coming in a week's time and writing examinations in a medical school always meant a lot of hard work. As I was resting from my studies, I thought of two patients whom I saw recently...

I stepped into the sick room and greeted my patient. He was in no distress but only had slight shortness of breath. Being a railway worker for twenty years, he had a strong build. He was quiet, gentle yet had a very dull facial expression -- covered with a mist of sadness. He was diagnosed as having the most malignant of lung cancers after a few months of shortness

of breath, coughing out blood in more than one occasions. Despite of all sorts of therapies, he knew that the cancer would kill him within a year or two. It could be that he felt sad because of his impending death. I felt for his sadness...

Few weeks later, I saw another patient, a government executive.

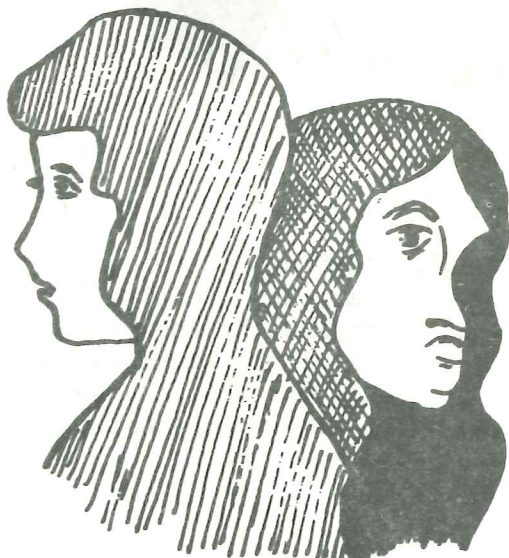
"Hi! How are you feeling today?"

"I'm as healthy as a horse, only having some problem with indigestion. It started eight months ago. After each meal, I had this strange sense of fullness in my stomach and I burped a lot. Few months later, I started to cut down my eating, but it did not help. My

doctor did a few tests for me but with no useful results. Tomorrow the surgeon will do a laparotomy just to complete the investigation procedure. He assures me that it is nothing serious."

He looked healthy and gave no impression that he was suffering from illness of any sort. I did a bedside physical examination for him which revealed nothing abnormal.

The result of his laparotomy came as a big shock to the staff in the hospital. The surgeon found that his bowel was full of cancer metastasized from his pancreas. It was too late to give any treatment and his life would end within half a year. Nobody knew the reason for failing to diagnosis his cancer. When I heard the result, I could not believe it -- how could a man with a wife and two young children be impart-



ed with a death sentence so abrupt and unexpected. My mind wandered as I walked along aimlessly in the hospital. The news prompted me again of the reality of life. Life was transient and could terminate at any unexpected moment though we might not think much about it. Death was the sure promise of life...

Among the many terminal patients I saw, these two cases were deeply imprinted in my mind. I thought of a few verses from the Bible:

"As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years,
Or if due to strength, eighty years,
Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow;
For soon it is gone and we fly away."

No matter how good or bad one would feel about life, life would end like the bursting of a bubble. With a short life span and many hardships, it was difficult for many people to appreciate the real meaning of life. If we believed that the origin of life was by chance and that death would terminate this biochemical flow of consciousness, it would become more difficult to extract any more meaning in life than a transient, impersonal, biological existence where death would be the end of it all. Existentialism arose and infiltrated all aspects of modern culture stating that human experience was indescribable in any rational terms because we lived in a purposeless and meaningless world. This theme of meaningless life was indeed reflected in many of our modern literature, philosophy, music, theology and even in television and movies.

What if life was more than just mere living and human being more than a biochemical machine? I never thought much about the issue of life till I entered university. At that time, studying was a routine and obtaining a degree was my goal. Life to me was all that I could see physically.

I met Christianity when I was in first year university. A simple message came to me:

We all have sinned and Christ had died for us to take away our sins. If we believe in Christ, our sins

would be forgiven and would receive everlasting life.

Neither did I reject the message nor have I taken it seriously. Yet at the same time, I began to question about life. We were like a cut flower, all destined to wither and die. As I saw civilizations rise and fade away, I asked myself whether there was any purpose for the shedding of blood, sweat and tears? We would not question the purpose of life because many thought that it could not be answered. I found myself quite dissatisfied with living in a pointless world.

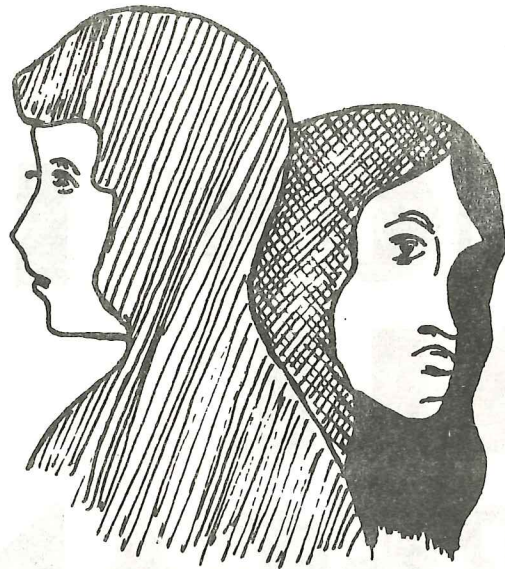
During the summer holidays after my first year of university I began to form the habit of reading the Bible. The Bible pointed out that the most important issue of life was not the technological, the intellectual, the social or the political but what comes out of the human heart. I also realized that within my heart lay evil intentions. As the English philosopher C.E.M. Joad pointed out,

"Evil is not merely a by-product of unfavourable circumstances; it is too widespread and deep-seated to admit of any such explanation; so widespread, so deep-seated, that one can only conclude that what the religions have always taught is true, that evil is endemic in the heart of man."

This echoed with what the Bible said,

"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man."

I was convinced of my sinful nature and the need to receive Christ and I did so. I began to realize the love of God and that only through responding to God's love could I have the capacity to love others. Only by going back to God through accepting Christ could I



see the real meaning of life -- to love and be responsible to both God and man. The hardship in life and my own weakness made me more dependent on God and He showed His care for me. Because of our sins we were separated from God. Yet through Christ we came back to Him with our sins forgiven. Moreover, physical death was not the end for we had the hope of everlasting life after death. Realizing this, life was no longer meaningless, or as transient as a biochemical flow of consciousness. To live was to love God and man, while dying was not the end of my relationship with God.

Though I still had to face the difficulties and frustrations in life, I could rely on the provision and resource from God who showed His love to me through all favorable and unfavorable circumstances in life.

After two years in university I went into medicine. In the hospital I saw more suffering and dying, I was even more convinced that Christ was the answer to the question of life. He provided a new and positive outlook to human existence and predicament. □

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

- Ivy -

Majestic skyscrapers thrust boldly into the air, expensive limousines and sports cars hurtle down their avenues, and well-dressed people rush amidst the shopping arcades. Such signs of affluence symbolize practically every big city in North America.

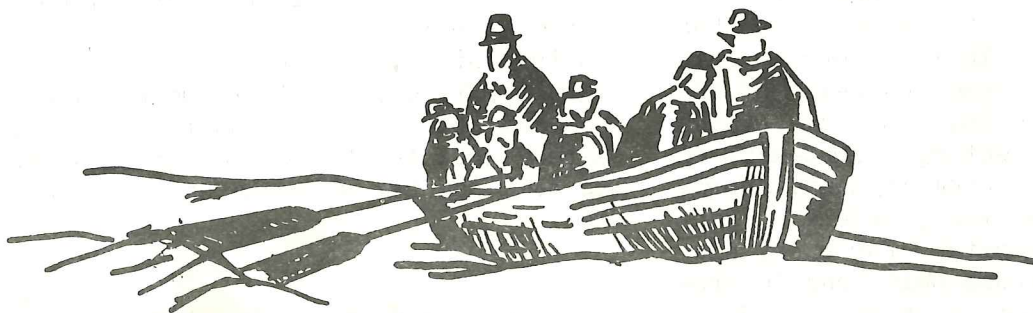
Beneath what it seems to be an affluent and prosperous society, one can sense at the individual level considerable cynicism, apathy, and a restless quest for serenity in the hustle and bustle of the city life. Everyday we read and hear of violence, immorality, crime and lawlessness. After the shocking case of the Watergate, we are now faced with the Washington's sex-scandal. Congressman Wayne Hay's private life with his committee clerk shocks the public. Amidst all these, the people of America celebrate their Bicentennial. Some may ask, "What became of the bright new world that the founders of America set out to establish two hundred years ago?"

If one talks about the founding of America, one has to go back to 1497, when John Cabot, an English sailor claimed the North American coast for England. Then in 1620, a group of 56

Puritans came to this isolated place seeking for religious freedom. Knowing the hardships that they would be facing, they came to this land. Life was not easy and during the first winter, half of them died from scurvy and exposure. Still trying their very best, they managed to raise a little corn in 1621 and they invited the Indian neighbours to join them in thanksgiving to God. Amidst all these, they clung on to each other and did not waver in their trust from God.

These 56 Puritans brought with them their way of life and their belief in God. They first built an assembly house for church matters which also served as the court. Needless to say, prayers were always offered at the opening of court and before the making of major decisions. The life of these early settlers showed undoubtedly that they were a group of God-fearing people, who based their life style and government on God. Such was the 17th century life in America, the acorn from which the oak of American democracy grew.

The English colonial rule lasted till the 18th century when the Americans were influenced by the revolutionary spirit from Europe. They drank in



Voltaire's and Rousseau's philosophy that all men should be equal. They resisted the heavy taxation imposed on them by the English Parliament. Thus sparked the war for independence. At that time one could read from the newspaper and hear men say that if God was with them, they needed not fear what man could do. Under such conviction, the war went on till 1776 when the British was defeated and the Declaration of Independence signed. Even so, the New England settlers felt that a stronger constitution was needed to hold these thirteen colonies together. A convention was called which only resulted in hot arguments and bitter disputes. This lasted for four months and only ended in chaos. At the height of all these, Benjamin Franklin, who was then eighty-three years old, arose and said,

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it...Without His concurring aid...we shall be divided in our little partial local interests...I therefore beg leave to move: that henceforth, prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business."

Within three weeks, the deadlock was broken and the Constitution was adopted. We see that it was only when man turned back to God and based their decisions on Him, could they come to any conclusion. Thus the united colonies of America became the United States of America.

Throughout these 200 years, we see America multiply and grow into a prosperous nation. We see how God works through man in the American history. Even Benjamin Franklin said of old age, "The longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth that God governs in the affairs of man." But will America and each of its citizen allow God to govern their affairs? What is the present situation in America now?

All through these years, numerous immigrants have arrived to this "land of opportunity". Even Charles Dickens was amazed at the great availability of jobs and high wages in America as compared to the situation in England where numerous still lived in dark

cellars. Today, millions still look with longing eyes at America, but due to the strict quota, only a few could make it. What about those who live in the United States? In 1973, it was noted that over 25,000 emigrated to Canada and another 5,000 to Australia. Maybe they were disillusioned by the present situation in America, or had even lost hope in it. Three years later, we still read and hear of the unrest of the people. America faces a twenty-first century night-mare of over-population, unemployment, energy crisis, and economic problems. Jimmy Carter in his campaign for presidency was heard to propose solutions to problems of America in areas of jobs, inflation, taxes and energy. On the other hand, President Ford proposed in Knoxville tax cuts and reduction in government spending. He aimed at "getting the government off your back and out of your pocket." Are these simply campaign tactics in getting more votes? If we take their words for it, how long do the Americans have to wait before they can see the results? How long will these last? How long before the American Dream bubble bursts?

With mixed feelings, the Americans celebrate their nation's bicentennial. Needless to say, America has come a long way since the time of the Puritan settlers. In this century we see America as a prosperous nation, possessing all the traits of an affluent society, be it good or bad.

From the ups and downs of the history of America, we could see that it was only when the people turned back to God, that they could make a move forward.

What does the history of America have to say to us? We who come to study in North America, cannot isolate ourselves from the society which has contributed so much to our education and maturity in thinking. Some may say, "Who cares about what they are

facing now? And who cares what the history of North America has to say to us? We are just students studying abroad." We may only stay here for a few years and then after graduation, we may go home. These few years are simply stepping stones to the challenge ahead of us. Filled with aspirations, mixed feelings and high hopes for a better future, we enter and leave university. We can still graduate, find a job and settle down without tuning our ears to what the history of America has to tell us, but we would have missed a lot.

The greatest president of America, Abraham Lincoln humbly acknowledged that without God, "I must fail". At the height of the Civil War, he called the people of America to a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. He proclaimed, "It is the duty of nations as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins...to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord." Lincoln pointed out that the United States as a nation had forgotten God.

Today, as we look at the situation around us, as we take a hard look at this affluent society, we notice a lot of flaws. Many times the so-called "big nations" seem to be on the verge of collapse. One may throw up their hands and cry, "What can we do?" But great was the crisis when the people of America struggled for survival, cried for liberty, for independence and for a stronger constitution. As Abraham Lincoln and a lot of the shapers of America realized, America must turn back to God. It is in God that we can find liberty, unity and peace in our hearts. Yes, we as an individual in this present age need to follow the example of the early settlers of America to turn to God. □

I MET HIM

- Norman Tam -

What makes a young man leave his homeland to study abroad? The reason may vary for different people. As for me, I came...

With the intention of obtaining a university degree and broadening my scope of knowledge, I came over to Canada to study Grade 12 in Edmonton, Alberta. Being the second last in a

family of ten brothers and sisters, I was much protected by my parents, and I gradually became an introvert. After I came here, I found myself incapable of coping with the lonely and self-reliant life. I began searching for friends, hoping that they could fill my emptiness. All I got in return was disappointment. So I strove to find my own way, set my own pace and just be me.

At this time I met some university students who called themselves "Christians", and they invited me to their fellowship meetings. Having been invited a few times, I felt obliged to go. However, I thought that any religion was as good as another. It was something people turned to in times of trouble. I also believed that man has great potential, and when given enough time and knowledge, he could solve any problem.

Before I came to Canada, I studied in a Catholic high school. Yet I seldom met any Christian who really behaved according to what they claimed to believe. They went to church service just like going to a social gathering. As for their daily life, they were no different from other people. They gossiped, cheated, gambled, and even hated each other. These were the reasons that kept me away from Christianity. Nevertheless, the group that I saw here impressed me because they showed real love and concern towards others. So I started going to their fellowship meetings regularly and began to learn of their belief. They believed that all man have sinned and Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to die for man's sin. It is only through His death that man can be reconciled with God. Through this they can have new life and a restored relationship with Him. I did not think that I was sinful. I was a good kid who had never killed, taken drugs, or even drunk.

Meanwhile, as my school work was not too heavy, I worked part-time in a restaurant. I was discouraged to see people act grudgingly against each other just for money. It seemed as if money was the only thing that could satisfy them and keep them working. It was true that with money we could enjoy a comfortable material life. Yet, could we still escape from death? Are there anything better and more lasting? This thought aroused me to ask myself: Why am I here? What is the real meaning of life? I never doubted God's existence. I thought that the universe we live in is very mysterious. How could everything in the solar system behave in such a harmonious way? I was convinced that there must be a creator. Could it be the one who was mentioned in the Bible? Later on I found out that it was Christianity which claimed that Christ was crucified for our sins, resurrected three days after his death, and appeared to many of his disciples. Christ left an empty tomb! If it was not a fact, the government officials would have refuted their claim. Their action convinced me that the body of Jesus was not removed by man but was raised by God. It aroused my interest in attending Bible studies and I started to go to church services.

At the end of summer, some of them came to visit me and explained once again the salvation of Christ to me. At last I repented and accepted Jesus to be my personal Saviour and Lord.

After this I moved to Winnipeg for university education. The new Christian fellowship was different from the youth fellowship that I used to attend. They were more mature and quiet and I could not adjust myself to it. However God convicted me of my inconsistency and I felt ill at ease. In the next two years, God guided me to know Him through Bible studies, prayer and most of all,

other's prayer and concern. As God drew me closer to Him I yielded more of myself. Not only this, He led me in my studies and provided me with summer jobs. Everything seemed to work out fine for a while until God convicted me that there were areas which He wanted to take hold of. I stubbornly refused. The struggle between what God wanted me to do and my own desires left me no peace.

Last summer, God showed me how little faith, obedience and understanding in His word that I had in him. Before I left Canada for a vacation in Hong Kong, I thought I had learnt a lot about Christ. I wanted to share with my family and friends how Jesus had changed my life and gave me peace and joy. When my parents rejected my belief, I felt discouraged and helpless. In the meantime, I was caught up by the distractions around me. I often went out with friends to night clubs, theatres and parties. I was not able to concentrate on praying and studying the Bible. Gradually I sensed that I did not have the peace and joy which I experienced before.

After I came back to Canada, I gradually realized that my sinful nature hindered me from getting closer to God. Before, I thought I was a good person. However the righteous God considers things like jealousy, pride and greed as sin. So I asked God's pardon and again I experienced the joy of being set free from the bondage of sin.

As I look back to the past four years, God loves me in spite of what I am. I have nothing to say but praise Him. He is the One that has made my life meaningful and full of hope. He is patient and kind, and I love Him. □

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MY DECISION 我的決志

Please pray for me and correspond with me. 請為我禱告·請與我通信

- ☐ 我不是基督徒, 但希望進一步認識基督的真理。
I am not a Christian, but I want to know more about Jesus Christ.
- ☐ 讀此刊後, 心受感動。我願意信耶穌, 接受祂為我救主。
My heart is moved after reading this magazine and I would like to receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour.
- ☐ 我是基督徒。讀此刊後, 心中受主愛的激勵, 願將自己完全奉獻給主, 求主帶領我一生。
I am a Christian. I would like to dedicate my life to Jesus Christ and trust that He has a plan for my future.
- ☐ 我是基督徒, 但曾冷淡。現將自己重新奉獻給主。
I am a Christian, but I have turned away from God. After reading this magazine I would like to rededicate myself to the Lord.

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