

THE ONLY CURE FOR SICK MANKIND

Note to the speaker:

Show that sin is the root of all mankind's physical, mental, moral, and social ills and that the only cure is by means of God's Kingdom in the hands of Christ Jesus. Show how the Kingdom will remove the effects of sin, and warn that it will soon act to destroy all who are part of Satan's sick world. Stimulate all to seek spiritual healing now by bringing their lives into line with God's righteous requirements

MANKIND IS SICK IN MANY WAYS (9 min.)

Physical ills: heart disease, cancer, sexually transmitted diseases, tropical plagues, and so forth (*tp* 19-20; *g90* 2/8 28; *g89* 12/8 3-4, 31; *g84* 10/22 7)

AIDS: in Africa (*g92* 8/8 3-4); among children (*g91* 7/22 3-8); in general (*g88* 10/8 2-15)

Mental ills: depression (*w90* 3/1 3-4; *g87* 10/22 2-16); schizophrenia (*g86* 9/8 3-10)

Moral ills: addictions (*g90* 7/22 3-9; *g88* 12/8 3-12); sexual immorality (*yp* 181-2, 184; *g89* 1/22 7-11; *w88* 4/15 3-4, 6)

Social ills: racial prejudice, violence, religious hatreds, political and other forms of corruption, and crime of all sort (*w89* 8/15 3-4; *g89* 4/22 3-6)

Conditions are worsening in spite of man's well-meant efforts

Jesus foretold "pangs of distress" would set in with start of the last days for this system of things (Mt 24:8)

Example of worsening conditions foretold for last days: crime, violence (Mt 24:12; 2Ti 3:3, 13)

Total number of reported serious crimes in the United States increased over 1,000 percent from 1935 to 1980, while the population increased only about 78 percent during same period, and crimes continue to climb (*w90* 10/1 5; *w83* 6/1 6)

Human remedies for mankind's ills are ineffective

Considering the scope and destructiveness of the first world war, the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* could, with good reason, say: "Civilization entered on a cruel and perhaps terminal illness in 1914"

While visiting Australia, an official of the World Council of Churches said: "Everyone seems to be looking for some panacea, some cure-all, which will guarantee an escape from all our worries. . . . In my third of a century of contact with most of the world, I have not discovered it."—*Sydney Morning Herald*

Pointing to the deep-seated nature of mankind's ills, one newspaper writer observed: "The kind of violence we are now experiencing tells us that the mind and heart, the very blood cells of society are sick. The institutions that hold civilization together are failing."—*New York Post*

THE REASON FOR MANKIND'S ILLS (8 min.)

Jehovah God is a just, wise, almighty, loving Creator

All of his works, including man, were made perfect (De 32:4)

His purpose for mankind: enjoy life in Paradise, carry out divine will (Ge 1:26-28; 2:15)

Satan rebelled, induced Adam and Eve to join him (Ge 3:1-6)

Mankind since subjected to futility, unable to cope with inherent sin and its ills (Ro 5:12; 8:20, 22)

While it is taught that man evolved, Scriptures make clear the opposite—man was originally a son of God and has degenerated

Archaeologist O. D. Miller observed: "The old doctrine of a subsequent decadence, of a sad degeneracy of the human race, from an original state of happiness and purity, undoubtedly embodied a great, but lamentable truth. Our modern philosophies of history . . . evidently need a new introduction." (*it-2* 303)

Many ask why God has allowed sorrows to continue (Hab 1:2, 3; *ce* 188-96; *rs* 428-9)

Rebellion raised issue of rightfulness and righteousness of Jehovah's universal sovereignty (Isa 33:22)

Involved also issue of creature's being able to keep integrity, as seen from Satan's boast (Job, chaps. 1, 2)

The execution of Satan, Adam, and Eve at time of rebellion would not have settled issue raised by Satan
Time was needed to prove Satan's boast false (Ex 9:16)

Also time was needed to let man demonstrate his inability to rule self apart from his Maker (Ec 8:9; Jer 10:23)

GOD'S KINGDOM IS THE PROMISED CURE FOR SICK MANKIND (9 min.)

Adam's sin lost life rights for self and his descendants

All imperfect, none able to restore those rights (Ps 49:7-9)

Legal basis for forgiving sin provided in Christ's ransom sacrifice (Mt 20:28; Ro 3:25, 26; *it-1* 606)

Jesus, having God as his Father, was perfect, sinless (*it-2* 56)

Surrendered life for benefit of all who exercise faith (1Jo 3:16)

Jesus rewarded for integrity-keeping by being made King of God's Kingdom

Mankind's cure is to be by means of Kingdom mentioned soon after Adam's sin (Ge 3:15)

Promised Seed to come through Abraham, Judah, David (Ge 22:17, 18; 49:10; 2Sa 7:12)

Solomon's reign foreshadowed Messiah's rule (1Ki 4:25; Ps 72)

Many prophecies pointed to this Kingdom: Ps 2; 45; 110
Testimony of Jesus Christ: Mt 6:10; Lu 23:42, 43
Testimony of apostle Paul: Ro 8:20, 21; 1Co 15:24, 25, 28
Jehovah's Word cannot fail (Isa 55:10, 11)

JEHOVAH'S ACTS PAVE THE WAY TO MANKIND'S CURE (15 min.)

Jehovah God certain to act because his name is involved

From Exodus through Ezekiel, over 70 times God says, 'They shall know that I am Jehovah'
Peace and well-being of mankind depend on sanctification of God's name (*it-2* 16-18)

To cure mankind, Jehovah must eliminate all foes of God and man

Jehovah God executed the wicked in ancient times

At time of the Flood (Ge 6:5-8; 7:23)

Wicked Sodom and Gomorrah were executed (Ge 19:25)

Unfaithful Jerusalem was destroyed twice: 607 B.C.E. and 70 C.E. (2Ki 25:8-11; Lu 19:42-44)

Foreshadowed future destruction of wicked during "great tribulation" (Lu 21:25-27; Re 7:14)

John foretold that "Babylon the Great," world empire of false religion, would be first to go (Re 17:5, 16, 17)

Other parts of Satan's world to follow (Re 19:11-21)

Time is at hand

Present world conditions threaten man's existence (*w90* 7/1 3-4; *g90* 2/8 31)

Fulfillment of Bible prophecies point to our day (Mt 24; Mr 13; Lu 21; 2Ti 3:1-5)

Jesus Christ and 144,000 associates will rule 1,000 years (Re 14:1, 3; 20:4, 6)

Will restore mankind to mental, physical, spiritual, moral perfection (Re 21:3, 4; Isa 11:9; *ws* 174-9)

Also will raise all those in the tombs (those in God's memory) (Joh 5:28, 29; Ac 24:15)

Last enemy, death, to be destroyed (1Co 15:25, 26; *w86* 10/1 13; *ka* 159-60)

GETTING BENEFITS OF SPIRITUAL CURE NOW (4 min.)

Take in accurate Bible knowledge (Ps 119:105; Joh 17:3; *w76* 562-3)

Bring life in line with God's righteous requirements (1Pe 3:10-12; *w75* 292-3; *w73* 331)

Seek meekness, seek righteousness (Zep 2:3; 1Ti 4:8; *w82* 4/1 30-1)

Worship the Creator, Jehovah God (Re 4:11; *w90* 12/1 6-7)

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need be read. Source material in parentheses need not be mentioned)