

Last February, I arrived with my family back in Australia after three years abroad. We had nearly missed Sydney and the airport terminal to that magic moment when the plane would sweep over the city, and we would catch our first glimpse of the beautiful landscape that our Sydney-born could see.

It was a beautiful, sunny day, with no clouds in the sky, a perfect day for seeing Sydney from the air. The captain, concerned of his responsibilities, made sure that his passengers got the best possible view. But we could see virtually nothing at all. We were seated in the centre of the aircraft and had no access to a window. This was disappointing in itself, but it was doubly galling to observe the behaviour of a fellow passenger. He had his blind pulled down, and sat there chatting to his companion on his cell phone. This passenger spread out below him.

This philistine-like behaviour could be seen come from anywhere, is not uncommon as you may suppose. Indeed, we are all guilty of it, but in a wider sense, we live in an extraordinary world, a world of infinite complexity and wonder. Beauty is a word which the very small is every bit as marvelous as the gigantic, a snowflake as fascinating as an elephant. Our own bodies testify to the creative genius of our Maker, and every-thing that the scientist discovers should fill our minds with awe.

Yet, we do not see this truth. Many philosophers claim that man's mind is not so much as you about a creature from the world around us, and they are right. We have no real capacity for the truth. Just as some folk say to see colors,

"THE CHRISTIAN FAITH"

Last February, I arrived with my family back in Australia after three years abroad. We had really missed Sydney and were looking forward to that magic moment when the plane would swoop over the city, and we would catch our first glimpse of the familiar landmarks that any Sydney-sider could name.

It was a beautiful, sunny day, with no cloud cover: a perfect day for seeing Sydney from the air. The captain, conscious of his responsibilities made sure that his passengers got the best possible view. But we could see virtually nothing at all. We were seated in the centre of the aircraft and had no access to a window. This was disappointing in itself; but it was doubly galling to observe the behaviour of a fellow passenger. He had his blind pulled down, and sat there chatting to his companion oblivious to the glorious panorama spread out below him.

This philistine-like behaviour (could he have come from Melbourne?) is not as uncommon as you may suppose. Indeed, we are all guilty of it, but on a wider scale. We live in an extraordinary world; a world of infinite complexity and wonderful beauty; a world where the very small is every bit as marvellous as the gigantic, a snowflake as fascinating as an elephant. Our own bodies testify to the creative genius of our Maker, and everything that the scientist discovers should fill our minds with awe.

Yet, we do not see the truth. Many philosophers claim that mankind can draw no true conclusions about a Creator from the world around us, and they are right. We have no real capacity for the truth. Just as some folk can't see colour

and others can't hear music, so the human race is unable to grasp truth about God. God is revealed by the world, but we keep the blinds firmly down.

The Bible says that this is because we suppress the truth. We do not want to believe it. We would prefer a comfortable lie to the knowledge of reality. The Bible teaches that this is why men follow false religions - they manufacture gods like themselves, since false gods make easy demands, and allow men to remain selfish, hard-hearted and immoral. The true God makes the ultimate demand - he asks us to submit our own selves to him. You'd think that we would get wiser as we get older, but that's not so. Many an older person has simply become more hardened over the years, and what was once a closing of the door against God has now become a full scale lock-out.

But thank God for his mercy! He knows what we are like; Jesus Christ shows us what he is like; and it is part of Jesus' mission to the world to overcome our opposition and find us even when we are hiding from him. Do you want to know God? Turn to Jesus and you will find the truth in him - or, better, the truth which is in him will find you.

and others can't hear words, so the human race is unable
to grasp truth about God. God is revealed by the words
but we keep the words firmly down.

The Bible says that this is because we suppress the truth
we do not want to believe it. We would prefer a comfort-
able life to the knowledge of reality. The Bible teaches
that this is why men follow false religions - they
manufacture gods like themselves, since false gods make
easy demands, and a man can remain selfish, hard-
hearted and immoral. The truth God makes the life demands
- he asks us to submit our own selves to him. You'd
think that we would get wise as we get older, but
that's not so. Many an older person has simply become
more hardened over the years and a clinging

THE CHRISTIAN FAITH
Is broadcast every Sunday at
7.05 p.m. over Radio 2CH

Copies of these weekly broadcasts may
be obtained (\$5 per year posted) by
writing to The Christian Faith, c/o
2CH, York Street, Sydney N.S.W. 2000.

8/6/80 23/80