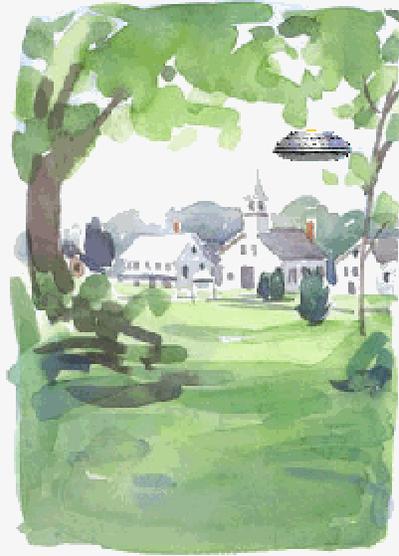


**PATHWAY  
TO THE  
STARS**



**ERNEST A. STEADMAN**

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**PATHWAY TO THE STARS  
By  
Ernest A. Steadman**

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All donations sent for the furtherance of this work are accepted and greatly appreciated.

## **SYNOPSIS AND BIBLE CODE REFERENCE**

This is a rewrite of an original work I wrote in 1982; under the title SIC ITUR AD ASTRA. Since that time, it has been given to every president since Ronald Reagan and many world leaders. Every president has quoted from it when asked about their lack of charitable contributions by saying they give to individuals they personally know who have fallen on hard times through no fault of their own. Don't you find it strange that most countries have changed their ideas about war 180 degrees, in that they have come to the notion that protection from attack is better than destroying the enemy? All this was written in this work 20 years ago.

With apologies to no one, you will find the book a "preachy" and "in-your-face" attempt to stir the emotions and hopefully engage the questioning mind into actively researching the facts as I have presented them. Because there is so much ground to cover, I have used a method of presentation that will build upon itself with each successive chapter. Even though you might, at times, become confused during the read, if you will continue it will eventually open your mind to discoveries you would not have normally been aware of or understood if left to your own devices. It also helps me in keeping the book at a manageable size, without having to constantly repeat inter-related scriptures to support a point.

The Holy Bible was not the only reference used in completing this work. I used the background texts from the Lost Books of the Bible (left out by the early church founders) and referred to collegiate studies to prove that Jesus Christ was truly the Son of God, based on His teachings. I prove that He was the first "physiological professor" by investigating His meeting with the Elders in the temple at the age of 12 (a work by Ciaphas the High Priest, purported to have come from the first century). I prove He not only knew the dynamics of astrophysics, He also had knowledge of the human body unsurpassed until modern times. It is the discovery of these facts that open up all of His other teachings in the Holy Bible.

The discovery of His true intellect also points to the consistent and blatant misconceptions of His teachings by organized Christian institutions. It also helps us to understand why the Bible not only teaches "creation" but also hints at "evolution" and why man is born into sin. It gives us the knowledge to understand how someone can appear to be heavenly sent and to speak with the authority of angels and yet all their works in the end are evil. You will learn why Jesus was against the religious zealots of His day and why He would feel the same today toward the churches that claim Him as their authority. It is not too

difficult to understand why many have turned away from organized religion without knowing why. I feel it is the Holy Spirit working with them without their fully understanding they may have actually come closer to God.

You will learn that there are two resurrections, that Jesus wanted your tithe to go for the betterment of the poor and not to the church, that when Jesus comes again it is not the end of the world but a new beginning (because all governments and evil are still in the world when the Devil is chained for 1,000 years), that you are not judged by your faith but by your works. You will learn that an Indian living in the deepest Amazon forest, which has never heard the name of Jesus Christ, has the same ability to enter into heaven, as does the holiest of Christ's followers. You will learn that Jesus taught throughout the entire world, not just in Judea. You will learn that He was the first creator and builder of gothic architecture. And, the list goes on.

The following is a discovery I made by sheer accident using the Torah Bible Codes Program. An accident because I somehow began at the 23<sup>rd</sup> line in Genesis, out of the possible hundreds of thousands of combinations, using the "skip 50" method and found, beginning at line 73,123 and ending at line 78,023:

PATHWAY TO THE STARS BOOK BRINGS END TO FALSE TEACHING

YEAR TWO THOUSAND ONE / TWO THOUSAND TWO

COMPUTER ASSISTS AUTHOR IN SOUTHERN USA IN TENNESSEE

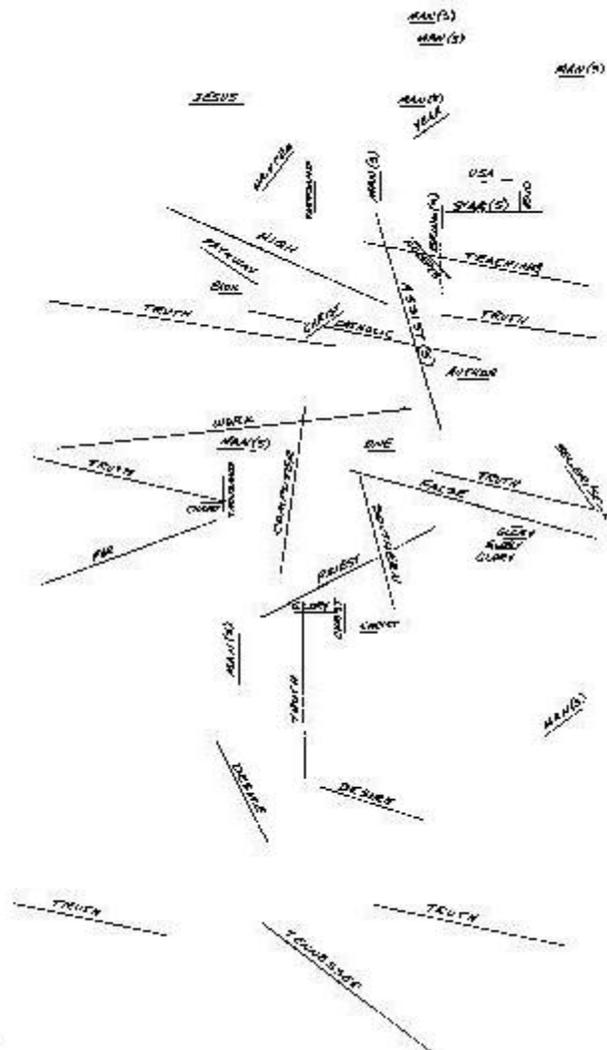
SELLER/SELLOUT

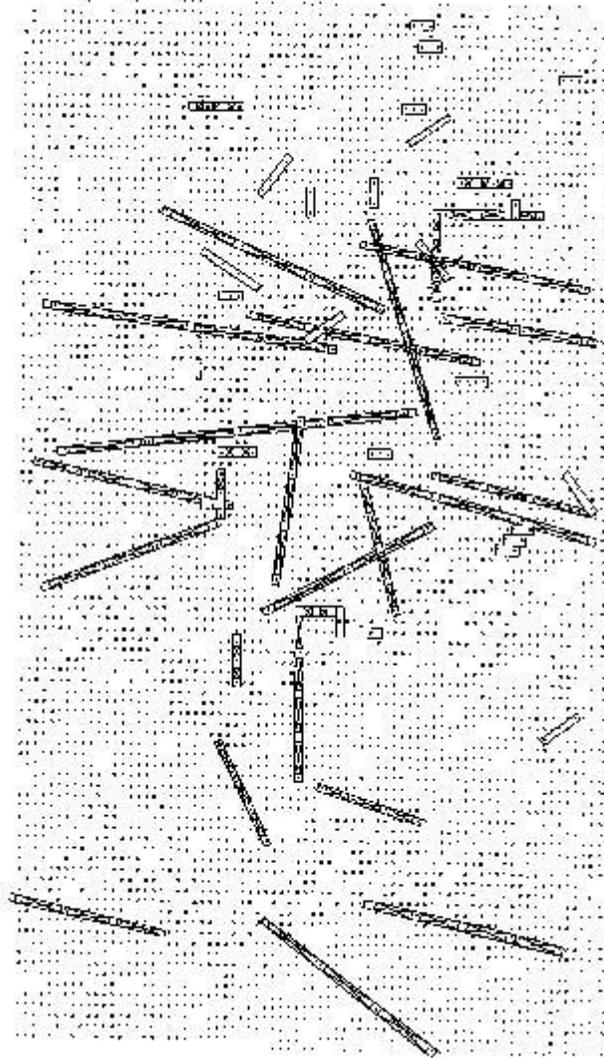
WRITTEN FOR JESUS CHRIST

MANS GLORY DESIRE TRUTH

CATHOLIC HIGH PRIEST ACCEPTS WORK

It was found within the scriptures telling the story of the boy who was abandoned into slavery by his jealous brothers, who eventually became the "right-hand" of Pharaoh in Egypt.





## **DEDICATION**

To all Christians of the world, may they examine the truth and sacrifice of Jesus Christ and follow His example of devotion to all mankind. May you partake in this great work to be your neighbor's guide and joy throughout life.

To all those who have fallen away from the Christian belief or those considering becoming a Christian, may you read this work, investigate its propositions and come to the knowledge that truly there did walk among men the Son of God.

And to my wife, Vera, who put up with my manic desire, years of long nights and weekends spent in prayer and research, my constant preoccupation with the subject of making this book a reality.

## **PREFACE**

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of Life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.” (1 John 1:1-5)

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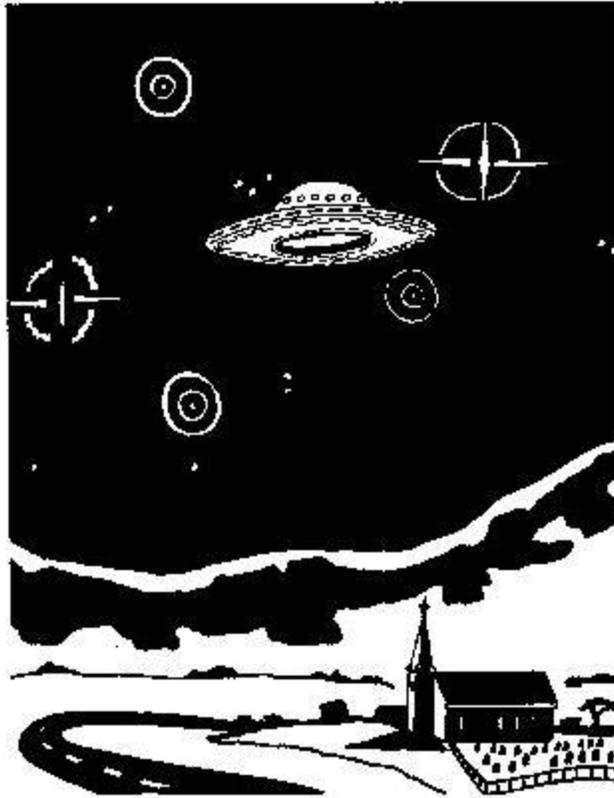
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## Chapter 1

### INTRODUCTION

This book, entitled “PATHWAY TO THE STARS”, is primarily aimed at restoring faith and giving new hope for the original teachings of Jesus Christ. I may shock some readers with many of the subjects and their treatment, but it is to be remembered my thrust is two-fold, i.e., that the original Christian ethic has been manipulated and made overly complicated during the last several centuries by way of either ignorance or to satisfy the particular needs and temperaments of differing religious groups, and secondly that mankind has now achieved the emotional maturity and educational plateau to recognize the true significance of Christ’s teachings through the logical applications of sociological and physical

scientific inquiries within our own earth sciences, including those speculative theories on the nature of the universe.

As the scriptures tell us “no man is saved in ignorance” and “the truth shall make you free”, I will not only be using the main Biblical passages we have come to identify with but will also incorporate historic and scientific knowledge as well as many unrecognized ancient works of scribes and religious historians to clarify every point which deviates from the accepted Christian norm. Because of this, I expect many Christian organizations throughout this world will denounce this work since I fail to recognize many philosophical interpretations of Biblical passages that have been collectively agreed upon by their many combined Councils and Committees to suit their own peculiar purposes.

On September 21, 1981, behaviorist B. F. Skinner addressed a large audience at the University of Florida. His words were startling to say the least, saying that the nature of mankind will cause our species to wait until it is too late to save the world. I was impressed then, and continue to believe his words still ring true. So many times over these past twenty years I felt we were moving beyond national, territorial boundary limits in our efforts at world peace and sharing between nations, but the continuous, constant denial of ecological disasters by our populace and those in the developing nations brings renewed terror to my heart. Some of Mr. Skinner’s comments follow:

“I’m saying we have the knowledge we need. We know the things that have to be done. We know how to change our over consumption of energy, how to avoid pollution, how to dispense with nuclear armaments. But we lack the tendency to do any such thing.

“There seems to be no circumstance in which an individual or institution will act primarily to make the future possible.

“Natural selection is too slow. We don’t have time to breed people who will reproduce at a more moderate rate, so we can use less of our limited resources. And behavior can be modified, but not enough to cause us to quickly use fewer resources.

“The only hope is to change the behavior of governments, religions and trade, but I’m not optimistic that we can do that. Are we getting to the people who can make changes in government, religion and economic institutions? I don’t think so and they govern the way we live.”

(Gainesville Sun Newspaper, Gainesville, Florida, September 22, 1981)

Mr. Skinner’s error was in looking to man for answers. I believe that the answers, which will promote the “mind-set” he was looking for, will be found only in the original teachings of Jesus Christ. To this end, I intend to make this work a

definitive statement, which will assist all mankind in reaching for the stars and the twenty-first century, to grasp the abundance of life, offered within our own time, an abundance to enjoy and hand down to our children and our children's children.

As these wonderful things come to pass, and we push out toward the stars our faith must sustain us in our great adventure and destiny. We must pass the test and seek the face of God with good conscience and with open minds tempered by worthy, calmed spirits. To new worlds and the discovery of other beings, I have no doubt our Lord and Savior will have gone before us (in whatever form He may have chosen) so we my fellowship in true brotherhood with our new found friends of the Universe. Unless we regain our original intended philosophy as given by Jesus Christ, we will be met only with resistance and sure destruction by all the forces of the Universe.

I have in truth wept over the way His teachings have been butchered and changed to such an extent that "all have fallen short of the glory of the Kingdom of God".

To the rectification of those theological errors rooted in greed, ignorance and fear, I set upon the completion of this work.



## Chapter 2

### THE INFANT AND CHILD

The dogma we have inherited from our Christian ancestors has been quite simply stated that by faith we are forgiven our sins and saved, therefore all creeds, ethics and interpretations by religious institutions are served to their respective congregations and prospective members to be blindly sworn to as an act of faith. Be as it may, this yields little fruit in the vineyards kept by men of questioning minds. To them, such blind acts of faith are not only foreign but against their very nature. They challenge the validity and worthiness of such acts and rightly so. To these members of our greater society and to those Christians who have relegated Jesus Christ in their minds as naught but a great teacher or

visionary, to the millions who have left the Church in confusion and disgust due to inconsistencies of doctrine, I address myself.

In this day we document all transactions and set down the words of all great men, we record all trials, ad infinitum, so too did our world's past great empires. Every General, every Judge, every Caesar and ruler had their scribes to record every detail of everyday activities. From these early-recorded accounts I learned much about our wonderful Jesus Christ that the early founders of the Christian Church hid from their followers out of fear. A fear that is born out of superstition and ignorance. A fear that has over the centuries turned into a bull-headed and stubborn pride within the modern Christian institutions. A pride that will not yield to their congregations the original errors of their Church Doctrine. A pride that drives young, searching minds away from their doors. A pride that causes many modern day evangelists who discover the truth of Christ's teachings to tread ever so carefully for fear of losing the backing of the accepted Christian institutionalized ideologies and their respective congregations. In other words, they fear loss of credibility for deviating from the accepted Christian norms. From the institution's standpoint, this pride of generally accepted beliefs by their many followers actually insures the absolute domination of their congregations.

In the face of such fear and pride, I shall relate the following and let every man know that Jesus Christ was truly the Son of God and that only the informed and questioning mind can fully appreciate this fact. Not just merely by faith, but by the command of knowledge will you know the following accounts to be true.

In searching our Christian heritage and how it evolved, we must turn our thoughts to the Catholic Church and how their perception of what was supposed to be correct doctrine continues to dictate the beliefs and perceptions of modern day Protestant institutions. It was not until the year 600 AD that the Apostles' Creed acknowledged that Jesus descended into hell while He was dead and in the grave. Many Protestant Churches today totally disregard this event and try to rationalize it away from their beliefs as of no significant value in their overall doctrine. In the year 210 AD, the Epistles of James and Jude were not included in the Holy Scriptures. By 315 AD they were accepted, but there were many doubts as to whether James, Jude, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Peter, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of John should be recognized with any importance, if to be recognized at all in the sacred Scriptures. There was also much discussion about whether to include the Book of Revelation. And, dear reader, by the year 340 AD the Book of Revelation is omitted by Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem. Not until 370 AD is Revelation re-established, only to be rejected again in 380 AD by Philastrius, Bishop of Brixia in Venice. It is finally included and made Canonical by Jerome two years later.

As a small gesture of how the early Church manipulated its congregations, it was not until nearly one thousand one hundred years after the crucifixion of Jesus Christ that the Catholic Church gave any evidence of how He died, nor did

they wish the membership to know the importance of the cross, torment and suffering. Just think, eleven hundred years of expanding religious fervor throughout the known world without even a mention, a drawing or a statue of our Lord and Savior on the cross and especially the words, "take up your cross and follow me". I assume they felt it would be poor advertising and very negative for the cause, the cause being world domination. Not until the Crusades and the need for men to die for the "organized" Church did we see the cross and learn of its importance in motivating soldiers into the supposedly "holy wars" against the Moslem world. I need not remind the reader of the hundreds of thousands of men, women and children who died during that war for purely religious reasons of the Church of that day. Are the ancient scripts denied recognition for like reasons?

In this same spirit of cloak and dagger, we find many ancient accounts of Jesus Christ's activities which were left out of our original Bible because the Church leadership of that day felt it was too fantastic to believe or it just wouldn't sell to possible converts. There were also many superstitions believed by the people in those days, which were absolutely contrary to what Jesus taught. I suppose our modern Christian institutions continue to hold that if they were to accept the absolute teachings of Jesus Christ into their Church Doctrines that they would lose their congregations because of their memberships' ignorance or the proposition that such radical changes would not be fashionable. Many institutions would take me to task for such a statement, but the reality of the changes they can point to have common roots of error. They have worked hard to achieve social acceptance and respect by most of the populace. Why rock the boat? If speaking truth will rock the boat, then hang on while I tell you things that only a God named Jesus Christ could have done two thousand years ago.

Our accepted New Testament gives us little knowledge about the early years of our Savior's life, except to give the reader a brief outline. But, in the fourth century, AD, Jerome, a father of the early Christian Church (remember, he is the one who finally approved the Book of Revelations for inclusion in the Holy Scriptures) translates a work by Matthew, which would later become known as "The Gospel of the Birth of Mary". Its main thrust was that Mary also was born of a virgin and offerings of fine wafers as sacrifices to her were performed by many believers of that period. This reference to the works of Matthew is made to introduce a work by Thomas, which is believed to have been an original part of the Gospel of Mary. Cotelerius printed the original Greek translation and the actual manuscript can be found in France, labeled French King's Library, No. 2279, entitled "Thomas's Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ".

When Jesus was five years old, He began playing with some other children by a muddy stream on the Sabbath. Jesus smote the waters and made them clear. Then, He took clay from the stream and made twelve sparrows for He and His friends to play with. A man saw Him making the sparrows and went to Joseph to complain that the boy was profaning the Sabbath. So, Joseph went

to Jesus to scold Him. Upon doing so, Jesus clapped His hands and transformed the clay sparrows into real birds. As He did so, He said, "Go, fly away; and while ye live remember me." So, the sparrows flew away, making noises.

The son of Anna the scribe took a willow tree branch and destroyed the little lakes Jesus had made for His clay sparrows. Seeing this, Jesus said, "Thou fool, what harm did the lake do thee, that thou shouldest scatter the water? Behold, now thou shalt wither as a tree, and shalt not bring forth either leaves, or branches, or fruit." The boy became withered all over. Anna and his wife took their son to Joseph's house to complain and lament. Because everyone wanted the boy healed, Jesus made him whole except for one small member as a warning.

Another time a boy running in the street shoved Jesus. He said to him, "Thou shalt go no farther." Instantly the boy fell dead. News spread fast about the incident and the parents of the dead boy told Joseph that his family was not fit to live in their city. That Joseph should teach Jesus to bless instead of curse, or take Him away, because He was killing their children. Joseph went and verbally chastised Jesus for His actions. Jesus replied to Joseph, "I know that what thou sayest is not of thyself, but for thy sake I will say nothing; But they who have said these things to thee, shall suffer everlasting punishment." When He spoke, all who had accused Him became blind.

Watching Jesus, a schoolmaster by the name of Zacchaeus became surprised and curious. A few days later he went to see if he might be allowed to teach Jesus to read. When Jesus sat down with the schoolmaster to learn the alphabet all were amazed that He could not explain how He already knew the alphabet and the works of the prophets. Zacchaeus left Joseph's house and was wonderfully surprised at so strange a thing.

We now turn to a work entitled "The First Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ" which was received by the Gnostics, an early Christian sect in the second century, AD. The first translation from the original manuscript did not come until 1697 by Henry Sike, a professor of Oriental Languages at Cambridge University. It is interesting to note that this particular document was supposed to have been used by Mahomet and his followers in putting together the Koran, that Christ practiced the trade of cloth dyer and to this day Persian dyers honor Him as their patron (actually calling a dye-house The Shop of Christ) and there are Persian legends about many of the stories concerning Jesus and His schoolmaster.

In the Arabic world, we learn that this particular work was widely used with the other four Gospels, according to the Mohammedan Divine Ahmed Ibu Idris, around sixteen hundred, AD. We also learn this document was provided for the many Christian Churches in Asia and Africa by Octobius de Castro by way of an Armenian Archbishop at Amsterdam who translated the work for Castro under

the title "Gospel of Thomas". Very interesting is the fact these early Asian and African Churches relied upon this manuscript as their only guide and rule of their faith, excluding all other Gospels.

History tells us, by way of Peter Martyr, Bishop of Alexandria, that the inhabitants of Matarea, about ten miles from Cairo, Egypt, constantly burn a candle (this was in the third century, AD) in remembrance of the day when Jesus was banished from their midst. Again, that account is recorded in this Gospel, and the accounts of Thomas strongly agree or coincide with these writings. Before I forget, there is also a garden of trees in Matarea, which yields Balsam, a garden that is purported to have been planted by Jesus in His youth. To preface the following accounts, it will shock most of you to know that these reports come from a book of Joseph the high priest, called by some Caiaphas!

As many historians have argued by conjecture due to known archeological findings that the manger where Jesus was born was actually a cave outside Bethlehem, this work refers to His birthplace as a cave which Mary stopped at and would not enter the city because her time had come. Joseph rushed away and got an old woman who was from Jerusalem, but when they got back to the cave it was filled with bright lights and Jesus was already born. Mary told the old woman to touch Jesus. When she did she became whole and promised to be the infant's servant. We are then told about the account of the shepherds, but in no great detail. Jesus is circumcised on the eighth day by the old woman and on the tenth day taken to Jerusalem. On the fortieth day He is presented at the temple and we are told the story of Simeon. Next comes the story of the Wise Men and then Joseph and Mary's flight to Egypt to escape Herod.

On their journey they stopped at an inn, which in front stood a great idol that the Egyptians worshipped. The idol's priest had a son three years of age who was possessed by devils. Upon their passing the idol to the inn, the idol spoke out saying, "The unknown God is come hither, who is truly God; nor is there anyone beside him, who is worthy of divine worship; for he is truly the Son of God. At the fame of him this country trembled, and at his coming it is under the present commotion and consternation; and we ourselves are affrighted by the greatness of his power." With that, the idol fell to the ground. Later, while Mary was washing the infant's clothing, the priest's son stole a garment and placed it upon his head. Doing so, the devils came out of his mouth in the form of crows and serpents. He was healed and made whole. Fearing what the Egyptians might do to them for destroying their idol, Mary thought it best they moved on.

In another city a woman is cured of devils because Mary felt pity for her and since her family was rich, Mary and Joseph were rewarded with the greatest respect and entertained by them. In yet another city a bride had been struck deaf and dumb by sorcerers and was healed by merely holding the infant. The whole city rewarded them for three days and then gave them more provisions for the road. City after city, miracles are performed. One girl is healed of leprosy by

being sprinkled with water that Jesus was bathed in. A great King's son was also cured of leprosy in like manner. A young man of great wealth who had been changed into a mule was restored because Mary asked Jesus to restore him. At each instance, Mary and Joseph were given many gifts. It is now easy to see how Mary and Joseph were able to survive in a strange land without any visible means of support.

In the desert there are many robbers and they came upon a great company of them. Only two were awake on this night, Titus and Dumachus. Titus begged Dumachus not to wake the others so that Mary and Joseph might pass. He even gave Dumachus forty goats and gave him his girdle as a sign of his promise to keep their bargain. Mary was impressed by the robber's great kindness and the infant spoke these words, "When thirty years are expired, O mother, the Jews will crucify me at Jerusalem; And these two thieves shall be with me at the time upon the cross, Titus on my right hand, and Dumachus on my left, and from that time Titus shall go before me into paradise."

At another city, idols turned into hills of sand at their approach. And, it is told that balsam began from the sweat that ran from the Lord Jesus. At the end of three years and after many miracles, they left Egypt but were afraid to enter Judea, even though Herod was dead. An angel told Joseph to go and abide in Nazareth. Soon thereafter in the city many children are healed of diseases by the same manner in which the lepers were healed three years before. Lying in His bed heals others. A girl is saved from Satan when he comes like a dragon and she shows him Christ's swaddling clothes, which shower the Devil with flames and burning coals. Satan leaves a boy in Christ's presence in the shape of a dog.

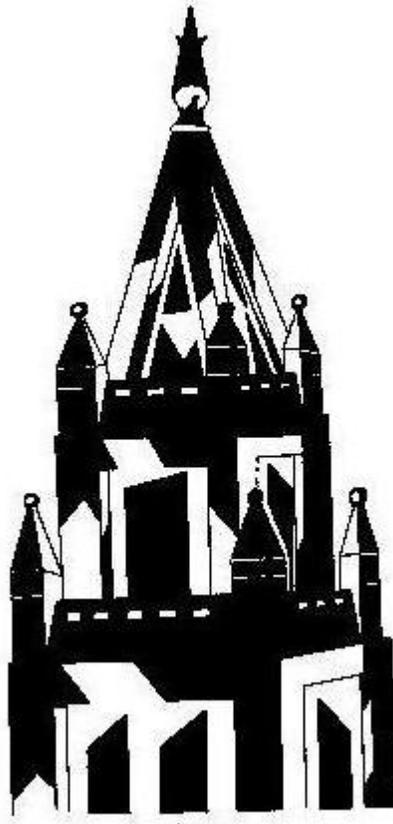
At the age of seven, Jesus makes figures of asses, oxen, birds and others and makes them walk around for the amusement of His friends. It is in this time frame that Jesus visits a dyer's shop, owned by a man named Salem. He threw all his cloth into the furnace and ruined them. When Salem found out he became very upset, but Jesus told him He would make them any color Salem wished. So, one by one, Salem pulled his cloth out of the furnace and each piece was the color, which he desired.

Later, Joseph makes many errors in his work, but Jesus widens or contracts each item by stretching out His hand toward the item. The King of Jerusalem hires Joseph to build a new throne for him. But, after two years of hard labor, Joseph makes the throne two spans too short. The King becomes enraged, but Jesus comforts him. Asking the King to take one side of the throne and pull, Jesus takes the other. It widens to the proper width and all present praise God for the miracle.

Jesus turns friends into goats for fun because they were hiding from Him, then restores them. He is crowned their King with flowers. A snake bites one of

His friends and Jesus makes the serpent suck the poison back out of the boy until it bursts and the boy is made well. Jesus heals His brother, James, who has been bitten by a viper by merely blowing on it. As in Thomas's work, the breaking of the Sabbath and His encounter with the schoolmaster is repeated.

Like you, I'm sure, allot of the foregoing is pretty hard for me to swallow, especially the parts about turning people into animals and back again. But a God could do that, couldn't He? In the following chapter, you will find Jesus' dialogue in the temple, which was left out of the Bible because of early man's superstitions and ignorance. Being amazed by the previous stories about Christ's ability to do God-like things as a child is nothing compared to what you will discover about the knowledge He had as a child, a knowledge only a God could have known two thousand years ago.



### **Chapter 3**

#### **THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY**

In Chapter 2 you will recall how important this particular manuscript was and I covered in some detail its origin. This chapter will make you painfully aware of why the early Christian founders refused to allow its inclusion into the Holy Bible. In doing so, we learn the true meaning of the words I previously used, superstition and fear, to describe our ancestors' mental state and scientific evolution. There should be little need for much in the way of conjecture on our part to realize that Jesus Christ later emerges into His ministry using parables and often-harsh examples to make a point. In the following dialogues, some present day scholars may point to the center of learning of that day, Alexandria, to say that Jesus somehow was taught many secrets. In answer to these suppositions, I can only say that it would be impossible for a twelve year old to have been able to consume so much knowledge, knowledge which was obtained

at great self-sacrifice by inquiring men of those early years, a knowledge taught to others only through years of one-on-one tutoring of SINGULAR subjects combined with research of written works of the time, a knowledge which was for all practical purposes lost prior to Christ's arrival, and a knowledge which finally was destroyed by so-called Christian zealots around 415 AD. I've heard it over and over again from so many doubters through the years about how so-and-so knew so-and-so about so-and-so. My question is, "What else did so-and-so know about anything else other than their particular, narrow subject matter?" School was not like we have today. As I said, great knowledge was acquired by great effort in a very narrowly defined area of interest. Broad based education, as we have today, DID NOT EXIST! I mean, someone built the pyramids didn't they? There are stories of ancient races that developed hot air balloon flight. There are numerous ancient cities built maybe fifteen or twenty thousand years ago out of building blocks we can't move today. Regardless of the source, knowledge did exist. But, for you and me, and millions of others in that day, ACCESS DID NOT EXIST! And, anyone with even a dimwitted amount of understanding today would readily accept the fact that, given the foregoing, only a God at the age of twelve could have known what Jesus knew in those days. Why? Because as you read and inform yourself, you will see that Jesus had an understanding of an area of study which did not even exist until maybe thirty or forty years ago. Not to mention His grasp of other areas of study. Read on and you will see what I mean.

At the age of twelve, Jesus goes with Joseph and Mary to the feast in Jerusalem. Afterwards, Jesus stays behind to speak to the learned men of Israel, the elders and doctors in the temple. In due course, the principal Rabbi asks Jesus if He has read books. In reply, the document relates, "And he explained to them the books of the law, and precepts, and statutes: and the mysteries which are contained in the books of the prophets; things which the mind of no creature could reach." Pretty good for a boy of twelve, wouldn't you say? Although this gives little meat with which to feed the skeptics, perhaps the following will open some of their minds to the awesome intelligence possessed by this twelve year old named Jesus Christ, remembering that the dialogue comes to us from a day some two thousand years ago.

An astronomer who was there asked Jesus if He had studied astronomy. In response, "and told him the number of the spheres and heavenly bodies, as also their triangular, square, and sextile aspect; their progressive and retrograde motion; their size and several prognostications; and other things which the reason of man had never discovered." What manner of talk is this? Calling the planets round (spheres)? Speaking of motion in space in terms of progressive and retrograde? What about the term "motion" itself? And, are we left with the notion that Jesus Christ, this twelve year old, knew the sizes and compositions of the heavenly bodies? Did I hear some intelligent reader breathe the words that in 1492 when Columbus sailed to the new world, everyone feared they were going to fall off the edge of the world? What about the problems poor old Galileo

faced with the Christian Church for using the demon telescope to expound the theories that the earth was round and heavenly bodies rotated around the sun? They called him a heretic? They knew the earth was round in Alexandria, at least someone did. Did very many others also know? Doubtful. Jesus gave this knowledge to the whole world through these writings, but the so-called Christian Church denied us the truth again. How many more truths were denied us? Is there more? Of course there is, as we continue.

A philosopher among those present asked Jesus if He had studied physics. Jesus answered, “and explained to him physics and metaphysics. Also those things, which were above and below the power of nature; The powers of the body, its humors, and their effects. Also the number of its members, and bones, veins, arteries, and nerves; The several constitutions of the body, hot and dry, cold and moist, and the tendencies of them; How the soul operated upon the body; What its various sensations and faculties were; The faculty of speaking, anger, desire; And lastly the manner of its composition and dissolution; and other things which the understanding of no creature had ever reached.” So overwhelmed was the philosopher, he fell down and worshipped the boy and pledged himself to be His servant and disciple. Far from being a textbook on physical science or supernatural exploration, there are many key words, phrases and combinations of thought the recorder captured which cannot but make us aware Jesus knew exactly what He was talking about, or more correctly, knew more than any living person in His time, INCLUDING THE SCHOLARS IN ALEXANDRIA! Oh how I wish the recorder could have understood more of what the boy Jesus was saying, or even had some concept of the words and their meanings this Son of God was giving to the world. Just think of what the state of science and medicine would have been today had there not been such a vast ignorance among the people, including those who were supposed to be educated and scholarly.

Oh, I know, I know how some will say this was written at a later time and there was some knowledge about what I’m fixing to cover, but the reader must remember that the TRANSLATION did not occur until the fourth century, that’s 300 AD! Bear with me and you will soon understand my position on this topic and, hopefully, you too will arrive at the same understanding.

It is interesting that there is a mention of humors, or more appropriately the organs of the body. And, what about the terms used such as veins, arteries and nerves. It should be noted here and now that it has only been within the last couple centuries any significant work was done to unravel the mysteries of the arteries and their function, not to mention the scientific work dealing with nerves and their effect upon our health, a work that continues today. Nerves? Actually, a relatively new term in our medical history. How did Jesus know about them when our own physicians of just a couple hundred years ago had to rob graves at great personal risk in order to discover and map them within our bodies? Yeah, sure. Someone said that thousands of years ago an Indian tribe used to perform

open skull surgery and at this writing our scientists are just now discovering that operations of that type will increase blood flow to the brain and make the subject smarter (or feel smarter?). O.K. But, that wasn't in Jerusalem and who else knew about it?

How about the terminology's He uses in describing the constitutions of the body, hot and dry, cold and moist, and their tendencies, or more accurately stated, their functions. A description I would say of physiological changes in the body when illness is present. Let us not forget that our ignorance was so vast that nearly 1,800 years later, George Washington's physicians would bleed him to death because it was thought that fever was carried in the bloodstream and by drawing some of your blood, you could actually lower your fever. The higher the fever, the more blood was drawn. And again, along the same train of thought, Jesus moves from physiological functions to the terms anger and desire. In Chapter 5 we will explore this more fully, but highly trained psychologists and physiologists can readily see a tie between these series of thoughts and their progression in order of importance or relationship (ideas which were not actually scientifically proven until fairly recently) and Christ's subsequent teachings to the populace and what God expects of us in the way of our thoughts and actions. Certainly, only a God could have known these things, all these things in combination and depth in those days.

Reportedly, the dialogue lasted for three days and this was the length of time Mary and Joseph spent looking for Jesus and interrupted His discussion when they found Him. Does anyone remember that Jesus told His parents that He was doing the work of His Father? They returned to Nazareth and we are told, "Jesus began to conceal his miracles and secret works, And he gave himself to the study of the law, till he arrived to the end of his thirtieth year."

From that time on, Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph in all things. We have seen a child grow to an age of accountability, an age, which seems all things have been made known to Him. Then, there is a sudden change in mannerisms and purpose begins to take root and unfold. His eighteen-year study of the law, I believe, is an eighteen-year grooming for what would lie ahead of Him. A God stranded among a sea of savage and ignorant mortals, men of greed, pride and fear, superstitious of all they could not understand. What better tool for understanding the lowly creature He had come to show the way than the study of the respected theories of law and justice which would also chart the history and progress they had made since God first spoke to the hearts of mankind.

In addition to the previous documents, there are other accounts concerning Christ's movements during His eighteen-year study of the law. Generally, Jesus traveled in an Easterly direction until He reached what is now known as Tehran, in Iran. Then, He moved in a Northwesterly direction until He arrived in what is now known as the country of Great Britain.

Not much evidence is around to support these “preministerial” travels of Christ’s until we arrive in England. There we find a massive stone temple that the Catholics later turned into a church. It is reported Jesus supervised and built this temple during the time He was studying the law. His friend and benefactor during those years was none other than Joseph of Arimathaea, the man who would later prepare the body of Christ for burial in his own tomb. We know this ultimately led to Christ’s resurrection and the creation of an artifact much in the spotlight today. Namely, the Shroud of Turin, bearing the likeness of our Lord and Savior. I know, the carbon dating didn’t match, but later analysis turned up DNA from pollens that only existed (in combination) during Christ’s day and location where He was crucified. You figure.

After the resurrection, Lazarus (the one whom Jesus raised from the dead), Joseph of Arimathaea and others left Jerusalem and traveled to England and the temple Jesus had built while still a young man. For those readers who scoff at the foregoing account of this historic journey, I invite each of you to travel to that country and witness for yourself the majesty of that ancient temple. Marvel if you will at the intricate and massive architecture of the structure. Compare its design with what was common in those days throughout the Roman Empire and you will know where the creativity and intelligence came from which set European architecture in a vein capable of one day constructing the giant Cathedrals. Undeniably, Jesus was a creative Master Builder not seen in the world before His day.

And, while you are there, do not forget to visit the tomb and stone coffin within the structure that bears the earthly remains of none other than Joseph of Arimathaea! Take him some flowers while you’re at it. Maybe his old bones will rest easier knowing mankind’s inquisitive mind has finally decided to seek out his mortal beginnings and searches once again for the truth.

In Chapter 4 we will begin exploring the real impact Jesus made on the world around Him. Though not recorded in the Holy Bible, the scribes of Kings and Rulers of that day gave full accounts of what transpired in their presence as well as the many reports which were brought to their masters from their agents, men whose testimonies cannot be questioned, then under pain of death, now out of admiration and respect for their added perspective of history.



## Chapter 4

### UNEXPECTED CONVERTS

The British Museum possesses a Syriac manuscript of the sixth century in which several letters between rulers of Christ's time appear. There is also a copy written in Greek, which was discovered in Paris. There is some discussion as to the authenticity of the letters, the only negative reaction coming from an author by the name of Photius who could not recall Justus of Tiberias, a historian of the time, ever mentioning Christ. Personally, I feel this to be a weak premise for denial of these letters as genuine since the same reasoning could be used to deny that Jesus Christ ever existed because Photius does not remember Justus saying anything about Jesus. Scholars accept the Justus excuse to deny the letters but mentally tune-out the fact that if you accept the previous statement,

then you accept that Jesus never existed! So convenient for them, because the letters prove Jesus did have an impact on His world and paved His own way for His followers in a way that only a God could have caused. Makes me wonder why He even needed James or John, or even Paul to spread His word amongst the people. They had it tough but it would have been a whole lot tougher if these events had not occurred. You'll see what I mean as you read further.

The first letter is written to Pilate from Herod. Herod is grieving over his daughter, Herodias, who fell into an ice pool and lost her head, which her mother holds upon her knees at the writing. Herod feels he is being punished for his evil deeds against John the Baptist, Jesus Christ and the murder of the children of Bethlehem. His son, Azbonius, is dying and he wants Pilate to pray for him. Herod's wife has gone blind in her left eye and he has the dropsy. And, to emphasize the point, Herod claims that worms have begun to issue from his body. He says that the kingdom belongs to the Gentile because the chosen people have mocked the Righteous One. Herod sends along with his letter to Pilate earrings from his daughter and his own ring as a memorial of their suffering.

Pilate's letter to Herod begins by saying he had stated the innocence by washing his hands, "concerning him who rose from the grave after three days." Pilate goes on to say he has confirmed that Jesus rose from the dead and appeared in Galilee, "not having changed," and boldly preaching the resurrection. He relates how Procla, his wife, took the Centurion Longinus and twelve soldiers and went to Galilee. There they saw Christ and His disciples. He spoke to them and they returned to Pilate weeping with fear. Pilate became sick and put on a mourning garment. He took Procla and fifty Romans with him to Galilee. There they met Jesus and begged for forgiveness. (Haven't you seen movies that depict Pilate's wife and a Roman Officer going to hear Jesus speak? Ever wonder where that came from?!!!)

Prior to learning that Pilate had allowed the Jews to put Jesus to death, Tiberius Caesar, Emperor of Rome, heard there was a physician in Jerusalem by the name of Jesus who could heal any disease just by using His word. Caesar sent one of his attendants, Volusianus, to request Pilate to send Jesus to him.

Going before Pilate with Caesar's request, Volusianus is told by Pilate that Jesus was a malefactor who drew all the people to Himself, so after counsel with the city's wise men, allowed Jesus to be crucified.

At his lodgings, Volusianus met a woman by the name of Veronica. She wept about the loss of Jesus and then told him a strange story. She wanted a likeness of Jesus, so she went and obtained a canvas to have one painted while He yet taught among the people. Taking the canvas to a painter, she met Jesus who asked her what she was doing. Telling Him of her wish, Jesus took the canvas then handed it back to her. Upon it was printed the likeness of His face.

Volusianus wanted to know if the picture could be purchased with silver or gold. Veronica replied that only “a pious sentiment of devotion” was the price she paid. Having told Veronica of his reason for being in Jerusalem, she was convinced that if Caesar gazed upon the picture he would be healed.

So, Volusianus returned to Rome with Veronica and her portrait of Jesus. He told Tiberius what had become of Jesus, but also related the story of Veronica. Caesar ordered the path to be spread with silk and ordered the portrait brought before him. As soon as Tiberius Caesar, Emperor of Rome, looked upon the picture he was healed instantly.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of the Calends of April, Pilate writes to the Roman Emperor, Tiberius Caesar, in which he refers to a previous letter he sent concerning Jesus Christ. (At this writing, that letter is yet to be discovered.) He claims Jesus to be the best of any age and how the people made an uproar for his crucifixion. He also notes that their own prophets, like the Roman Sibyls, advised against punishing Jesus. He relates supernatural signs appearing at the time Jesus was crucified and feared the ruin of the world. Pilate tells the Emperor that Jesus’ disciples flourish and like their master are beneficent.

Another report by Pilate is sent to Augustus Caesar in Rome giving a complete account of Jesus Christ, according to his investigations into the matter. It begins by stating that Pilate is afraid and trembles for what he has allowed to happen in the Eastern Province, specifically in the city called Jerusalem. He relates how Jesus was charged with only one local crime that could be proven, namely, that He healed on the Sabbath. Pilate relates one healing miracle after another and describes in detail the raising of a man who had been dead four days. He reflects that His is a strange deed, even to the Gods of Rome. Pilate said the man began to smell like a dog and his body was corrupted with worms, but even so, Jesus commanded the dead man to run and run he did, as like a bridegroom smelling of sweet perfume. He spoke of Jesus turning mad men into city dwellers of rational nature and of casting unclean spirits into the sea. Again, he recalls more healings, many by merely passing through His shadow. Pilate says, “And he did other miracles greater than these, so that I have observed greater works of wonder done by him than by the gods whom we worship.”

Pilate names the chief accusers of Jesus as Herod, Archelaus, Philip, Annas and Caiaphas, along with the multitude. When Christ was crucified, Pilate relates in detail the terrible events that took place. The sun hid itself for half a day and the moon appeared tinged in blood. There was a great thunder and a chasm appeared in the earth. Amidst the terror, the dead began to rise and accounts of the citizenry revealed them to be Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, the twelve patriarchs, Moses and Job who had been dead 3,500 years. Pilate claims to have seen many rise and lament over the Jews’ transgression and the destruction of their law. The earthquake lasted from the sixth hour until the ninth hour, and on the third hour of the night the sky lit up seven times brighter than

the day. Figures were seen in the heaven with voices like thunder. All night the light never ceases and many Jews fell into the chasm, mostly those who were against Jesus. Again, more rose from the dead and all but one Synagogue remained in the city, the others having collapsed.

Pilate writes yet another report to Tiberius Caesar in Rome very similar to the one just covered.

We are now given an accounting of what transpires in Rome when the letters and reports are received. Reading them before Caesar and all who were assembled, they became terrified because the darkness and earthquake had been seen and felt in Rome. Caesar sent soldiers to Judea to bring Pilate to him as a prisoner. When Pilate arrived, Caesar went to the Temple of the Gods to receive him and had the Senate present, the Army and a great multitude of the populace all about and commanded Pilate to stand at the entrance of the Temple to answer for his crime. His crime was simply stated. After knowing the power of Jesus and having seen His works, why did he allow His death? By that deed, Caesar said Pilate had ruined the whole world.

Pilate retold of the pressure he had been placed under by the leadership of the Jews and ended his defense by saying, "For by such miracles Jesus was manifested to be the Christ, the King of the Jews." When Caesar repeated the words of Pilate and said the name Christ, all the statues of the Gods in the Temple fell and broke around his throne where he sat with the Senate. The people became afraid and ran to their homes wondering what had happened. Caesar commanded Pilate to be kept for further, private questioning so he might learn more of the truth concerning Jesus.

The next day, Caesar questioned Pilate before the Senate, this time in the Capitol Building. Finding out that Pilate did not crucify Jesus to bring evil against the government of Rome, Caesar pressed for an absolute reason. Pilate replied, "I did it because of the transgression and sedition of the lawless and ungodly Jews." Caesar became filled with anger and called a Council of his Officers and the Senate. The results of the Council came in the form of a decree written against the Jews and sent to his General Licianus that the Jews' lawlessness had darkened the world and brought it to ruin. He was commanded to take a body of soldiers and proclaim the Jews into bondage, scatter them among the nations, drive them out of Judea and let all know they are full of evil. Licianus carried out his orders swiftly and with the full authority of his Caesar and Senate. Those Jews who remained in Judea were placed into slavery and given to the Gentiles.

When this was done, Caesar commanded his Captain Albius to cut off Pilate's head because he had lain upon a just man.

Pilate and his wife, Procla, were given the status of Sainthood by the Greek and Ethiopic Churches although their calendars differ as to the time of their deaths. The Synaxaria of the Greeks set the date as October 28<sup>th</sup> and the Ethiopic calendar marks June 25<sup>th</sup> as their time of passing.

These letters raise many historical questions. According to them, Pilate washed his hands because he knew Jesus was more than just a good man. And, he and his wife and many more Romans knew Jesus rose from the grave by their own accounts as well as having witnessed and recorded the terrible events surrounding the crucifixion of Christ. Did the fall of Rome actually begin when their Gods fell at the mere mention of Christ's name? Did it begin at Caesar's public announcement of the acceptance, by the supreme power of Rome, that Jesus was a God? Did the Jews lose all of Judea because they killed the Christ? And, has the mistrust and baser instinct of hatred for the Jew by every nation on this earth been handed down through the centuries because of this one act? Truly, only a God could have caused all this to happen.

Reflecting on current nonreligious historical accounts of major events, doesn't this account of how Jesus influenced these matters make more sense than relying on mere chance? It is not too difficult to see the implications of this Roman justification for attacking the Hebrews, a campaign that would increase in ferocity over the next century. It is interesting to note that Israel was not subjugated to the Roman will until 63 BC under the legions of Pompey. There were always rebellions and there were always reprisals by the Romans. Surprisingly, no great campaigns were ever waged against the Hebrews for their transgressions against the Roman State until AFTER the murder of Jesus Christ. A hundred years of patience, then a hundred years of slaughter? I offer this simple observation of the facts for those scholars still wondering about the reasons for such behavior on the part of the Roman Empire.

The slavery mentioned previously may have been only a further erosion of the Hebrew's freedom under Roman Law. This is not usually covered in historical accounts until the great uprising in the year 70 AD. Modern historians tell us that the Jews tried to become autonomous once again, but this time Rome sent Titus with the legions to destroy the famous Second Temple, the very place Jesus taught and that portion which stands to this day is called the Wailing Wall. Additionally, the Romans killed some 600,000 Hebrews in the same period of time. Again in 135 AD, the Jews revolted. This time they were ruthlessly massacred; the Roman officials sold women, children, old men, and survivors into slavery.

What more can I say in defense of my belief that Rome fully believed in the majesty and power of the "God called Jesus", and would prove this by eventually assisting in the spreading of the gospel throughout the known world, and even though the impression is given of great oppression of the early Christians by the Roman government, it is interesting to note the Roman citizenry

would later allow itself and its nation to be the throne for the emergence of a powerful, world wide Christian Monarchy.



## **Chapter 5**

### **THE FIRST PHYSIOLOGICAL PROFESSOR AND THE GREAT MYSTERIES**

In Chapter 3, I promised to cover in more detail my references to Christ's answers when questioned by the philosopher in the temple. I hinted at an observation that would make Jesus, a small boy, this world's first physiological professor and would speak of things beyond the comprehension and understanding of anyone in His time. Again, the dialogue is repeated for your reference.

A philosopher among those present asked Jesus if He had studied physics. Jesus answered, "and explained to him physics and metaphysics. Also those things, which were above and below the power of nature; The powers of

the body, its humors, and their effects. Also the number of its members, and bones, veins, arteries, and nerves; The several constitutions of the body, hot and dry, cold and moist, and the tendencies of them; How the soul operated upon the body; What its various sensations and faculties were; The faculty of speaking, anger, desire; And lastly the manner of its composition and dissolution; and other things, which the understanding of no creature had ever reached.” (Book of Joseph the high priest, called by some Caiaphas.)

Although numerous words and groups of words within the foregoing answer could be applied to many sciences which we take for granted today, there are two words which when grouped with the other subject matters cause the thinking individual to make concrete correlations to the area of physiology. For years, this area of science was nothing more than mere speculation on the part of leading physicians and researchers. With the advent of modern electronic monitoring devices and the interest displayed by our universities of higher learning, research took on a more positive stance into seeking answers to questions involving physiological reactions to various stimuli.

By pure conjecture on my part, I assume these important studies were undertaken to identify problems within the physical body by being able to tap into its many different signals; i.e., pulse rate, perspiration, breath control, blood pressure, etc. Christ’s answer became a study of the physical sciences, but not even the reference to metaphysics and the power of the soul upon the body (by our understanding) could give Him cause to mention or lump into the conversation the words, “...anger, desire...”.

Even as I sit writing, I can readily see how someone would not be able to make the connection between the physical body and emotions, but the whole intent of this book is to make even the simplest of individuals become acutely aware of the truth of this universal and infinite connection. To me, one’s inability to grasp the importance of this small quote would tend to indicate their inability to grasp the great fundamental teachings of the Son of God in truth.

In all great writings of mankind, there is an underlying theme that the man will reflect the quality of his soul by his actions. In like manner, Christ has referred to the power of the soul upon the body and then injected the phrase, “The faculty of speaking, anger, desire.” If we yield to the position that the condition of a man’s soul will dictate his reaction to a given stimuli, then we can easily understand why Christ equates (or lumps together) these seemingly different subject matters within the same context of His answer to the philosopher.

The last four decades (perhaps longer) of experimentation and research by our colleges of higher learning, not to leave out the important work of the record keeper and statisticians, have given mankind the benefit of the knowledge we are only as healthy as we are able to cope with our environment. In other

words, those who can adjust to the world around them and the constant challenges and changes will live much longer and healthier lives than those who cannot. A case of poor nerves surely brings with it a myriad of illnesses, which can eventually lead to a premature death. What physician will tell you in this day of rapid advancement in the medical sciences that a sound and optimistic attitude will not increase your chance of survival in a critical operation? None would be the correct answer.

And yet, Jesus spoke of these things two thousand years ago at the young age of twelve. Each of His later parables and teachings reflect this very idea that the calmed spirit gives enjoyable and long life to the body. This is not to say that everyone with a medical problem has an impaired or less than perfect soul. But, it does indicate that the individual with the brighter and healthier soul will not be as incapacitated by limiting illnesses as those who look upon the dark side of everything. In this light, faith and hope takes on a more concrete form applicable to today's medical problems as it did those many thousands of years ago. I will not belabor the reader with stories of those who overcame obstacles to meet great success and honor among their fellowman, for every person should be able to point to someone they have known personally who possessed this seemingly magical quality.

There are other discoveries in this field of research, which seem to have been set aside except for brief disclosures in general psychology classes at most universities. Offered only as background or information along with a host of other lesser important works of pioneering psychologists, the student of general studies is hard-pressed to make the connection between this recent discovery and what their Sunday School has been trying to teach them over the years. Even though Church Doctrine, may have clouded this message to one who has truly sought the truth of the teachings of the Son of God, this scientific statement hits home like a tornado on a calm and beautiful morning.

The statement quite simply says that each individual interprets through a mental process the physiological responses of the body. For instance, your body experiences the same reaction when making love as it does when running from great danger. You experience the same sensations when you meet someone you love and hold dear as you do when meeting a person you hate and despise. Do not misunderstand what I have just written, as the body constantly changes its reaction to differing stimuli. It is just that these reactions are the same and you are the one who interprets your feelings at the time.

Taking this theme further, when you see something which you covet and wish was yours and not the one who has it, it is the same physiological reaction experienced when you interpret the encounter in such a way that you are proud for the owner to possess the article and proud to have observed it. It is the difference between planning to steal an object of art and going to the exhibit to enjoy its display. It is the difference between loving and hating your enemies. It

is the difference between compassion for one who has erred against you and the obvious hatred and vengeance one sees. Ultimately, it is the difference between being a man, a human being, one who is acceptable to God and the universe versus the dumb, vicious animals of nature that neither thinks nor loves but merely exists. SOUNDS LIKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL TO ME!

Peter, the man to whom Jesus gave the keys to the kingdom, says it much better than I for in 2 Peter 2:21-22 he says, "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, the dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire." The contrast is sharp and clear. To follow Jesus and His physiological approach to right living is to truly be a thinking, worthwhile member of the human race as it was intended for us to be by our Creator. To do otherwise is to confess to the world that you are nothing more than a possibly trainable animal of evolution, not worth the love and forgiveness of God, much less the comradeship of your fellowman.

In light of the foregoing, one can readily see the evil in the good intentions of those segments of society often referred to as "bleeding hearts". With the best of everything good and pure, they try to save the lives of every convicted murderer and felons who ply their trade in the most hideous manner imaginable. Their crimes are perpetrated upon the weak and many of these maladjusted perpetrators find an inner joy and satisfaction in the suffering and fearful cries of their victims.

In seeking humanity, one should not allow themselves the convenience of relegating the responsibility of determining if their offending brother or sister is truly a member of the human race and worthy of their efforts, or if in fact they are naught but wild and untamable animals, "throwbacks", which must be removed from society for the safety and protection of the innocent. Is one who accidentally kills someone in the act of a crime as guilty as the monster that abducts, rapes, tortures and murders a child? Please, God is not an idiot and neither am I.

Take an intellectual journey with me. Remember the scriptures that said the "sins of the fathers are visited upon the sons"? Remember the child Jesus talking about how the soul operated upon the body? How many news articles have you read lately that have proclaimed that most deviates are born with a brain malfunction? Heredity? DNA and a hidden gene defect? Can we pass evil on to our children? How many of you in your golden years can remember the "father" and how so many, many years later (regardless of whether the father was around or not) the "son" walks, talks, and acts like the "father"? And, how the evil mannerisms are repeated exactly? Wait; let's take the next step. Can this physiological exercise lead a logical, thinking person to accept that a true

spiritual conversion by the Holy Spirit in one's life possibly change their DNA? Can the Holy Spirit heal and correct defective genes? That not all evil comes from the environment, but can actually be born? You will read many "new age" works and many "cutting-edge" religious essays by so many others, but you will never read the above. You will never really ever hear the truth, until science jumps up and proclaims it first. Well friend, you will hear the truth from me. Much of what you've read so far I wrote twenty years ago. Daily, yes daily, science proves my observations over and over and PROVES THE ULTIMATE TRUTHS OF THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD!

This brings to mind a piece of scripture which to my knowledge no religious group or institution has ever satisfactorily explained, some even claiming it to be one of the Bible's great mysteries. It is a passage that I find no problem with in light of Christ's teachings as a child in the temple. Additionally, as you review my findings as it pertains to the creation of man you too will better understand the significance of the verse. "Verily I say unto you, all sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation: Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit." (Mark 3:28-30)

This physiological approach of Christ's truly crystallizes the focus of the absolute truth of the scriptures when we are reminded that even for all of God's efforts and good intentions, the evil will remain evil, even though given the benefit of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and His teachings. This is born out in the very beginning of the Bible when we are given the set of circumstances when God created Adam and Eve. From this union came Cain and Abel. Cain slew Abel and went into the land of Nod and took a wife. Can you not see, dear reader, the ramifications of this simple story?

Many know that the Hebrew word for day also means weeks, months, centuries, eras and millennium. Taking for granted that the translators erred when using the term "day" in the story of the creation; one is not hard-pressed to grasp the teachings of evolution and the Holy Bible as well. And, looking at the creation of Adam and Eve, and how Cain somehow found a mate in a world that had only three people, one could again have little problem in surmising that Cain may very well be the key to finding the renowned "missing link" between modern man and the ape like cave dwellers. The Holy Scriptures reaffirms this in Genesis 4:13-26 where in verse 15 God places a mark upon Cain's forehead to protect him from those who would slay him (presumably cave dwellers) and in verse 17 Cain's wife gives him a son by the name of Enoch. From this union a city is begun from the following generations. In verse 25 we learn Eve gives birth to another son by the name of Seth, and in the last verse of this chapter Seth has a son by the name of Enos. We must assume that Seth, like Cain, took a wife in the same manner that must have undoubtedly been from evolutionary stock, a woman from the history of our planet as opposed to the instantaneous creation of

Adam and Eve by God's hand. Haven't you found it odd that evolution can be traced only through the DNA of women and not men, a verifiable journey that can be traced to the first ape woman who walked upright? Just a thought.

Once again returning to Mark 3:28-30, it is easily understood how there are some among us clothes in the raiment of mankind who are naught but wild animals. Though each has the choice, it is very easy to see how some people will never live their lives in harmony with others because they have blasphemed (lied) against the Holy Ghost (their very nature of being) and have an unclean spirit (that of a wild beast rather than that of a thinking human being). Genetically, there would be a definite tie between the evolutionist's theory of creation and God's actual work in this area.

So, whether by accident or by design, there was a melding of two distinct genetic codes and it is this error of creation which haunts mankind today. Jesus came to give us the tools to understand our plight and to correct our perceptions of events. Through this perceptual modification of our physiological nature, Adam and Eve, the first human beings on this planet called Earth, give we. Thus, you now know the secret that compels me to believe that evil can be born and that DNA can be "modified" by reaction with the Holy Spirit within our soul. Confused and lost ministers make the call for you to change your life by accepting Jesus as your Savior. I make the call for you to change your life and the lives of your unborn by UNDERSTANDING the teachings of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior and the true Son of God.

Do you believe in the evolution of the mind? A quick biblical recap. God created Adam and Eve. Didn't work, so threw them out of the Garden of Eden. Didn't work again, so God flooded everything. Didn't work, so He had to destroy a tower and confuse men's' minds with different languages. Didn't work. Then He revealed Himself to Abraham. Didn't work, so He destroyed a couple of evil cities and chose Abraham's people to be His. Didn't work out, so He sent them into bondage with the Egyptians. Then He sent Moses. Gave Moses the name men should use when calling upon God, set them free and gave them the "law" to live by. That didn't work either. So finally, He sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to show men the true way to His kingdom, to fulfill the law (put an end to it). Sadly, from my perspective, that didn't work either, because man did not have the INTELLIGENCE to realize that to live by the law is to accept the fact that one is of evolutionary stock, incapable of human thought, human love and understanding. Fulfilling the law carries with it the meaning that man is capable of human action and interaction without referring to what is right and wrong. Are you, dear reader, of the former or latter? Do you need rules for everything you do or does the Holy Spirit (Comforter) speak to you about what is right and wrong? How often have you heard that you cannot legislate morality? Therefore, does morality have a legal definition? I don't think so.

John 10:16 brings to light another aspect of the great mystery and controversy surrounding the departure of Jesus Christ from this world. It reads, "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." For most Christians there is no answer for this statement by Jesus, but the Mormons and their religious order were founded on the belief that Jesus Christ walked the North American continent after He ascended into Heaven from Judea.

I will not involve myself in the merits or nonmerits of a religious belief based on the premise that only one man was given the record of Christ's teachings on this continent with the original record having been carried away by Angels. But, I will concede to the original premise that Christ did come to North America. We find much evidence to this from accounts of early explorers who reported that Central Americans welcomed the treacherous white man with open arms because they thought it was the bearded, fair skinned God returning as He had promised their ancestors He would. We see this evidence of Christ's influence throughout the American Indian Tribes, with each retaining some part of His teachings in their religious ceremonies.

There are many, many books dealing with the subject of North and Central American Indian religious beliefs. Looking over my own resources of works which have been published on the subject of Pre-Columbian beliefs in a White God, in 1982 there were no less than seventy-nine (79) titles and eminent authors. I am sure there are more, now. The over-riding description of this White God is that of a tall man, white or fair complexion, bearded with blue eyes and wearing loose flowing robes. They say He came from Heaven and went back to Heaven, and in between He cured the lame, healed the sick, healed the blind and gave life back to those who were dead. His main teachings were to love one another and always be kind and charitable to everyone. He could also bring forth waters from solid rock, make plains into mountains and vice versa. It is generally told He came after a great darkness had covered the land. Doesn't this remind you of the time when Jesus was put to death in Jerusalem? And, when He left them, He promised He would return.

Who was He? In Mexico He was called Quetzalcoatl, the God of Light. In South America, depending on your language, He was known as Bochia, Sume, Hyustus, Viracocha, Wixepechocha, Gucumatz and Votan. In the Polynesian Islands they call Him Lona, Kana, Kane, Kon, Kanaloa, Kane-Akea and Tongaroa. In Peru they called Him Con-Tici and Illa-Tici. The Mayans referred to Him as Kukulcan. Always, He is known as the Creator and God of the Light.

Turning to our own North American continent, we are told that the early American Indians believed in the Holy Trinity. By this I mean; Father, Mother and Son: the Father and Son creating heaven and earth. The natives referred to them as Caculha, Huracan, Chipi-Caculhu and Rexa-Caculha, meaning Heart of Heaven.

In this same vein, an ancient Indian manuscript entitled "Popul Vuh" also speaks of the Holy Trinity and also of a devil who lived before the earth was created, whose evil is displayed in this self-description by the devil, "my eyes are of silver, bright, resplendent as precious stones, as emeralds, my teeth shine like perfect stones, like the face of the sky...So then I am the sun, I am the moon, for all mankind." The "Popul Vuh" also depicts the story of a woman tempted to eat the fruit of a tree, worrying if she will die if she does. The great flood, which covered the earth, was a favorite fable of the early American Indians and the Polynesians.

The feared Yaqui Indians of Northern Mexico tell of the survival of twelve holy men who taught among the people and they also performed a sacrament similar to Lord's Last Supper in honor of their God and the twelve holy men. It is little wonder Hawaiians mistook Captain James Cook for their returning White God, as did Montezuma honor Hernando Cortez as their returning White God.

Recent history gives us even stronger clues to this mystery in the discovery of many ancient artifacts on American soil that date to the days of Syrian dialects which had ceased to exist thousands of years before the birth of Christ. Hence comes the belief by some that the "lost tribes of Israel" may be our own American Indian. Many finds of this sort have been by ordinary citizens digging in their backyards for one reason or another. The most noteworthy of these finds was in Georgia by a woman working her garden. At the time, the discovery was taken to the University of Georgia. It turned out to be a stone tablet bearing carvings of the previously mentioned ancient dead language. I do not know the artifact's present whereabouts, but I am sure that any serious student of these matters could find all the references and locations of each item in this group from any local member of the Mormon faith.

But, the mystery does not stop in the Americas nor with the Mormons. It continues into Asia and the stronghold of the Eastern Religions. We are all familiar somewhat with the Islam faith, that Allah is the only true God and Mohammed was His prophet. This same Mohammed wrote the Bible for the Islamic Religion and it is called the Koran. Interestingly, it is reported in the Koran, Mohammed met a man in the Himalayas Mountains who was clothed in a flowing white robe. When Mohammed questioned the man, He replied that He was a shepherd who had come to gather His flock. In reading the entire text of their conversation, one is dramatically impressed with the idea that unknowingly Mohammed had come face to face with none other than Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Muslims will tell you today that Jesus was a prophet of God who was killed by the Jews. They will also tell you that Jesus will return and proclaim to the world that Islam is the only true faith! They won't call Him the Son of God, but they sure will tell you that Jesus will come back in His glory to proclaim to the world the power of Allah and the purity of Islam. The location of Mohammed's meeting with Christ, the Himalayas Mountains, conjures to mind every known

element of the Eastern Mystic and Occult Religions, which are so prevalent in that part of the world.

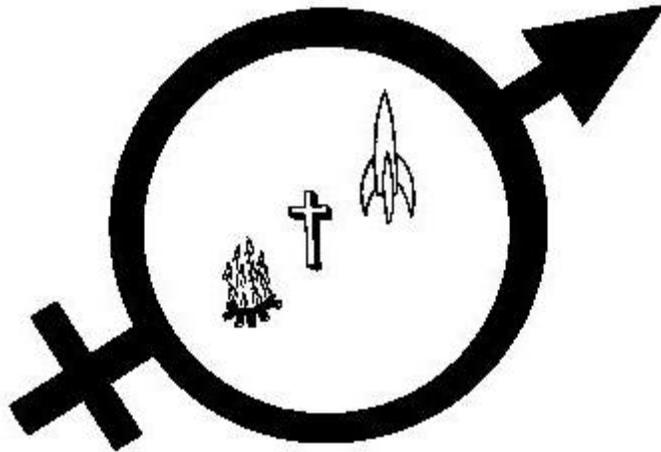
But, again, the mystery does not stop there, for in the country known as India there is a group of people who daily visit a tomb to worship what they claim are the remains of their Master. They claim to be descendants of a group who crossed the Himalayas some 1,300 years ago (about the time Mohammed met Christ, and in the same location) and that they refer to themselves as Christians. Upon examining the tomb, which in fact is a great stone building, one finds a large rock hewn coffin in the middle with no other adornments in the blackened with age single large room. There is no name since the people of those times did not place name markers over their dead. But, they did make impressions of the dead person's feet and hands before burial. The feet impressions are at the foot of the coffin on the floor and the hands are at the sides of the coffin on the floor. What is found are the hand and footprints of a man who had been nailed to a cross like our Lord and Savior was crucified in Jerusalem. Is it the remains of Jesus Christ, the Son of God? No one knows, nor will they ever know because it is the unbreakable, unbendable law of India that no tomb shall ever be defiled by any man for any reason.

My ex son-in-law, of whom I have great respect and admiration for his service in the military, told me a strange story of reports he had heard while on active duty in an overseas assignment. (Since that time, I have heard similar reports from others about the following account.) He worked for three years in Japan and was fortunate to have his family there also. He told me of a broadcast which not only appeared on local Japanese television stations, but also on the Armed Forces station and was eventually printed in the Army Times. The year was 1975 and I am wondering why our Networks did not let the American people know of this major discovery. Simply stated, an ancient scroll had been found in a cave and was dated by experts to be nearly two thousand years old. Carefully treating the papers so it could be unrolled and read, a startling story was revealed. It told of a fair skinned, bearded man in flowing white robes who walked among the people, healing the sick, giving sight to the blind, making the lame walk and bringing the dead back to life. Again, it is told that the man taught the people to love one another with charity. A blockbuster of a find, but one that has been kept fairly secret in the Western part of the world. I wonder why? I also wonder if this incident might have been the reason for all the evangelists having so much success in the Eastern countries back in the late 70's? Maybe, but no one is telling.

In my mind, I find no difficulty in embracing the truth and majesty of Jesus Christ and I am comforted to see more and more evidence, which attests to the fact He never broke a promise to mankind. Rather than weakening my faith, it becomes stronger and stronger with each new discovery about our Lord and Savior. As it is written, He spoke first to the people of Israel. Then, as foretold in the Holy Scriptures, traveled to every continent and people of this world with His

message of truth and life. If there are lands which have not yet yielded the secrets of His visit, then it is the fault of the society which dwelled there at that time, not our Lord and Master's. I truly believe after His great mission was over He left His temporal body behind at rest, awaiting the Day of Judgment, for if Jesus walked as a man walked, suffered as man suffered, then surely He would resurrect His body for that great moment as will mankind be resurrected in that hour. Besides, why couldn't Jesus live as long (and perhaps much longer) as they used to live in the early days of Genesis before the flood? He was born of a virgin, who was also reported to have been born of a virgin, to make a way for a more perfect (two steps removed from evolution) human capable of holding the spirit of the Son of God. Why not? Makes sense to me.

The great mystery seeks only an open mind for its discovery, a mind that, like mine, will come to marvel and rejoice that truly did there walk among men the Son of God.



## Chapter 6

### WORLD MORALITY, THEN AND NOW

It may seem strange to begin this chapter on world morality with an ancient fable, but it serves the purpose of acquainting the reader with the marked contrast of what was once an acceptable story to tell friends and children of an afternoon before and during the time of Christ. I learned of the tale from a highly educated teacher in a public school, high school to be exact, who not only held four Masters Degrees but also two Doctorates. He taught science in public schools so he could pursue his favorite hobby, the acquisition of knowledge.

In ancient Greece there lived a giant by the name of Gargantus whose phallus was the greatest and most powerful in the land. Women vied to see who

could tempt Gargantus into their bedchamber so they could sample his wonderful specimen. Gargantus was so much in demand, he had fashioned a leather pouch with leather thongs that tied about the waist. The pouch was the exact size of his phallus and in it he placed sweet smelling herbs and spices by which to soak his great member when not in use on some happy wench. And, if you want to know, the approximate size of Gargantus' phallus just go to any school laboratory and ask to see a "gargantuan test tube"!

Not a story one would tell their small children in this age, but quite acceptable and proper two thousand years ago in the majority of the known world.

To all the hell fire and brimstone evangelists who constantly bombard the air waves with great voices against the so-called moral decline of the world, I can only feel very sorry for their abundant ignorance of the planet on which they live and the people they are supposed to serve. In error they point to the segment of society (criminal and/or immoral) that represents such a small minority in any community, and on this basis, condemn the whole world. Any law enforcement officer will tell you the same people commit the same crimes over and over again. Surely, if one person steals from a hundred people, then there are a hundred victims but only one thief. The same can be said for most other crimes including rape, murders for profit, prostitution, etc. The most important aspect of this observation and one you must keep in mind is that such activities are not the accepted norms in this country or in most other countries on this planet.

Recognizing the above, in recent years, our governments (local, state and federal) have begun to build more prisons to hold more persons convicted of much lesser crimes than would have been incarcerated in years past. Yet, if you will notice, all levels of crime have actually begun to drop. More in prison means less crime victims? Is it a "secular recognition" of the spiritual secret I've already exposed to you in previous chapters, that some people are not people at all but some sort of possibly trainable animal in the guise of humanity? You be the judge. And as for our foreign brethren, their television leaves much to be desired. Cable has introduced me to many, many vulgar, sexually oriented programs displayed in Japan and some European countries. This is a very sad circumstance that gives much credence to statements of condemnation by many Muslim factions. I don't have much of an argument against their observations, except as they cast America in the same light. Yes, we do have such vulgar programming, but it is not yet broadcast over the "free" airwaves. You have to pay extra for the cable access to participate in such. But, I wonder how much longer until we, too, give in to the "ravings" of the morally bankrupt and follow suit with other countries. Never, I hope. I know that my voice will be against any such movement.

Unless you actually live on a "red light district" somewhere, compare the morals of your community, your state, your nation and world in general with the

following accounts of what was once the accepted moral condition of the world during Christ's time. I believe you will readily understand more fully the tremendous differences of the philosophy Jesus taught, in so doing softening the harsh structure of the Hebrew Law and demanding radical change in the societies of the rest of the world.

Five hundred years before the birth of Christ, the Greeks coined the words "paidos" and "erastes" which refers to the love of boys. We are all familiar with the Golden Age of Greece and the many works of art portraying the physical form of both females and males. I have read accounts that those who participated in the Olympics were required to attend in the nude to insure females were not pretending to be males in order to compete. Many of the famous Greek writers and philosophers such as Ovid, Aristophanes and Socrates readily praised the male form. And Plato, in a work entitled "Charmides", describes how a host of admirers follows a beautiful boy into a public building and openly shoved each other to see who would sit next to him. Plato also wrote that all the men turned to gaze upon the boy, presumably out of lust. Further research by historians tell us the great Horace and Virgil were no doubt homosexuals and that Alcibiades was proud in his role as a practicing homosexual.

Let us not forget the Romans for it was reported the great Julius Caesar submitted to the caresses of Octavius and this same great and powerful Caesar was openly described by the Roman Senate during one of their heated debates as the "Queen of Bithynia" because of the notorious love affair between the King of Bithynia and Julius Caesar.

In Athens, Solon the lawgiver established whorehouses throughout the city for the convenience of the citizenry. It is believed by some scholars that the profits were so large that Solon was able to build the temple of Aphrodite Pandemos with the proceeds.

Prostitution had reached such a high degree of professionalism in Greece that there were three distinct categories given for each harlot's level of competence. "Pornae" was the name given to common prostitutes who could be had for two drachmas (two dollars?). Advertising was simply done by hanging a brightly colored wooden phallus on the front door. "Auletrides" were more talented in that they could sing and dance. The most accomplished and professional call girls were given the title of "Hetaerae", whose average charge was one hundred drachmas. Remember Demosthenes? The Hetaerae Lais quoted him a ten thousand drachmas fee. It is not known if he paid the amount asked or not.

Through the Greek author Sappho, during the sixth century BC, we learn she ran a sort of school for young girls in the city of Mytilene on the Greek Island of Lesbos. What did she teach these rich and well-educated young girls from the proper families of that day? Lesbianism, of course!

Rome, as previously stated, fared no better on the morals scale. Mark Anthony, the famous and great lover of Cleopatra, established himself early in life by being the favorite lover of many Roman noblemen, a confirmed bisexual. Roman women made the rounds too. Augustus Caesar's daughter, Julia, was married to Agrippa but soon found herself in court. Seneca's writings relate, "Augustus learned that she (Julia) had been accessible to scores of paramours, that in nocturnal revels she roamed the city, that the very Forum and the rostrum from which her father had proposed the law against adultery had been chosen by the daughter for her debaucheries, that she had daily resorted to the statue where the whores came to offer themselves and there sold her favors and sought the right to every indulgence with even unknown paramours." She was banished and Augustus never forgave her but her behavior was representative of the general citizenry and the society morals of that day.

It must be considered by the reader that even though Augustus seemed to preach a moral tone in relation to the marriage bed, it was the overall tone of Roman ethics and law which dictated that no citizen would be denied the right to commerce in whatever fashion he wished, so long as it did not interfere with the rights of other Roman citizens. Conceivably, as was most likely the case, whole cadres of enterprises were run by respectable citizens, which fulfilled the baser instincts of the maniacs of their day. Whole military campaigns were waged on the basis of what could be stolen in terms of wealth and bodies that could be converted to wealth from the perverse of that society. The murder and perversities contained in the most hideous nightmares was a reality to be performed whenever the wealthy Roman nobleman cared, as long as it did not involve another Roman citizen. That was really no obstacle as he had the whole world of that day to choose from and many private entrepreneurs ready, willing and able to fulfill their perverse needs.

For the poor, there was always the arena where Christians were used as human torches or as live food for wild, exotic animals. I say Christians, but there were many, many other captive people used for this purpose before the Christians came along. Records show that prostitutes openly sold their wares at every entrance to the Coliseum. Not only that, they described in detail for anyone to hear their particular specialty and the cost for their favors. Don't forget, this was a society that included children, and like we try to do with our young today, the Roman child was included as either observer or participant in these spectacles. No doubt there were many gladiators who hacked each other to death just for a moment of glory, or gold, or the possibility of freedom, these were the heroes to be emulated by the youth of that day.

The following Christian era almost brought an end to sexual involvement of any kind, even to the point that something was impure about sex in marriage. From six hundred to eleven hundred AD, the Dark Ages brought back a lust for sexual fulfillment by the Christian community. Few know how the daughter of an

official in the Papal Palace was able to obtain for her lover the office of Pope in 904 AD. For history's sake, her name was Marozia. Ten years later, Marozia's mother (not wanting to be out done by her daughter) got her own adulterous lover the position of Pope in 914 AD. He was better known and Pope John XII and was eventually tried on charges of incest and adultery before the Ecclesiastical Council.

We learn of the "double standard" of courtship developed during the Renaissance around the fifteenth century AD. The men placed their fair ladies on a pedestal and humped everything else they could get to lie down. At the same time, the wife of Henri, King of Harvarre, lived with his highness for thirty years without ever allowing sexual intercourse. Henri found his enjoyment elsewhere with other ladies, but in accordance with the times did not interfere with his wife's preaching to the populace on the subject of the saintly qualities of remaining a virgin.

The sixteenth century AD brought the Reformation. Sadly, it also gave birth to the Puritans who believed in the codes of anti-sexualism and the burning of witches. They also resurrected the death penalty for adultery, all under the guise of strict Christian Ethics, supposedly honoring Jesus Christ's teachings. A typical scene in New Haven, Connecticut in the year 1660 AD is this charge in court against a young couple, "In the presence of others, these shameful people sat down together, his arm, being about her, and her arm upon his shoulder or about his neck; and he kissed her and she kissed him, or they kissed one another, continuing in the posture for about half an hour."

In France, Louis XIV was making love to every available woman in sight. One of them, Madame de Montespan celebrated the Black Mass by being nude upon an altar. The Black Mass was probably created so every participant could exercise his or her pent-up lusts on every other participant. At the same time, Charles II in England was paying dearly out the Royal Treasury for his personal harem which included seventy thousand dollars a year to the Duchess of Cleveland, forty-five thousand dollars a year to the Duchess of Portsmouth and twenty thousand dollars a year to Nell Gwyn.

The eighteenth century in England brought the emergence of the B-girl in the taverns, coffee houses and inns. In the year 1700 AD public baths emerge as the "in place" to be. An anonymous author of the day writes, "...we went to Cross Bath, where most of the quality resorts, more families for pleasure than cures. Here is performed all the wanton dalliances imaginable; celebrated beauties, panting breasts, and curious shapes, almost exposed to public view; languishing eyes, darting, killing glances, tempting, amorous postures, attended to soft music, enough to provoke a vestal of forbidden pleasure, captivate a saint and charm a dove." Continuing, he writes, "...gentlemen who desire beds may have them for two shillings per night, for one single person, but if two lie together three shillings both, which room and bed are fit for the entertainment of persons

of highest quality.” In Spain, the name of Giovanni Jacopo Casanova becomes world famous for this exploits which included an acknowledged one hundred and fifteen love affairs. Stories were told that Casanova’s sex tool was much in demand by the ladies because it was curiously curved and had a rather large wart on it. Just a story, but indicative of the morals in that region of the world.

The nineteenth century gave the world Victorian England and once again shame was equated with sex. A woman in those days could have given birth and reared several children and readily admit they had never seen their husband naked. At the same time, sadism and masochism reared their ugly heads in France under the authorship of the Marquis de Sade. A typical story would involve a young virgin who is bound, raped in all openings by someone infected with a social disease, sewn up while still conscious (her privates that is, with the infection inside), then thrown upon the road naked.

Since morality is generally connected with sex, I have spent the majority of this chapter laying a foundation for an intelligent review of the question. Not to be overlooked are the methods by which governments rose to power through murder, theft, slavery, etc. The stories on these subjects are endless and would serve little purpose other than belaboring the reader.

The best example I can give of how the Christian nations tried to subjugate other nations in a totally immoral manner is the barbaric way China was enslaved. The Boxer Rebellion is historically depicted as being run by crazed Chinese bent on killing all whites. What we are not told is why the Christian nations were referred to by the Chinese as “White Devils” when all we were supposedly trying to do was carry on trade with their country. The truth of the matter, regardless of how one tries to rationalize it, was that trade consisted of the import into China of opium and hard drugs under armed escort in exchange for rare silks and spices. We, meaning the Christian block of nations, were turning the hard working, industrious Chinese into a nation of drug addicts and junkies with the threat of war if they resisted. Can you imagine our reaction if some group of nations dictated to us that our children must become deranged with their drugs in exchange for goods and services and if we refused they would just shoot us outright?

Anyone who participated in the demonstrations of the late sixties and early seventies knows the rest of the dismal story of how America, among others, subjugated many countries by use of the CIA in establishing whatever government we wanted which would serve our interests, regardless of the fate of the people in that country. But, is this the case today? I think not.

Morality, as you may have surmised, covers more than just sex. It affects our every waking moment; in business and industry, in government, in our personal dealings with others. We recently put our home up for sale and in order to affect a quick sale offered it at ten thousand dollars below market value. Our

realtor was offered a contract by another realtor representing buyers who were supposedly “qualified” to render the offer. They were not and three months later we learned the buyers couldn’t borrow a pack of bubble gum! The buyer’s realtor had gambled that the buyers could follow through with their offer, and placed our realtor in a position where he had to post “Pending” on our property. This stopped all other offers while they searched for a lender. Certainly, this was a concrete example of how morality comes into play in our business and personal dealings with others. Fortunate for us, in Tennessee, it is also illegal within the real estate trade. It is called “misrepresentation”.

Another immoral example not covered by the laws of Tennessee concerning the banking industry is their use of automated “pre-approval” web sites. The sites ask all the pertinent questions, then give the consumer a preset borrowing limit on the potential home they wish to buy. With this in hand, the consumer selects and then makes a supposed “qualified” offer on a home they are interested in buying. Only much later, unless the credit worthiness of the borrower is above standards, they find out they are denied the credit they sought. The results are the same for the one selling their home as in the previous example. Everyone gets burned, the homeowner, the realtors involved and the potential buyer. All because the bank wants to generate additional home mortgage leads without considering the harm they do to others with an incomplete and flawed process that does not consider the complete credit worthiness of the borrower. That only comes if the borrower is willing to pay the banking institution a fee.

Remember Alexandria, the ancient library and center for learning which purported to have discovered many secrets of science? True, the scholars and great men of learning were there, but humanity was sadly missing. It was the common belief that there were only two kinds of people in the world, Greeks and barbarians. Slavery was a good and useful, excusable tool to these great scholars. Women fared little better in their eyes except to carry on the childbearing process in such a way to insure a pure Greek race. Yes, for all their knowledge and intellect, not one word was uttered in behalf of humanity, only acceptance of the situation and institutions that were in place at the time.

The preceding example is only to let you know that morality and justice do not necessarily coincide with the search for scientific knowledge. But, for all our accomplishments, there is evidence of a great burst of world morality. And, that this new awareness has only taken place during this past century. Suddenly, slavery is no longer tolerated nor is it any longer considered a proper thing to regard women as merely pieces of property to do with as men wish. I realize the years of suffering and bloodletting which took place to bring these two major moral objectives into being, but the reader should be reminded that structured societies have been around for many thousands of years. To have established a “world point of view” which is 180 degrees in the opposite direction within 10, 20, 30 or even 50 years that would have lasting consequences is very much a

miracle in itself and a definite indication mankind is actively reaching for a better, more Godlike morality.

Nowhere in today's societies do we see the gross immorality as was evidenced in Jesus Christ's time. We do not teach our children to be perverts, nor do we allow its institutionalization. Our government has become more and more responsive to the needs of all its citizens, rich and poor alike. We demand moral judgments of our leaders and we expect the highest morality in their daily lives. The majority of the most powerful nations on earth move with purpose born of moral judgments which America first began to foster and give the example some forty-odd years ago, centering on civil rights and later the Viet Nam war. In our own land, the debates on abortion, equal rights, equal protection under the law and embryo research has stirred a great sense of morality versus expediency. These are not the signs of moral decay but a great surge of effort towards moral perfection, not only based upon the law but more importantly on individual, personal principles as well.

Every time I hear some minister or evangelist expound on the misconceptions that our morals are bankrupted and that we are moving farther away from God, I cannot but believe it is they who have lost sight of Jesus Christ and in order to feel any personal worth must corrupt others and condemn all they do not understand. Not even the simplest folk, once given a basis of truth and knowledge of the world's past would fall for such a short sighted and ignorant philosophy. In no other area of struggle do we see the importance of knowledge and the verse which says, "The truth shall make you free," as we do in the area of morality in government, business and our personal lives. I sincerely hope this chapter has given you tools by which you can see the truth of the status of our world morality and its ever upward trend, and in this will find a greater hope for the future of mankind and his ultimate destiny in the universe.



## Chapter 7

### **MORE THAN ONE RESURRECTION**

In the following chapter I will discuss Heaven and Hell and in Chapter 12 we will cover the correct aspects of obtaining Salvation, but for now I would like to explode the popular myth there is only one resurrection and that to die in sin means an everlasting torment with no other chance to be saved. Many Christian denominations will cry lie, lie, but I disagree with their attempts to enslave mankind with fear. Jesus Christ and His Apostles also disagree with any person or group who would threaten their congregations with hell fire and damnation for acts which they perceive as contrary to God's will or more importantly, their will.

To begin with, since I came to grips with the true doctrine as taught by Jesus Christ, I have not had to rationalize any passage of Holy Scripture to suit preconceived notions of what is or is not true meaning. As was originally intended, there is little room for splintering groups to disagree over bits and pieces of Scripture. One such passage is found in John 14:2, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." Some would say this is a general description of Heaven, but others contend there are "degrees" of Heavenly Existence. To find consistency with Revelations, I whole-heartedly agree with the latter thought. After all, Jesus was speaking with His Apostles just before ascending into Heaven, and if not to reassure His Apostles of a greater reward for their sacrifice, why bring the subject up? Most denominations preach the same Heavenly Status for everyone, but this is not true and does not coincide with many other Scriptures dealing with works and their significance in the Divine Purpose.

Your "born again" Christians will vehemently disagree with the works theory of salvation, but they have involved themselves in a discussion of differences which they have created from false premises to begin with. We are not speaking of the only way to grace, but a method by which one is sized up for God's reward. In John 5:36, we are told that the people may know Jesus sends John because of the works John does. Again, in John 10:38, he says the people do not have to believe in John, but they can believe in the works he performs and know God is in him. We know we are not saved by works alone, but there are so many references to degrees of works and their reward potential from God. Matthew 16:27 says Jesus shall reward every man according to his works. Romans 2:6 again reaffirms the foregoing, "Who will render to every man according to his works." James 2:14-16 is very explicit and says outright that no man is saved merely by faith. 1 Peter 1:17 is even harsher in its treatment of those who do nothing, "And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's works, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear."

Well, enough discussion of this that is better treated in Chapter 12. My divergence into the foregoing was merely to set the groundwork for our discussion of Revelations as it pertains to the resurrection, in hopes you will better understand the meaning of more than one resurrection and chance at entering God's Kingdom. Those Christian institutions and denominations who hold their congregations by threat of daily retaliations and fear of God's punishment in everlasting Hell will oppose any reference to the Holy Plan as given us in Revelations and will always try to rationalize this great word to suit their own purposes. I cannot but point to Revelations 22:18-19 which promises terrible retribution for anyone who adds or detracts from this vital prophecy. Let they who would say different bear the burden of false teaching. You, I hope, will reconsider and find great peace and joy in the thought that those who have gone before you have a good chance of going to Heaven, even though you did not know at the time whether or not they were saved and in God's grace.

Revelations is the most beautifully written book in the Holy Bible, and one can only wonder at the images Paul relates as pertaining to the coming of God's Reign on earth. But, for our purposes, we begin reading at the twentieth chapter.

We are told that the Devil, Satan, is cast into the bottomless pit and is sealed up for a thousand years so he cannot deceive the nations anymore. It is in this time frame that those who have died in Christ are given eternal life and reign in Heaven. But, we are reminded that all the others who were dead did not live again during this time, and that this is the first resurrection.

At the end of the thousand years, Satan is given his freedom and he goes to the "four quarters" of the earth to entice men to go against and attempt to overthrow God's Kingdom. He is successful in obtaining an army, which is numbered as "the sand of the sea". To no avail, as they are destroyed by fire and Satan is once again cast into the lake of fire and brimstone. Next, we are told the dead, both great and small, are brought before judgment to be judged out of the Book of Life. We are told that the sea and hell give up all dead to be so judged. Anyone not found in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. Interestingly, this is called the second death.

We have seen a great army destroyed, then all those lost and evil men brought back from the grave and the lake of fire to be judged out the Book of Life.

Think carefully. For a thousand years, those who are truly Christians will dwell and reign with Christ. Then, Satan is given the power to once again corrupt other souls to battle Jesus and those who are with Him. Even so corrupted, we see that these lost souls have another chance by being judged according to the Book of Life, Rev. 20:12, "...according to their works."

We are reminded again in Revelations 21:8, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." Two chances for every sinner? Two resurrections? If I am to believe in the Holy Scriptures I must accept this as God's Plan for everyone and I should find joy and contentment for lost brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, friends and loved ones, that we have a God who is not only just but merciful to all His children in the last days. Even so, pride and stubborn, bull-headedness will cause many to be denied shelter with Christ in God's new Kingdom on earth.

I am left with graphic impressions of how God's Plan will work for us, as each phase of Revelations' message unfolds and brings us closer to the truth of God's love for us and His steadfastness in allowing each soul the opportunity to choose his path to either salvation or destruction. First of all, if we die in Christ's

grace, we are resurrected to live with Him for a thousand years while the Devil is imprisoned. Next, the others who were left after the world's destruction are tempted at the end of the thousand years to try and overthrow Christ and His Saints. They are destroyed and the Devil is once again thrown into the lake of fire. I must presume that those the Devil was not able to tempt are allowed to enter the Pearly Gates. Then, the sea and hell are commanded to give up their dead for judgment. This would include those who not only died in sin, but also were tempted into open battle and conflict against Jesus and Heaven. Even so, if their name is in the Book of Life (according to their works) they are saved and allowed to live with God. Those who are not written therein are once again cast into the lake of fire. And, we are told this is the second death.

In this I find peace and a Divine Plan suited to mankind, a plan that agrees with all the other Holy Scriptures.

Not only giving the reader the blessed assurance of contentment for our lost loved ones, we are given a new hope for all mankind and a world which will have for the first time a true Sanctuary. "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." (Revelations 21:1-4) John continues further with a description of the new Jerusalem and the life that will be available there.

It is not the end of the world, but a new beginning, nor is it the end of mankind on earth, but a continuation of his seed with the promise of Sanctuary to all who seek it. We are aware that not all perish in the great war and those who are thrown into the lake of fire are sent there because they not only failed in the flesh to do that which is pleasing to God, they also failed in the spirit to meet His requirements for salvation. Even so, we are given an image of the new Jerusalem as a Sanctuary against the evil still in the world. Rev. 22:10-11, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." And finally in Revelations 22:17, "And the spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

As commanded in Revelations 22:18-19, I do not interpret nor rationalize to suit the purposes of Balaam but believe in the warnings given, "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man

shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”



## **Chapter 8**

### **HEAVEN AND HELL**

The subjects of heaven and hell are near and dear to most hearts of the Christian faith. Sad to say, it is also a tool used by many institutions to hold their congregations in check through fear of reprisals from God for not conforming to those particular congregations' demands. Or, as a reward to some who give monetary support for various projects of the organization. A very old and sad story of how things operated even before the birth of Christ, the Son of God, the One who came to put an end to the old and give new light, new knowledge to mankind so we would be able to shed the shackles of superstition and fear and seek God the Father on a higher level of consciousness.

Hell originally meant, by the early Christian Fathers, to be a place of the dead in general, or a place simply of departed souls. It was made to mean suffering and torment, theologically, around 600 AD. At this time, the original meaning of hell was changed by the Catholics to mean “purgatory”, a place between heaven and hell. And, a place whereby the prayers of the Catholic Church and members of the family could save a sinner from hell.

Through this later interpretation, hell substitutes for the Hebrew word “sheol” and the Greek word “Hades” in the Holy Scriptures. Again, this change subverts the original intent of these two words, which would have formerly meant the unseen world of the dead. The Greeks felt that Hades was a place where the dead were silent and forgetful of the past, a world of shadows. There is little difference in the Hebrew sheol, except they did not believe in death as a total extinction. We see this in the Hebrew description, “gathered to his fathers”. Even so, it was a place to be feared with dismay since it was a cutting off of the soul from God and the living.

Many Christians sometimes take for granted that there is a heaven and afterlife following death, but the reader should be reminded that this belief was a wonderful, new promise given to the world by Jesus Christ. Just think of the ramifications this new theology worked upon the populace, a chance to literally live once again, in the flesh and made perfect of limb.

Many Christians sometimes take for granted that there is a fire and brimstone hell for all who sin in the sight of God. Be as it may, the reader should also be made aware that the Greek translation of the Old Testament, the “Septuagint”, still refers to hell as Hades and carries its full weight in the original meaning of the term. What I am trying to say, the marked contrast between a fire and brimstone hell and a wonderful, carefree heaven does not exist for everyone in their quest for theological perfection. Hell to them still means a world of shadows, a world of forgetfulness, a world of separation from God and the living.

The more research one does with an open mind, the more one sees how the use of words and their applied meanings can confuse the original intent. We begin to see how many other words are substituted and translated to mean other things in the English language. Sheol is often translated as “hell”. Other places it receives the translation “grave”. And, finally, is also translated to mean, “pit”. It is easy to understand how some individuals might equate the full meaning of the word hell to naught but the grave, and absolute death without the benefit of an afterlife. Well yes, this is true, but it doesn’t occur until the end of the world when God sits on the throne, after the thousand year reign of Christ, etc., etc., when Satan and his followers are thrown into the lake of fire to be CONSUMED. But, not before.

Make no mistake, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, equated this separation from God the Father by using the designation “gehenna” which the translators

wrote as hell. Oh, how I wish someone would print the Holy Bible using the proper words so people could understand what they were reading, instead of constantly misinterpreting the Scriptures and following the way of Balaam in their ignorant happiness! Jesus, by using Gehenna as a place of torment for the wicked, conjured in the minds of the Hebrew the terrible things which took place in the Valley of Hinnom. Surely, there is no doubt in my mind, that many would have continued in their sinful ways preferring a death of forgetfulness without suffering. But, Jesus foresaw this weakness in mankind and equated separation from God with Gehenna. The Valley of Hinnom was near Jerusalem and was a place where idolaters worshipped the God Molech by sacrificing little children by fire. In time to come, it was used by the citizens of Jerusalem as a city dump and burnt their trash there. By Christ's equating of Hades, a place of forgetfulness, to this valley, a place of constant fire with a history of devilish defilements, He made the point clear that heaven was truly a place to be sought after by all mankind.

No one has to be a beholder of vast knowledge to make the observation that Jesus taught in parables to an ignorant and half savage world. Why is it necessary to look upon His teachings as parables on one hand, then take certain statements He made from among the parables and say this is absolute, concrete truth! Each and every time this happens, I am confronted with a problem of trying to rationalize the truth of that statement when comparing it to other Scriptures. If God's truth is absolute and never changing, why am I forced to rationalize anything? The point is, if you have to rationalize or modify a particular statement in order for it to conform to a particular belief, or to conform to other contradictory Scriptures on the subject, then you have fallen in error of the true meaning as intended by our Lord and Savior. And, no doubt, it is the direct result of some religious institution asserting itself as master of its congregation, this misconception of scriptural truth. In each instance, I feel the presence of evil in its cleverest disguise, the disguise of saintly goodness in search of the truth.

Remember, Balaam and the false teachers offer easy access to God and a simple doctrine to suit the masses, for it is in great numbers that Satan deals with. The masses cannot possibly feel the love of God, for through His Son, Jesus Christ, He is a personal Savior and Benefactor. And, His truth is given freely to those individuals who give of their precious time and labors to seek His word. It goes beyond just reading the Scriptures and listening to the voice in the pulpit. It goes beyond simple prayer and tithing. It comes to a complete and total preoccupation with what God gave to the world, His perfectness, His love beyond description, His never changing face, His greatness before the very universe, His infinite purpose. Do we become so bold that we not only limit His Son, Jesus Christ, in a mold to fit our own miserable existence on this planet, but we finite mortals also limit the infinite wisdom of God so we can better live with ourselves and the teachings of Jesus? I am sorry, but there cannot be two truths that counter each other. Regardless of how mortals may feel uncomfortable with the Divine, there is only one truth.

Peter, the apostle who was given the “Keys of the Kingdom” by Jesus Christ and was told that whatsoever he bound on earth would be bound in heaven also, reminds all Christians of the real meaning of Christ’s parable about hell as we read in 1 Peter 3:18-20, “For Christ also hath suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.” Continuing along the same thought in 1 Peter 4:3-6, “For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, reveling, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. For this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.”

So, Peter, in his great wisdom had given the world the keys to understanding Christ’s reference to Gehenna when speaking about hell. To the most fervent Christian, it would be unbearable indeed not to be allowed to enter the gates of heaven, but what about evil doers? One has to understand completely what the loss of it would mean. 1 Corinthians 2:9 deepens the mystery of what heaven is truly like with the statement, “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” 1 Peter 1:4 says further, “To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.”

It is from these few glimmers of enlightened scriptures that the open a searching heart is given a deeper, more meaningful perception of the true heaven. First of all, we discover that Jesus and His apostles taught an ignorant people who could not possibly comprehend the freedom and life available in heaven nor the despairing misery awaiting those who are denied entrance into this perfect heaven. The possibilities of what truly will be the reward of the steadfast Christian are only limited by one’s imagination. The greater the reward, the more sorrowful the loss to those who fall short in God’s sight. Why not the parable of a great city with golden streets, gates of pearl, Matt. 6:20, “But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.”, where all things are made whole, the blind to see, the cripple to walk, etc. Compare this to a torment of fire and brimstone where men remember their past deeds and are aware of the existence of heaven, Luke 16:23, “And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.”

I find no fault in these parables as I find myself hard pressed to describe the magnitude of the pleasures that await us in heaven. By the same token, I also find myself at a loss to describe what must be the greatest pain and torment of the spirit which awaits those who fail to measure up to the requirements to obtain heaven and those rewards.

You can imagine the slings and arrows I received back in 1982 when I first published this information. How I was in danger of hell fire myself, etc., etc. Now that it is the year 2001, the ones who started all this fire and brimstone imagery have come full circle. The Pope now says that hell is a “state of mind” and not a physical place at all. How much of the rest of my work will eventually be revealed as TRUTH and when? Only God knows.

Through research and an open heart, I know that there is no fire and brimstone hell and I also know there will be something entirely different awaiting us in heaven than we are led to believe in Revelations. But, the concept does not change regardless of how one perceives heaven and hell. Heaven will be a place of wonderful wonderment that will never cease, day or night, and the universe will be open to all who enter therein. In like manner, hell must be the exact opposite where all things are made known to all men and the knowledge of the loss of what could have been their destiny should be sufficient to create the greatest suffering man has ever known. The pain of loss will be never ceasing, an eternity of misery at the loss of the great promise and the denial of the power and love of God and His only Son, Jesus Christ. At least, never ceasing until the final judgment hour when all are judged out of the Lamb’s Book of Life. Failing to be listed means that person will be thrown into the lake of fire to be CONSUMED!

Given the choice, I would prefer the death of sheol or Hades, or even the fire and brimstone hell of Gehenna than the one I have discovered to be the ultimate and heightened awareness of an eternity lost, lost for so insignificant reasons that mankind devises here on earth, trading a few months of temporal acceptance and comfort of fellow men for an eternity with God and all the power and freedom that conjures within the imagination.



## Chapter 9

### THE TRUE CHURCH

How often we hear the urgings of the various denominations to join their Church, or are bombarded by ads on the radio, in newspapers and on television to go to Church and worship together. Surprising to some, and not to others, your more organized denominations agree that the single most important role of the local pastor is one of administration; personnel, budgetary and physical plant. And, the most common complaint of educated, well established pastors and backwoods evangelists alike seems to be the resentment and fear of those converts they perceive as “trouble makers” bent on weakening the faith of others in their congregations with their questions. The Church leadership is as preoccupied with identifying and correcting this class of members as they are in

seeking a never-ending flow of monetary compensation and additional donations from their flocks.

As you can see, even attendance of any Church requires a certain amount of “right thinking” or a real desire of the individual to be “one with the herd”. Differences in personality and religious conviction, even the performance of over-zealousness, are not tolerated, especially if the rules or guidelines of that particular Church are questioned.

For anyone to dwell on their life experiences dealing with religious groups in their community, the images and words which transcend all cries of fellowship with God, or love, or devotion to the welfare of mankind, is the evil of pure and total possession of their Church, their belief, their denomination, or their rightness. Notice how I refer to this possessiveness or ownership as evil, because like the blind leading the blind, these poor souls who call themselves Christians have relegated the term Church to represent their peculiar sect and more sadly, to mean the fellowship hall which bears the name of their group.

Nowhere does this term appear in the Holy Bible. The Greek word for Church, meaning a building or in its looser application a small sect within a building is “KURIAKON”. But, the Greek word that is used in the Scriptures is “ECCLESIA”, which means an assembly of people. Don’t be fooled by the word assembly, thinking that this applies to individual Churches. It doesn’t, because one must read the entire context of where the word Church is found in the Scriptures to understand its significance in the thrust of the applied usage.

The word is first used to describe the assembly during the day of Pentecost when the apostles spoke in all languages to all the nationalities who had gathered in Jerusalem. It is again used further in Acts and 1 Corinthians to signify whole Christian communities. Continued investigation of the works entitled 1 Corinthians, Ephesians and Colossians emphatically confirm the ultimate meaning of the word Church, which is the identification of the whole people of God. So, we have a fairly definite description of the true temporal meaning of the word Church as meaning all people who believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

But, what about the spiritual and deeper meaning of this word that has been relegated by the masses to mean a particular group or more absurdly a mere building. Reviewing the same Scriptures as previously mentioned, we are told that Christ is the Head of the Church and one baptism, one supper and one spirit unifies all members. These elements combine to give all members power, peace, hope and love. All members share in the resurrection and are required to use individual blessings of skill to benefit all other members. Remember, the spiritual concept of the word Church refers dramatically to the Body of Christ, with Christ at its head and all followers as its body.

I realize that there is an overwhelming amount of Scriptures pertinent to the formal organization of Churches, such as referred to in the terms Deacon, Elder, Teacher, Minister, Evangelist and Prophet. But, is this supposed to be a blueprint for all to follow or are we confusing historical requirements with modern needs? I must remind the reader that in those days the people were vastly ignorant and communication for the great majority had to be accomplished by word of mouth. Even agreeing that Paul was truly given authority by God to assist in establishing His Church on earth, I cannot accept the belief that Jesus meant for Paul and the Apostles to change His teachings or doctrine to suit the whims of the populace or governments of that day, or to more readily obtain and control converts for the cause of Christianity. Before things began to get out of control, we are told that all Christians are ministers, Acts 6:4, that Christians are to work the gifts given to them, whether prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving or ruling, Rom. 12:6-8, and that Christians were “a chosen generation, a royal Priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people”, 1 Peter 2:9.

I have no conflicts nor regrets of conviction when I perceive the modern Christian institutions and fragmented Christian sects as evil and contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Apostles. In 2 Peter we are given the means by which to judge false teachers. There are few, if any, denominations today that escape the truth of what Peter had to say. Remember, Jesus Christ gave Peter the keys to the Kingdom, that whatsoever Peter would bind here on earth would be bound in Heaven also, by direct commandment of the Son of God.

Peter tells us there are false teachers even in his day and that they desire to obtain a large following and cast a shadow on the way of truth, their true purpose being solely mercenary. He relates their ultimate judgment, but continues by giving all Christians a means by which to identify them. They are self-indulgent and speak against the government, or rather do not support the government. They speak much about evil, whereas angels do not accuse. He warns us about their rash and self-confident speech. How they speak evil of all they do not understand. And to compound the problem, they support their positions with their own lies. That they are covetous and follow the way of Balaam by their eagerness for financial rewards and their desire for large and popular Churches. That such actions by false teachers even invite the scorn of dumb Asses who turn away from such madness. Top of the list of errors of these false teachers is that they are wells without water, or that their doctrine is spiritually bare. They promise their congregations liberty and in turn make them slaves to the Church. The congregation is finally corrupted in its mind and spirit, believing in the false doctrine.

Do you not recognize this rise of the various Christian denominations as such a progression of souls first seeking spiritual fulfillment and then seeking freedom from God Almighty Himself? The same old, tired story of how mankind has rationalized Jesus Christ as nothing but a symbol, or more tragically as the authority to work their false teachings. Peter finally says that it would have been

better had they not known the Savior. I for one do not take Peter's veiled threat lightly, but of course I do not try to rationalize my improper behavior by use of the Scriptures to ease my conscience either. In light of this, a return to the beginning Christian philosophy as given to us by Jesus Christ is not only desirable, but mandatory if there are to be any true Christians left on this earth when Christ returns to establish His Kingdom.

Where there is a vast ignorance and gaps in the technology of communication, I readily accept and agree with the concept of individual conclaves and visiting leadership. But, in a world of expanding horizons, rapid communication and technological advancement, the old archaic ways of domination, control and blind obedience must fade away. I yield to the historical significance of the Scriptures and also to the belief they had no other way to establish Christ's Church other than the way they did. But, with the development of false teachers and doctrine and the changing concepts mankind has falsely laid upon the works of the Son of God, I cannot support the Christian institutions. I prefer to go the way of Jesus Christ and not Balaam.

In answering those who would cry that this would be counterproductive and would mark the end of Christianity, I can only say that the true test of any man's faith is his individual determination and struggle to retain and exemplify that faith, even in the absence of control or leadership. Look closely at the Hebrew, or Jew if you prefer. His sufferings and sacrifice over the many centuries did not lessen his faith, but reinforced the very principles that founded his race and their belief in the existence of the God of Abraham. Are Christians so fickle or different? And, would not each man become a minister of the Christian faith, or shall we believe that the congregations and masses would return to savage beasts without the institution?

For hundreds of years every Christian carried a symbol of his religion, usually a sign of the fish, to identify himself to other Christians. Each man was a minister and testimonial to Jesus Christ and His Church. Each man used his gifts to help other Christians as we are commanded to do in the Scriptures. If the concept is foreign, then I submit that you are not a true Christian and have fallen prey to false teachers. I choose to be a member of Christ's Church and have little time or patience for institutionalized social clubs.

If you learn anything from this chapter, it should be that all who profess Jesus Christ as the Son of God are members of the true Church, that Christ is the Head and Christians are the Body, and that all gifts given to the members are to be used for the glorification of God and the enrichment of all other members of the Church.

If God's gift to you is the desire to build a beautiful building in honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for any and all to worship and fellowship, by all means work your gift. But, call it what it is; a fellowship hall, a temple, a house of

worship; never a Church. Rather than seek members, look for Christians who wish to fellowship and pray together for God's purpose in their lives. Don't seek the tenth, but let gifts come as they may to defray the costs of taxes and the building's upkeep. Taxes? Remember, you glorify the Son of God and support the government. There is no other way. If the law reimburses you when you give to God, then how can you stand in judgment and say you gave a tenth, or gave anything of yourself to God?

If God's gift to you is to teach, then give the words of Jesus Christ to all who seek truth. Gird yourself against the temptation to speak evil of anything, especially those things which are new and you do not understand the reasons behind its emergence. Remember, even the angels speak evil of no one, not even do they accuse. Give God's word and example freely without regard for reward, earning your living by the sweat of your brow, a commandment for all who seek to serve God. Look for no reward other than the satisfaction of doing that, which pleases Jesus Christ.

If God's gift to you is to be an Elder or Deacon, then work your trade of management of God's storehouse for the benefit of all who have a just need in your community. Your satisfaction of splendid management of these resources and the delighted faces of those who will benefit from your skills should be more reward than anyone could imagine. But, remember, your position comes from a great trust by your group, which is directly affected by the way you live among your fellow man. More than a gift, it is an honor before man and God to be so chosen.

If God's gift to you is to be a minister, then you must not only ply the trade of teacher, but must also serve the wants and needs of all who come before you. You must not only give the words of Christ, but must also gauge your responses to meet every spiritual need. Your patience and forgiveness must be without end, for by supplication and example do you win souls for Christ. There is no other way. Again, your living comes by the sweat of your brow and you never make demands upon the people for personal gifts. Like the teacher, you love your government, giving all taxes and support that is required of the people. Nothing do you take for yourself, and like Jesus, you give all you have for the glory of God's Kingdom.

If God's gift to you is to be a Prophet, then give your visions of the good to come freely to all who seek your counsel. Each word should be a blessing from God for the enrichment and betterment of His people, His Church. It will be your words that the people will heed for their protection and continued happiness. Your word is heard above all others, for it is your gift to correct the mistakes of man and make them listen to the voice of God, to mend their ways, and to make them feel closer to their Creator and Mentor. Take nothing from the people, but give them the richness of your words.

If God's gift to you is to be an Evangelist, then yours is the hardest road of all to follow. For you must give all to the glorification of God. Like the Apostles of old, you leave all behind you; your family, your goods and all that you own, and follow Jesus Christ. You take no thought of yourself or of the tomorrows, living only to increase the Church of Jesus Christ wherever you go. No thought is taken for food, clothing, or anything else. You live by faith, and faith alone, to sustain you on your mission. You turn from all who will not heed the words of our Savior and entreat only those who will openly accept God's word. You must abide by all the rules set forth for every servant of God; the Teacher, the Minister, the Deacon, the Elder, and the Prophet. And yet, you go alone to a strange land and a strange people to work your gift. Like the vision of the lonely Monk with only his cloak to protect him from the elements, you set out on your mission. Taking nothing from the people you meet, except for a meal or brief shelter, you ply the trade of Evangelist, working miracles and adding to the greater Church the souls that you convert to Christianity. Only God comforts and sustains you, for your life is a lonely one without description, finding joy only in the fellowship of other Christians and daily accomplishment of your task.

And lastly, if God's gift to you is to be a Giver, then you are limited only by your imagination on how to assist God's people. Is there someone in your group who needs assistance with their education? What if you had a small, one room cottage built on your property that you could offer to some homeless person, or maybe an elderly member who could no longer afford their apartment? Maybe you know of a wholesale company that you could buy a quantity of discounted food supplies (bent cans, etc.) for distribution to those in need. Here, in Nashville, there is a man who deals in a lot of real estate. Once a year, he takes a working homeless family and places them in one of his houses. All the rent he collects from them for an entire year is placed in a special account, which is used for the family to purchase the house (AT COST) at the end of the year! A young boy, here, collects aluminum cans and donations from friends to buy socks (by the pound) for the homeless shelter. The list could go on and on, but if you're in the "giving mood", you have an idea of some of the things you can do.

Although the descriptions of Teacher, Minister, etc. seem a far cry from what you see in today's society, they are nonetheless accurate according to the Holy Scriptures and the way Christianity was intended to be by Jesus Christ. Need I say more?

Before I leave this chapter, I want to address the misconception that this nation was founded on Christian principles by the founding fathers. It just isn't so. In fact, the founding fathers "hated" everything the Christian Church of their day stood for. They were deist and not theist. In other words, they believed in a God, but not the God the organized Christian institutions touted.

In a work by Dean Worbois, <http://www.postfun.com/pfp/worbois.html>, in part reads;

The Bible? Here is what our Founding Fathers wrote about Bible-based Christianity:

Thomas Jefferson: "I have examined all the known superstitions of the world, and I do not find in our particular superstition of Christianity one redeeming feature. They are all alike founded on fables and mythology. Millions of innocent men, women and children, since the introduction of Christianity, have been burnt, tortured, fined and imprisoned. What has been the effect of this coercion? To make one half of the world fools and the other half hypocrites; to support roguery and error all over the earth." SIX HISTORIC AMERICANS, by John E. Remsburg, Jefferson letter to William Short

Jefferson again: "Christianity...(has become) the most perverted system that ever shone on man. ...Rogueries, absurdities and untruths were perpetuated upon the teachings of Jesus by a band of dupes and importers led by Paul, the first great corrupter of the teaching of Jesus."

More Jefferson: "The clergy converted the simple teachings of Jesus into an engine for enslaving mankind and adulterated by artificial constructions into a contrivance to filch wealth and power to themselves...these clergy, in fact, constitute the real Anti-Christ."

Jefferson's word for the Bible? "Dunghill."

John Adams: "Where do we find a precept in the Bible for Creeds, Confessions, Doctrines and Oaths, and whole carloads of other trumpery that we find religion encumbered with in these days?"

"The doctrine of the divinity of Jesus is made a convenient cover for absurdity."

Adams signed the Treaty of Tripoli. Article 11 states: "The Government of the United States is not in any sense founded on the Christian religion."

Here's Thomas Payne: "I would not dare to so dishonor my Creator God by attaching His name to that book (the Bible)."

"Among the most detestable villains in history, you could not find one worse than Moses. Here is an order, attributed to 'God' to butcher the boys, to massacre the mothers and to debauch and rape the daughters. I would not dare to dishonor my Creator's name by (attaching) it to this filthy book (the Bible)."

"It is the duty of every true Deist to vindicate the moral justice of God against the evils of the Bible."

“Accustom a people to believe that priests and clergy can forgive sins... and you will have sins in abundance.”

And: “The Christian church has set up a religion of pomp and revenue in pretended imitation of a person (Jesus) who lived a life of poverty.”

Finally, let’s hear from James Madison: “What influence in fact have Christian ecclesiastical establishments had on civil society? In many instances they have been upholding the thrones of political tyranny. In no instance have they been seen as the guardians of the liberties of the people. Rulers who wished to subvert the public liberty have found in the clergy convenient auxiliaries. A just government, instituted to secure and perpetuate liberty, does not need the clergy.”

Madison objected to state-supported chaplains in Congress and to the exemption of churches from taxation. He wrote: “Religion and government will both exist in greater purity, the less they are mixed together.”

These founding fathers were a reflection of the American population. Having escaped from the state-established religions of Europe, only 7% of the people in the 13 colonies belonged to a church when the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Among those who confuse Christianity with the founding of America, the rise of the conservative Baptists is one of the more interesting developments. The Baptists believed God’s authority came from the people, not the priesthood, and they had been persecuted for this belief. It was they – the Baptists – who were instrumental in securing the separation of church and state. They knew you could not have a “one-way wall” that lets religion into government but that does not let it out. They knew no religion is capable of handling political power without becoming corrupted by it. And, perhaps, they knew it was Christ himself who first proposed the separation of church and state: “Give unto Caesar that which is Caesar’s and unto the Lord that which is the Lord’s.”

In the last five years the Baptists have been taken over by a fundamentalist faction that insists authority comes from the Bible and that the individual must accept the interpretation of the Bible from a higher authority. These usurpers of the Baptist faith are those who insist they should meddle in the affairs of the government and it is they who insist the government should meddle in the beliefs of individuals.

The price of liberty is constant vigilance. Religious fundamentalism and zealous patriotism have always been the forces which require the greatest attention.” End of Worbois quote.

Here are a few more Jefferson thoughts on religion:

“We have no right to prejudice another in his civil enjoyments because he is of another church.” – Notes on Religion, 1776, papers 1:546

“It is time enough for the rightful purposes of civil government, for its officers to interfere (in the propagation of religious teachings) when principles break out into overt acts against peace and good order.” – Statute for Religious Freedom, 1779, ME 2:302, papers 2:546

“All men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion, and... the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities.” – Statute for Religious Freedom, 1779, ME 2:302, papers 2:546

“The declaration that religious faith shall be unpunished does not give immunity to criminal acts dictated by religious error.” – letter to James Madison, 1788, ME 7:98

“The clergy, by getting themselves established by law and engrafted into the machine of government, have been a very formidable engine against the civil and religious rights of man.” – letter to Jeremiah Moor, 1800

“In every country and in every age, the priest has been hostile to liberty. He is always in alliance with the despot, abetting his abuses in return for protection of his own.” – letter to Horatio G. Spafford, 1814, ME 14:119

“Ministers of the Gospel are excluded (from serving as Visitors of the county Elementary Schools) to avoid jealousy from the other sects, were the public education committed to the ministers of a particular one; and with more reason than in the case of their exclusion from the legislative and executive functions.” – Note to Elementary School Act, 1817, ME 17:419

“No religious reading, instruction or exercise, shall be prescribed or practices (in the elementary schools) inconsistent with the tenets of any religious sect or denomination.” – Elementary School Act, 1817, ME 17:425

I often wonder if these great men, our Founding Fathers, would have been so anti-Christian had they had the opportunity to read a book such as the one you are reading now? Within their own studies, they had come close to the truth, since they never low rated the message of Christ, only the misapplication of that message of the faith. Perhaps, they might have joined the ranks of the Liberal Protestant, the Interfaith Christian, as I have, instead of rejecting Christianity all together.



## Chapter 10

### MONEY AND THE CHURCH

Try to visualize in your mind's eye all your memories or popular notions of what kind of life one would experience in a monastery. Try to see the monks in their robes and poverty, seeking only to serve God and mankind. In total and absolute rapture with their faith and love of Jesus Christ, they serve where they can, seeking nothing for themselves except the inner glory of serving with satisfaction, even to the point of giving thanks for their empty bellies that night for there were no donations of food that day.

Compare this to a monastery in Georgia (circa 1982) where the only common comparison might be in the cross and robe, which is worn by the monks

in residence. But, this is where all similarities end because these monks ply their so-called trade of service to mankind by hiring out their COMPUTERS to area businesses and other charitable organizations. The good Father of the monks responds that this is a logical step in helping people to communicate. What about competition with other computer companies? Those enterprises which are run by nonreligious connected, tax paying citizens who must not only take great risks to open their doors but must also make heavy contributions to the Federal, State and local governments in the form of taxes and profit sharing? Let us not also forget their contributions for the employee in the form of social security and insurance payments, the work environment, a livable wage, and other fringe benefits. The monks? Well, as the good Father puts it, "We have an advantage over other computer operations. We have no labor problems and no overtime bill to pay."

Without a doubt, this true state of affairs can be recounted thousands of times throughout these United States simply by changing the type of services performed for profit to the detriment of all legitimate businesses in competition with the religious order.

We fully know how the religious institutions harp on the subject of Church and State Separation, in areas of taxation, but only to that extent as they attempt to permeate their order within every faucet of government, schools, etc. This grave error was taken one step further on March 1, 1974 by Federal District Court Judge James F. Battin who stated, "Neither this court or any branch of this government will consider the merits or fallacies of a religion. Nor will the court praise or condemn a religion. Where the court to do so, it would impinge upon the guarantees of the First Amendment."

Although this reflects the government's attitude on the merits of a religion, it has allowed the formation of groups whose sole purpose is to evade taxation on the grounds of Separation of Church and State (and quite successfully I may add). I offer the following as having appeared in a Universal Life Church ad in the November, 1980 issue of Salesman's Opportunity magazine. Everything you are about to read has not changed during these past twenty-one years.

"The ULC's success formula is both effective and unquestionably legal. After a person has become an ordained minister, he or she can join with two other people and form their own Universal Life Church. These three people then make up the Board of Directors consisting of a Pastor, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The ULC will then grant the group the use of its legal church charter complete with both federal and state tax-exempt numbers. The newly formed church may then open a bank account in the church's name. Any member of the church can legally donate up to 50% of his or her outside income to the church and take a corresponding tax deduction. The church in turn can pay the complete housing cost of its minister including rent or mortgage payment, insurance, taxes, furnishings and repairs. The church can also provide the

minister with full use of an automobile as well as pay for travel and educational expenses. None of these expenses are reported as income to the IRS. Recently, a whole town in Hardenburg, New York became Universal Life ministers and turned their homes into religious retreats and monasteries thereby relieving themselves of property taxes, at least until the state tries to figure out what to do.

“Churches enjoy certain other tax benefits over the common man on the street. For instance, a church can legally buy and sell real estate or stocks and bonds completely tax-free. It can receive tax-free income from bank deposits or mortgages. Many churches own large publishing, recording, or other related businesses like hospitals, clinics and schools without paying any income tax.

“A church can sponsor any kind of fund raising event such as a concert, play or even bingo. Churches are also exempt from paying inheritance taxes. When the pastor of the church dies, the Board of Directors simply appoints a new pastor and the church goes on.

“Reverend Hensley has stated that he personally doesn’t believe in the tax exempt status of churches. However, if the government is going to give a free ride to Billy Graham and the Pope, then why not let everybody participate in these blessings.”

In those days, the church charged \$25.00 for ordination as a minister under their charter. Now, there is no fee. Ordination is free to all who ask. There was a lot of legal problems over the years with their corporation, so the church set it aside to work exclusively with the charter, thereby effectively bypassing any further legal hassles from local, state and federal agencies. Though, I must add that the ULC ultimately won every court case against them. But, the IRS still wants a piece of the corporation. It has not affected any of its members, its member church groups, nor its ministers. And, their degree programs have become accredited by the International Accrediting Association, even though all degrees are “honorary” in nature.

As of February 26, 2000, I became an ordained minister with the Universal Life Church. If you want a complete report of the church and its current status, you can find them at <http://www.ulc.net>. They have many real and virtual houses of worship, and you can read how they came about. I remember a case in Gainesville, Florida (in the early 70’s) when the city commission was trying to eliminate palm readers and such. Their approach was to raise their business license to a whopping \$500.00 to \$750.00 per year. At the meeting, I asked if the Universal Life Church was recognized by the Florida State Charter. Checking, it was indeed on the list. I then told the several palmistry practitioners present not to worry. They could join the ULC for \$25.00 and then practice their craft without paying ANY business license fees! The subject was quickly dropped and never brought back up.

Many of you readers may remember the anti-Catholic rhetoric, which came about during the Kennedy campaign for the White House. One investigative reporter latched onto the financial aspect of the Mother Church and began prying into the business affairs of the New York Diocese. After accumulating near TWO BILLION DOLLARS worth of stocks, bonds and property holdings in his report, he was prevented from further access to records when his true purpose was discovered. You must remember that this was many years ago and covered only one religious group in one area. What about the following years of growth, or consider the hundreds and literally thousands of other religious groups and factions within this country? Just how much do they own or control? Could it be half of the country's assets, or even a mere third?

If for arguments sake, we say that religious institutions own and/or control one-third of the country's wealth, then it follows that they do not pay for their one-third of this country's profits. In simple terms, for every \$100.00 you pay in personal taxes, you may be including an extra \$33.00 to help pay the religious institution's part. If you are paying a 6 cents sales tax, it could be lowered to 4 cents if the churches paid sales taxes also. If you recently lost your business to the competition, it might be worth the effort to see if your competitor was competing on the same footing or if they were church owned or church backed. If so, then it would be very easy for them to escape nearly half of the expenses you had to incur to keep your doors open.

The modern Christian church stabs the public in the back on two fronts. First, they do not support the government and make the common citizen pay their part for services and goods given to them in the communities in which they set-up shop. And secondly, they openly compete in the market place with unfair advantages over the individual without the burden or responsibility for taxes, fair labor standards, wage and price controls, government red tape, or any other restriction placed on non-religious enterprises.

The final insult comes when they refute such accusations with answers that they are serving the poor and the betterment of mankind. This is why they must have increasing capital gains at everyone else's expenses. At the same time they are lobbying the government for more and more welfare and aid programs, thereby eliminating their need for financial involvement with the needy and poor. Now, in today's climate whereby the government has begun to limit the amount one can obtain from welfare, religious institutions have started to successfully lobby the government for DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS TO THEM in order to carry on their charitable work. It's like having your pie and eating it too, except it's your pie, dear reader, which they are eating. Some may wish to argue the point, but this is what has, is and will continue to happen in the United States until we have an elected, representative government and enlightened Supreme Court capable of recognizing the difference between non-taxable and TAXABLE church business.

We saw in Chapter 9 that Peter said the false teachers are self-indulgent and speak against the government, or rather do not support the government. Remember, these are the priests of Balaam and not of Jesus Christ. When Jesus was confronted by a man wishing to escape taxation by the Roman Empire, remember that the Jews hated their new masters, He simply asked the man whose picture was on the coin he held. "Caesar's", was the reply. So, Jesus said, "Give unto Caesar that which is Caesar's and unto God that which is God's." Would it be too difficult to imagine that the true Christian would pay to his government the taxes due on his profit, without making deductions for religious contributions since we all know that to do otherwise is counter to the teachings of Jesus Christ? And, would not the groups who gather to pay homage to the Son of God not also pay taxes to the government on all they were given since it was their God's wish? Yes, I know the law. But, what did Jesus say? Besides, Jesus fulfilled the law and set me free. If you must live UNDER THE LAW then you are not free in God's will and are still under the judgment of man.

I will not ridicule any religious group, but my measure of who is and who is not a true Christian would weigh heavily on whether or not they used Jesus Christ as a pet welfare of theirs or if He was used to further their ambition of being associated with some great building or group of men. These certainly are not Christian in nature but of Balaam. Does the group pay taxes on the income they receive from the congregation and income generated from holdings, or taxes on the structure they occupy? Do they support the government, as the common man must do? If not, then they are followers of Balaam and not the Son of God.

The hue and cry for a better world and environment has never been greater, and yet those institutions who profess a higher calling constantly detract from the monetary base required to implement the new world they are commissioned by our God to foster and create in the first place. As we look around at our society, we see graphically how we are enslaved by the so-called Christian institutions, paying for their protection, their streets, their communications and energy requirements, everything which requires the effort of local, State and Federal support, for we know they give nothing for this service by way of taxation.

If tomorrow, every religious institution and group who professed Jesus Christ as his or her source of authorization for existence began paying the just taxes, which everyone else pays, the Federal Budget could increase by at least a third. We are talking about hundreds of billions of dollars; for new cities, new mass transportation, a continuation and expansion of the society based on increased opportunities and the continual improvement of the quality of life. Add to this an additional ten percent for individuals responding to the Christian call to

support their government by not deducting their gift to God as a mere charitable contribution.

What about the State and local scene in this new Christian scenario? The story for most of these governments would be the same as for the Federal agencies. There would be a vast increase in the wealth available for the improvement of transportation, government services, construction of needed facilities which would represent our ideals and pride in our locale, the improvement of our schools and hospitals, etc. The list could go on and on, and as I ponder the way Christianity has evolved in this country, I cannot but feel empathy for those countries that literally hate the Christian Church as it now stands. They only have to look to history to know the ultimate end for all these so-called men of God and those they influence.

The Separation of Church and State does not lend itself to the position that such groups should not pay for the services and goods rendered to all by the government. Although I cannot force a man to believe in my God, I can require that he pay for the protection and service I give him. It is the only just course to follow. The law of this land says that if I give to my bother who is in need that this is not a proper deduction from my taxes and on top of that they require my brother to pay a special "gift tax" on the assistance I render over a certain limit (\$10,000 at this writing). But, if I give to the church and request they help him, then that is O.K. and fully tax deductible. Quite frankly, that is not O.K. In the next chapter you will see what I mean as I prove that Jesus Christ taught that giving to the poor was more important than giving to the Temple of God.

In light of the foregoing, if I build a Sanctuary to God, I will pay a property tax on the grounds and the building. If I am given money or goods for the furtherance of God's work, this too will I surrender in portion to my government in the form of taxes. All which is purchased for the glory of God, that too will I give the required sales tax to my government. For I glorify God, I glorify the Son of God, Jesus Christ that all men may know that He is no thief but a benefactor of all who grasp and behold His majesty and power.

No man will I enslave and hold in bondage, neither will I cause the unbeliever to give from an unwilling pocket through deceit by evading my responsibility to support our government. In truth will I follow Jesus Christ and not the way of Balaam.



## **Chapter 11**

### **TITHES AND OFFERINGS, THEIR PURPOSE**

In Chapter 9 we learned the true meaning of the term Church, so at the outset of this chapter let us not confuse “the whole people of God” with individual Christian sects or denominations. And, by all means, let us not allow ourselves to even think of any mere building as being the object of this lesson on tithes and offerings.

First of all, tithing has been with us since the days of Abram who gave a tenth of all spoils taken in battle to Melchizedek, the Priest of God Most High (Gen. 14:20). And, in Christ’s day the Israelites had mandated by law that all would pay a tithe of all that they had. In Matthew 23:23 we find that tithing alone

was not sufficient to stay on good terms with God. This was the first indication that something was amiss in the tithing process, that by commandment of the Son of God the concepts of mercy, justice and faith were as equal or more important than the giving of worldly goods for religious purposes.

If we refer ourselves to the words Charity and Love, we find that the original word for these two terms come from the Greek word "AGAPE". When the King James translators perceived the word as having something to do with money they called it Charity, and in the applied sense, the word becomes "Almsgiving" (supplying the needs of the poor). Otherwise the translation of the original is left as Love.

I inject the foregoing to preface some startling passages from the Holy Scriptures, which seem to meld the two terms of tithing and almsgiving into the same philosophical image. Please recall that Jesus Christ came to "fulfill the law" (bring an end to the old) and substitute ceremonies of meaningless dogma with true spiritual enlightenment. We all know of Christ's attitude toward the Pharisees and their steadfastness of tithing according to the law. We know how He felt toward the moneychangers in the temple and how He looked down on the goods and sacrifices from those who felt they were purchasing their salvation. Taking into consideration that the Church represents the whole people of God, and that the primary objective of God is to lift-up His people, from this point of view we progress into a more meaningful doctrine of what tithing was meant to accomplish.

In Luke 12:33 He says to sell what they had and give it away as alms, in order to set up treasures in Heaven, which no man could steal. Remember, the giving of alms is always to the poor and needy. In Acts 10:4 He tells an individual that his prayers and alms are given for a memorial before God. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 we are told that giving should be cheerfully done, otherwise if given grudgingly or of necessity (referring to the requirements of the law) it is totally rejected. 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 brings the message of almsgiving closer to its proper perspective in importance to the Son of God's plan for His people. We learn that though one is like an angel, had the gift of prophecy, has all knowledge, though he gives everything to the poor, that without the spirit of true Charity it is all for nothing. In other words, one must give out of love, and not just because it is expected or demanded by any particular doctrine. Colossians 3:14 literally equates Charity with Perfectness. 1 Peter 4:8 goes on to make the startling statement that charity will "cover the multitude of sins".

SPECIAL SIDE NOTE: Remember how Love and Charity came from the word "Agape"? I want you to make a mental note and BURN THIS INTO YOUR BRAIN! The word "Love" also means "TO UNDERSTAND". So, in many cases, the words Love and Charity can be substituted with the words "To Understand", "Understand" or "Understanding". In doing so, you will find the contradiction between various denominations and religious groups on the subject do not really

exist, since it becomes evident that their perspectives on the subject are collectively rooted in a common error, an inability to recognize the Holy Scriptures as they were originally written.

Again and again, we are told, 2 Cor. 9:7, "... for God loveth a cheerful giver." In Matthew 6:1-4 we are commanded to give in secret so our reward will come from God. If we give in the open before men then there will be no reward. Remember, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, spoke these words, not I. And, throughout the Holy Scriptures we are told that everything given shall be returned to the giver in Heaven. In Deuteronomy 15:7-11 we are given the task of caring for the poor in our communities. As in the Old Testament, the New Testament enjoins us into almsgiving and always as promised in Proverbs 19:17, "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he had given will he pay him again."

This is not to say that the rich must give everything to the poor. Jesus said we will always have the poor on this earth, and we are commanded not to cast our pearls before swine. Remember what I said about substituting "understanding" for "love" a couple paragraphs ago? That one must give out of "love", "understanding" of the situation? Are you now beginning to follow Christ's line of reasoning? So, there is a limit to what any one person is supposed to do for his fellow Christian, and there is definitely a process by which we are to determine who is needy because of circumstances and who is needy because they are not worth the fecal which issues from their bowels. Remember Lazarus? He wanted to follow our dear Lord and Savior, but he could not bring himself to give everything away and leave his family and loved ones destitute, even though Jesus told him how difficult it was for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. But, in summation of this encounter, we are reminded in John 11:3 that Jesus "loved" Lazarus and for the glory of God raised him from the dead. I have no difficulty in believing that Lazarus ultimately went to his reward in Heaven, for even with the burdens of his wealth, he was a good man (paid his taxes, paid his tithes and gave additional monies for the poor) and Jesus loved him (understood him?).

Our Savior told us that as we do for the least among us, we have also done for Him. And so, we derive a fairly accurate description of tithing and almsgiving. Traditionally, under the old law, tithing was meant specifically for God's work, which was primarily involved with the care and feeding of the Priests and the care of the Temple. In like manner, almsgiving was strictly set aside for the care and betterment of the poor. But, with the emergence of God's only Son, our Lord and Savior, we see a melding of the two terms and the greater emphasis by far is placed on charity rather than the tithe, both being for the works of God, and charity having the higher spiritual value in the eyes of God. It is little wonder history scholars have pointed to this battle over where the wealth of the land should go, to the people or to the Priests, that set the recognized

religious institution so steadfastly against Jesus. More than any other consideration, Jesus threatened the very existence of the livelihoods for everyone connected with the Church of His day. If Jesus were to walk our streets in the flesh today, do you think He would change any of His principles? I think not.

Since we already know that Church refers to the whole people of God and not to any particular religious group (except for the whole of Christianity) or building, and that the overriding thrust of the Holy Scriptures when dealing with money always invariably points to almsgiving and charity, can you not see the true purpose of the tithe? The tithe was never meant to establish denominations or religious groups, to pay salaries, etc., but was intended for the work of the Lord, to uplift and improve the quality of life for all true Christians.

We learned in Chapter 9 that all Christians are ministers and that everyone is to earn their living by the sweat of their brow. We learned the true meaning of the word Church and the way in which people are given gifts by God to work for other Christians in need. The thought process is fairly clear in determining what is and is not the Lord's work. And, without doubt, this chapter has given us a very important guide of what is and is not favored by Jesus Christ and the Father, which is in Heaven. You give without reservation and without looking for reward. You do not seek to find reimbursement, especially from the government. I submit that to do so would cancel any reward, which God the Father might have given to you had you given in secret and from the heart without strings attached.

If you find yourself constantly giving for everything except God's work; i.e., your Pastor's tour of the Holy Land, salary increases for workers in your Church, increased physical plant needs which border on the lavish, plush seating and carpeting, bond indebtedness (a direct conflict of Christ's commandment to "owe no man"), song books for the choir, robes for showing off, the construction of pleasure camps and retreats for the wealthy of your Church, new cars or vans or buses to bring in the multitudes, fancy decorations, etc., etc., if this is what your tenth is paying for then I submit that you have not tithed one cent to the Son of God and His work here on earth. Rather, you have gone the way of Balaam and do not deserve to call yourself Christian. I cannot overemphasize the point, if you have constantly looked for ways in which to have the government reimburse you for your donations and contributions, even if they are for the Lord's work, you have broken the commandment of Jesus Christ when He emphatically told us to "Give unto Caesar that which is Caesar's..." Regardless of what country you reside in, the message is the same for all people of God: give the tenth to God and be supportive of your government. There are no loopholes in Heaven, so do not look for any.

For those who may be hard pressed to rationalize those items which are truly God's work, I offer the following list of things which should readily come to

mind if you have learned the true meaning of tithing and what is meant by God's work. I do not list the items in their importance, but give them only as a guide to assist you in formulating the thought process by which to gauge the validity of any cause when presented to you as a cause for Jesus Christ and His Church.

Help Christians become established when they move into your area.

Assist Christians so they can become self-sufficient, and in so doing become better able to follow the commandment of our Lord and Savior with respect to borrowing anything from anyone for any purpose, unless it is without interest and without a due date of repayment (Deut. 15:8-9).

Paying for the printing of Bibles and booklets, and even educational materials for free distribution among the populace. (*Buying extra copies of this book for distribution to others and your local library might be a good idea.*)

Building temples, meetinghouses, statues, prayer houses and all things to glorify the Son of God, but remember you do not seek to evade your responsibility to your government. Pay the just taxation on the work as do the people the work will serve. An honor before God, it can be no less an honor before all mankind, whether Christian or not. If you have taken from those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior in order to build that which is pleasing to God, who deserves the credit, the thief or the victim?

Feeding and sheltering visiting Evangelists and Prophets. This too is a part of your tithe.

If someone needs help in an emergency, the need of transportation, the need for food, for clothing, for shelter, etc., this is all a part of the tithe. But, you make certain that it is given in the name of Jesus Christ, with no strings attached.

The list could go on, but you should have a good idea of what a tithe is to God's work and how to determine if you are paying to God the Most High or to Balaam.

As a final commentary on this chapter, I must warn you that records are kept in Heaven and not in some Church file. If you allow any man to know what you give, to whom you give it, and for what purpose, then there is no reward from Heaven. This also includes the government, for the government is the very embodiment of all men. Give the tenth and more out of love for God and mankind, for without this love and heeding only the call that tithing must be done because it is required negates any reward from God the Father. Give everything in the name of Jesus Christ so that he who receives will know it is by the love of Jesus Christ his torment has been spared. To do otherwise is against the very principles of Christianity, and like the money changers in the temple are held in contempt by the Son of God.



## Chapter 12

### OBTAINING SALVATION

In no other area of religious institutional doctrine does there appear to be the controversy that surrounds the subject of salvation. Simply stated, salvation is that deliverance which is given freely by God to all who submit to His will. In the Christian faith, this includes all who profess Jesus Christ as the Son of God and humble themselves before Him and His will. The Holy Bible, throughout, teaches that salvation comes freely to all and without price, for man of himself is incapable of saving himself.

The Old Testament gave us the Laws of Moses to save men from sin and evil, but it was evident that this was in itself not enough to induce salvation. The New Testament gave us Jesus Christ as the one and only Savior, the Son of God, who came to teach mankind the true way to salvation and to make it clearly understood that man could not save himself. Jesus gave us a Heaven to seek and freed us from the cares and worries of this life. Only by His divine intervention are we truly saved from ourselves in this life and in the afterlife, which was unknown to man until His coming among the populace.

Every Christian institution, from the largest worldwide organization to the smallest backwoods meetinghouse, has tried to set its own rules and requirements for their flocks' salvation. Sad to say, even though each bases their individual beliefs on the teachings of Jesus, each somehow is dramatically different from one another. One will say, "Once saved, always saved.", while another proclaims the sin of "backsliding" and "falling from grace". Curious enough, they are all correct in part.

For those who feel they have the authority to work out their own salvation, or can set standards for others to seek salvation, I can only repeat Philippians 2:12, "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Not a light statement to make, but one that must be echoed to those who seek authority in religious matters over others. I too yield to the premise but refrain from dealing with minute, picky matters which others have placed upon their doctrines as sin to be forgiven. Instead, I seek a fuller meaning of salvation as evidenced by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Many theologians, for lack of anything better to do, like to try and explain the area of atonement in a dozen different ways, always bringing in Christ's cross as the focal point, but each interpreting something different from the other, i.e., a ransom paid to the Devil, God's honor is satisfied, Christ bears the sin of man, a victory over sin and death and the powers of evil, and finally, an unparalleled example of sacrificial love. Could it be that all are correct? I always thought that atonement was the result of God forgiving sins. I am a Christian, not a Judeo-Christian. This preoccupation with sacrifice is definitely a carry over from the Old Testament, and as I have said before, Jesus brought an end to the old and gave all men new hope for the future. In the process, He was crucified in order to fulfill ages old Hebrew prophecy.

Many scriptures tell me that Christ came to save the world, Matthew 18:11, "For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.", Luke 9:56, "For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.", Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." And John 3:17, "For God sent not his Son into the

world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” The quotes could go on and on, but these few should suffice to make the point.

One of the main reasons for so many different beliefs and faiths as to the proper and correct way to obtain salvation is the fact that a great majority of the entire New Testament deals with this very subject. With so many verses and commandments by the apostles on the matter, it is easy to see how so many different opinions by opposing religious groups could occur. But, as we saw in our discussion of Heaven and Hell and the other topics of this book, many verses of scripture are either ignored or completely misinterpreted to suit some predetermined philosophical plan. Again, I remind the reader I am only staggered by the preponderance of scripture and not by the belief that there are some passages that contradict other passages and I must rationalize in order to achieve a plausible conclusion.

The requirement of the scriptures to repent one’s sins has several meanings. First of all, you must know you have sinned in order to repent. Second, you repent your sins to Jesus Christ who is your “mediator” before God the Father. And third, you don’t sin again. It is very difficult for the “once saved, always saved” group to rationalize the third requirement, and gives some credence to those who believe it possible to fall from grace.

We are told that baptism is a requirement for salvation and is a definite, unyielding obligation for anyone who wishes to call himself a Christian. John 3:5 said, “Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” In Acts 2:38, “Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” Romans 6:3-4 added, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death: Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Although it is clear there can be no salvation by works alone, we are reminded that works is the outward sign that we are saved. Reading Matthew 16:27, “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.” In James 2:14-16, “What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?” And finally in 1 Peter 1:17, “And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man’s work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.”

Basically, those three primary concepts are required to obtain salvation; praying for the forgiving of sins, baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and obtaining the Holy Ghost, and finally performing works which signify the presence of Christ in your life. Most will agree with this philosophy but many will dispute or completely ignore the fact that there is a second chance after a person has crossed the river of death.

You will recall in Chapter 7 we discussed the fact that there is more than one resurrection. I take the process another step further and prove that there are even other chances while the soul waits for judgment day. I know this will not set well with those Christians who still like to think they are the better for the suffering and torment the sinners are supposed to endure to make them feel more important, but such a belief or concept is completely foreign to God the Father and Jesus Christ, His only Son. To think that you can only elevate yourself on the suffering and misery of others is the way of Balaam and not of God. I submit that such philosophies are devil based and not of true Christian origin. Let me explain.

We recall the thieves that were on the cross with Jesus. One repented to Jesus, Luke 23:42-43, "And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy Kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." But, Christ did not go to His Father that day. Instead, we are told immediately following Christ's resurrection from the tomb that Mary discovers His body missing and in John 20:16-17, "Mary! She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. Jesus said unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father; and to my God, and your God." If Jesus had not yet ascended into Heaven, then where was this paradise He spoke of to the thief? The answer lies in 1 Peter 3:18-19 keeping in mind that for three days and three nights, "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which he went and preached unto the spirits in prison." Peter goes on to say that these souls were even before the days of Noah. A spirit world where Jesus Christ preached the gospel of salvation to all who would listen.

I cannot attest as to whether the lost souls were ever required to take the baptism by water, as this would be highly unlikely for a spirit to accomplish. By the same token, many believed that they could be baptized for lost loved ones as evidenced in 1 Corinthians 15:29, "Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead?" Many take this particular passage by Paul as a divine commandment to take baptism for the dead so these lost souls can enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. If find this very unlikely, placing the burdens of the dead upon the living and vice versa, the dead having to seek descendants, or waiting for descendants to take the baptism for them. At any rate, some believe this is so. Few modern Christian institutions believe in a chance at salvation after death, with the

exception of the Mormons who put fear into the hearts of their congregations with the obligation for every member to seek out their family trees and ancestry for the purpose of taking baptism for the dead at one of their temples, and the Catholics who believe in a “purgatory” rather than a spirit prison (or paradise), again using the rituals of family prayers and the symbolic sprinkling of water for baptism.

If God speaks to the hearts of individuals and Jesus Christ is a personal Savior, then how can people believe that they must perform some sort of act in order for lost loved ones to be saved? By the same token, can you not see the implications of what I have just covered, as it pertains to fervent evangelists and missionaries who think they must convert the entire world to Christianity in order to save their souls?

We are dealing with an infinite God and an infinite and just salvation. Why does mankind need to place finite principles on the Almighty and His wisdom? I am truly thankful that God is so good and kind and that Jesus Christ will go to bat for me one day. I begrudge no man, past or present, alive or dead, the opportunity to obtain forgiveness of sins and to enter into the fold of Jesus Christ. I am filled with awe and an abiding love for God, a God whose own love knows no bounds and is not limited by mortal definition. If you cannot accept the majesty of such a plan of salvation and seek only advancement and self worth upon the knowledge of the suffering of others, then I submit to you that you are no Christian and worship only the way of Balaam.

Dwell on this chapter and see if you can find peace and joy for lost loved ones. See if you can feel a swelling of pride and the shedding of a tear for joy at having been acquainted with a God so wonderful and loving. So kind and forgiving that He gave His only begotten Son to walk upon the earth and show us the way in deed and thought, by example, even to His death, His resurrection and His ascension. All that He did and said should calm the spirit and give courage to all that seek His truth.



## **Chapter 13**

### **PRAYER ETIQUETTE AND THE PROMISED POWER**

Prayer, simply stated, is a communication between man and the Supreme Being, God. On earth, man communicates between themselves in a myriad of ways and manners. Social scientists have made distinct and positive inroads into this area of study through our colleges and universities. The result of which is reflected in the many courses that have been developed solely to instruct others in the study of this important aspect of personal and societal interaction. The way we dress, the way we speak and act are all ways of communicating. If someone looks at you with great rage, raises an object of destruction and heads in your direction, I do not believe you need a verbal language to understand it is

time to either stand ready for a fight or to try and outrun the approaching menace.

Having been raised in the old school of thought, I still try to dress neatly and cleanly whenever in public. This is not to say I do so out of pride for myself, a stigma that was affixed to proper attire by the youth of the 50's, 60's and 70's. Although raised in those eras myself, I chose to cling to the idea that proper dress reflected my degree of respect for those who would come in contact with me. You can readily see a contrast in attitudes on so simple a subject as how to dress. Keeping this in mind, it will be easier to see how one might confuse the purpose of prayer, how easy it would be to innocently follow the way of Balaam. Our sociological discussion of proper attire only works on a regional or geographical basis. What would be considered proper by American standards does not indicate properness in other cultures or nations.

The reader might think from the foregoing that I am going to directly tie those examples of communication that we are familiar with to the way God expects us to communicate with Him. It is so easy to draw parallels and then spout examples, which are easy to understand by the masses. Our religious institutions do so on a theological basis which existed even before Jesus Christ walked the earth. The very structure of the accepted Christian institution echoes the grandeur and organizational structure of the Roman Empire, with only a slight change in the leadership's concept of temporal existence. Blended with this are the religious customs of the early Hebrew clergy, i.e., the building of temples, the use of altars and pulpits, the use of memorized religious ceremonies or prayers, etc. As Jesus Christ was against these concepts of worship, how can I be otherwise? If the flesh and the precepts of mankind are contrary to the perfectness of God in the spirit, can I in good conscience equate the ways in which mankind communicates and the way God communicates? I cannot, since it is to be remembered that temporal ways, the ways of the flesh, are only temporary at best and are subject to change and decay, whereas the ways of God in the spirit are not only infinite in scope, they never change and are not subject to earthly bounds and miseries of the people, nor are they determined by the constant, changing social attitudes of societal and political pressures, nor do they change with the advent of scientific or technological breakthroughs. In a nutshell, the ways of God are unchangeable and forever, and our concept of prayer and the purpose of prayer must meet these requirements as given us by Jesus Christ.

Prayer is the direct link between the soul of man and the power of God.

Before I proceed further, I feel I must say something about the merchants (mercenaries disguised as ministers) who promise great wealth and power to all who become Christians and pray to God, supposedly under their direction and tutorship. And, the hucksters who promise great, temporal rewards for gifts given to their cause. Know these men for what they are, false teachers and

worshippers of Balaam. And, all who follow them are lost to the majesty and promises of God and the love of Jesus Christ. To these He will one day say, "I knew you not!"

In Galatians 4:4-7, Paul tells us that the most important part of God's salvation for us is the right to call upon God as our Father. By prayer we seek His guidance in our life and He shows His love for us by allowing this communication designated as prayer. Matthew 6:10 reminds us that although we seek to induce action from God in our behalf, it is the truly faithful who seek God's direction as to what He desires, not the other way around, so the true Christian can honestly say, "Thy will be done."

It was so important to the disciples to understand this area of worship that they asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. His answer is found in Luke 11:1-4 and Matthew 6:9-13, and it has come to be known as "The Lord's Prayer". From this model it is made abundantly clear to the reader that one must express submission to God's will, a desire for God to work His will among mankind and finally to express praise to God's holy name. "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed by thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

Throughout the scriptures we find many examples of ways to pray and reasons for prayer. But, the Son of God clarified and crystallized the true purpose of prayer. It must be devoid of hypocrisy, that one must pursue the request until they are satisfied about God's will in the matter, the absolute faith God can fulfill His will, that one has a submissive spirit and prays in the name of Jesus Christ.

As I sit and read the hundreds and hundreds of passages in the Holy Bible pertaining to prayer, I can easily see how misguided spirits are able to read into these scriptures the promises of wealth, glory and fulfillment of mortal ambitions. The Old Testament is full of such prayers, but the New Testament, through the teachings of Jesus Christ, redefines the very basis by which we are to perceive the true purpose of prayer. Without this foundation of knowledge in Christ's teachings, many errors of perception can easily be made.

Why would Jesus tell His disciples not to worry about their next meal and then have them extol us in the virtues of asking for personal, temporal gains through prayer? Philippians 4:6 makes the statement, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Colossians 4:2 says, "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving." 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 is more clearer in its presentation, "Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will

of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” There are so many passages dealing with prayer, but the underlying theme always goes back to the main teachings of Jesus Christ, care not for tomorrow but also give thanks to God for His divine plan in your life. Hebrews 4:16 restates this theme more clearly, “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Again, seeking only God’s will in our lives and actions.

Yes, I am very aware of the promises the Son of God made in Matthew 7:7-8, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”, and again in Matthew 21:22, “All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.”, and Mark 11:24, “Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” But, are not these passages also correct in context when you perceive them as dealing with spiritual matters, instead of temporal wants? The urge to believe that Jesus will fulfill desires of the flesh totally disagrees with His teachings and is in direct conflict with the thrust of all the other scriptures on prayer. For instance, Luke 21:36, “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” And most graphically explained and commanded in John 4:23-24, “The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in the spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

Worshipping in truth implores the individual to live the life expected by God and worshipping in spirit includes not only prayer but a never ending joyful concept of all that is beheld or experienced, even if you are experiencing anything which is unpleasant. This kind of relationship to prayer truly gives the Christian total and complete freedom from the cares and worries of this life. Everything is placed on the throne of God and in return for this worship He gives peace of mind and joy.

Following the example of selflessness, we implore on behalf of others as given us in Matthew 18:19-20 and the power of God’s intervention will be granted, “Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” The power is sure, as I have personally witnessed many miracles worked in Christ’s name by common folk with uncommon faith. But, at every instance the prayers have always been made for someone else and not for themselves, unless it is a common need of the gathering. Even then, there does not seem to be the response and feeling of a greater power within the midst of the gathering as there is when the prayer is made in a humble, selfless manner for another who seeks God’s mercy and intervention.

By way of example, allow me to relate the following true-life example of the aforementioned. I remember the time as though it were yesterday. It is a Sunday morning in the middle of summer in 1962. The previous week, the deacon at the small Pentecostal Holiness Church I attended informed me that the minister was taking a two week vacation and the members had decided I would be giving the sermons on both of those Sundays in the minister's absence. The only reason given to me was that they felt the Holy Spirit dwelled within me.

One of the members had come that morning to pick me up. But, this time my mother accompanied us, a large woman of more than six hundred pounds with the burdens of trying to feed six children on little more than twenty-five dollars a week. She was, at the time, pregnant with the seventh child. And, for the last couple of years had been afflicted with what is now referred to as an open wound that would not heal. It was, in those days, called a varicose vein ulcer and had infected an area some eight inches in height and encircled to within one inch of totally encompassing her lower leg above the ankle. In the center was an open wound that had to be soaked with salt water several times a day in an attempt to dry up the sore. Nothing had worked as it progressively continued to worsen.

There was a low excitement within me as we neared the church and I looked at my smiling mother. Today, I knew, would be a brief respite from her burdens of home. My worry was that I absolutely did not know what I would speak about to the congregation. I had been taught from a young age that the Holy Spirit would speak through me if I were worthy in the sight of God. I believed in that faith, I only feared I would not meet the requirement or amount of faith needed to engage the Holy Spirit.

The church was an abandoned storefront on the outskirts of this small Florida town. It was so old, the front porch, made of boards at least two inches thick, had settled on one end giving the front a drop of at least a foot from one end to the other, a distance of maybe fifty feet. The outside of the building fared little better as the wood probably hadn't seen a coat of paint in fifty years. Inside, the floor looked like so many piano keys, old, weathered and certainly uneven enough to make you look down with every step to keep your balance. The walls were like the outside and so too was the ceiling. But, what was lacked in the visual maintenance was made up by the vastness of the inside. The fifty-foot width gave way to a depth of maybe seventy-five feet. And, lack of side windows with only two windows in the front added to the cavern like feeling upon entering. At the backside was a shallow stage made of old, probably used, sheets of plywood for a depth of perhaps six feet and a height of two feet. The lectern was made of the same material, in the same manner. The front of both were painted black and the top left unfinished. About every ten feet hung a single forty-watt light bulb from the ten-foot ceiling. There was no lighting over the congregation

area. This may have been why we only had Sunday morning worship services that tended to go on for hours.

I proudly seated my mother at the very front in the sturdiest chair I could find. We didn't have pews, just an eclectic collection of wooden side chairs. I can't remember a single metal folding chair in the bunch. It is as if these people suddenly came together and created this church from the spare items they had on hand at home or hidden away some where on the farm. And, it was a good bet some of those chairs had been handmade by many of the members' parents and grandparents. There was a quality about this place that made you think you had stepped back in time, even for a poor boy like me in 1962.

As the members began filtering in, I knew I was amongst my peers. Most were gray headed, ancient looking through the withered features of their faces. A "Sunday best" for these folk usually consisted of a freshly washed and pressed pair of overalls or a brightly printed dress and shawl. You knew who was a farmer and who was someone who worked "public". Those who worked "public" usually wore a white shirt and black slacks, but never a tie. Everyone was clean-shaven and wore short haircuts.

The service began with singing without the benefit of any musical instruments. Song after song, I feverishly searched my Bible for inspiration, anything I could feel excited about. Then came the report from the deacon on the financial status of the congregation and began to relate personal stories about each of the members, new births within the families, a sickness or a problem with a crop that needed prayer intervention. Somewhere, somehow, a recent experience came to me that jumped out of my conscious and screamed, "My God doesn't smoke!" How could I have possibly come up with something like this in an area of the country that owed most of its entire livelihood to tobacco? Finishing his report, the deacon introduced me to the congregation and began a prayer that asked God to give me the words of the Holy Spirit that would impart truth and knowledge.

I stepped upon the stage, moved behind the pulpit and looked out over the congregation of perhaps sixty. I began by saying I was no speaker and if words of wisdom came from me it would certainly have to come from the Holy Spirit. I told them I had absolutely no idea of what I would be saying prior to arriving at the church. That while the deacon spoke to them, a memory entered my mind that I was led by the Spirit to tell them. This past week, while working in the watermelon fields, one of my coworkers asked me for a match. I didn't have one because I didn't smoke. Someone else gave him one and he said, "Thank you, Jesus!", as he lit his cigarette. How could this man thank Jesus for something that would harm him? Didn't he know that Jesus said our bodies were the temples of the Holy Ghost and we were to keep it clean? In a great voice I cried out to the congregation that this man called upon the Son of God, by name, but

IT WAS NOT MY GOD! He had used the name, but someone else answered his prayer.

I physically became excited and something began to take control of my mind as it raced over the things that my God did and did not do for His people. I shouted that my God was a good God, that He would not harm His people. How He had made a promise to Noah never to destroy man again. How He had sent His son, Jesus Christ, to show us all how to live and treat one another. That God sent Jesus to us to HEAL us and not to worsen our afflictions. How Jesus came to ease our burdens of the flesh and the sickening of the spirit. And, how this Jesus proclaimed that if as few as three gathered in His name, there He would be also.

I don't know how long my manic diatribe continued, but the congregation was reacting throughout my speech. There were shouts and praises to God, interspersed with the sporadic manifestation of "tongues". Following each manifestation there was a rapid translation from another member, all like a musical background to the sermon I was delivering. Several times, I too lost control and spoke "the speech of angels" engaging the interpretations of others throughout the congregation. Suddenly, my gaze fell upon my mother seated in the front. Without forethought, I knew it was time.

I introduced my mother to the congregation and told them of her plight with the varicose vein ulcer that no doctor could heal. Then, I told them that the Holy Spirit spoke to me and said that Jesus was within our midst and was prepared to give them a miracle by healing my mother of this affliction which man could not heal. That if three of them would touch her with their prayers, she would be healed. With that, half the congregation converged upon her, laying their hands upon her. Hands were raised, voices were lifted and the hair on my arms and head began to prickle. My heart raced and tears began to flow as I felt the power that radiated from the group. I stood back, feeling unworthy of this presence that had come among us. I had attended Holiness Camp in my youth, in the mountains of California, where we nightly had revival. Tongues were spoken often and once I had passed out with religious fervor. But, now, this was something new to me. Now, there was a presence that I had not summoned of my own will, but by the will of others.

Through my tears I saw the leg begin to heal. Skin appeared where there had not been any. Slowly, gradually, the open, raw sore began to shrink. As it shrank, the voices of the congregation became greater, "tongues" seemed to leap out everywhere and came with a force that felt like a wind against my skin. On and on, could it have been a half hour, the prayers and praises continued. And, the ulcer continued to shrink and stop, shrink and stop, shrink and stop, until finally the congregation began to slow down from sheer exhaustion. When all was said and done, the ulcer had retreated to the size of a quarter and stayed that way until my mother's death in 1973.

I believe to this day, it did not heal completely because of my own fear. I had preached the word, called out to God, was led by the Holy Spirit and invoked the very presence of Jesus Christ, and yet I was too afraid to reach out and touch that presence with my own hand. For all my background and upbringing within the church, for everyone's belief I was empowered by the Holy Spirit, I could not conquer my own fear of such power, even if it was being employed for good. The memories are so vivid, I cannot write this without tears coming to my eyes. To speak of it is even more terrible.

I left that church, fearing the congregation would come to expect miracles from me. But, deep inside, I knew it was they and their faith that had wrought the miracle. My wondering amongst the different denominations began. From Church of the Nazarene to "soft shell" Baptist, then on to studying different world religions, I searched for this power of prayer and knew it to be real. But from whom, and why and for what purpose?

Matthew 6:5-8 is very explicit in its treatment of how to pray as Jesus Christ says, "When thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." These rules are very, very explicit and should guide every Christian as they seek communication with God. We are told to hide ourselves from others, for to speak our prayers openly will negate any response from Heaven. We are told to speak from the heart rather than repeating Hail Mary one hundred times. Where have I heard that before? And, we should never have to request anything for ourselves, for if we are truly saved then God already knows our need and will supply it according to His divine plan.

What about the prayers that are never answered? There are two possible reasons for a no response from God. The most obvious is that God does not intend for you to have what you desire and the other reason, "The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord: but the prayer of the upright is his delight. The Lord is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.", Proverbs 15:8&29.

Remember, proper use of prayer will give you unbounded peace of mind and spirit, and a power to work miracles on behalf of others who seek God's intervention in their lives.



## Chapter 14

### MY VISION OF TOMORROW

For the past thirteen chapters I have been leading up to this chapter and purpose for which I embarked on this work, to set the groundwork for mankind's acceptance of the twenty-first century and the marvels which it holds for all Christians and non-Christians alike. Peter, the man who was given the keys to the Kingdom by none other than Jesus Christ, the Son of God, tells us in 1 Peter 2:9 that Christians are "a chosen generation, a royal Priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people". What better description for a people who must show the rest of the world the way to peace and the improvement of life for all mankind.

But, we must be able to embrace Christianity as our Lord and Savior originally intended. Like a sea of souls, owing allegiance to no one except our God and government, we must somehow break the yoke of institutionalism if we are to save ourselves from Balaam and from the destruction of our government. We see how the modern Church strangles the very fabric of our existence, how it dictates the ability of our government to meet the needs of its citizens by denying it a just compensation for protection and services rendered, how they cry against everything new or different from what they perceive as just or right, how they consume the wealth of the land and give little to God's work, and ultimately go the way of Balaam seeking to enslave the people and shadow the way of truth.

The world is in turmoil and cries of the multitudes can be heard above the roar of war machines bent on destruction of that which does not conform to their idea of world order, an order which dictates that there should be those who have and those who will never have. Like the fears and superstitions, the most popular tools of evil, which butchered and made a mockery of Christ's teachings, engage themselves once again to cloud the minds of men and keep them from seeing the truth which would hurdle the entire world into a new generation of peace and prosperity for all nations of the earth.

The centuries which pass are like the steps of a ladder, each step bringing us closer to the glory of God and His great plan for us. But, we must remember that this temporal world is finite and only one nation of people may stand on one rung of the ladder at a time. The Son of God has told us through the Apostle Peter that Christians are a nation unto themselves, that Christians are holy and of a royal Priesthood. Christians are chosen to lead; therefore we must hold the uppermost rung of the ladder to show the way to all nations. As our modern day Christian institutions continue to diverge from the true Christian doctrine by seeking stability in "sameness without change", we allow our Christian heritage to take a back seat to all other nations. But, since they follow the way of Balaam, these so-called Christians refuse to allow the other nations to pass them on the climb to God's ultimate purpose. They hold their ground and allow no one to pass, or more tragically, offer to share that which was not intended by God for Christians to share. Christians are supposed to point the way by works and by examples, not by just being there and offering a part thereof.

There can be no better example of this than the years that follow every exportation of Christian missionaries into new and "uncivilized" regions of the world. These religious pioneers, by saving the weak and helpless, create great social problems within the areas they operate. Offering help for the soul without giving freely of the means to self-sustain this new thrust of humanity is meaningless. Simply stated, they allow the creation of more mouths to feed without providing the necessary food or life-skills to sustain this new life. Somehow, I see a great evil in this and not in the interests of true Christian compassion. And, though the problems, little by little, begin to resolve themselves, there is a hollowness which cries out for lost codes of honor, lost

customs, and a loss of a sense of being or identity, for the missionaries have destroyed the new converts' familiar world and have replaced it with something totally foreign.

We have just left the twentieth century, and yet we are still in a period of great consumption of the natural resources. It is a period that cannot be shared with other nations because the resources are finite. The Americans founded each new standard of living since it's founding for the past two centuries. In each case, we have steadily progressed to the next step on the rung so that other nations could follow. And, this country, founded on Christianity, constantly added to its technological base to handle the demands of those nations who followed in our footsteps. But, sad to say, for the past forty or so years we have not answered the call of God's plan for us, but instead have chosen not to move up to the next rung of the eternal ladder. Being smug and comfortable with ourselves, failing to support the government and eroding its ability to meet the new technological challenges, yielding to the temptation of turning over the Christian purpose of tithing and almsgiving to the government without supporting its efforts so religious institutions could become richer and more powerful, Christians have invited the scorn of the world and have pushed us ever closer to destruction.

If people of the world can point to Christianity and speak of it as being devil-based and motivated, they do so with our complete assistance, for we no longer have works to offer in our defense except the enslavement of all we touch. This cannot be, for the Son of God did not mean it to be so. Our science will sustain us if we will but use it. The miracles of the twenty-first century have been ours for years, but we as hollow Christians have lost sight of our destiny, like wells without water, the spirit no longer sustains us to accept the marvels and challenges of the new. We speak of morality and the decline of the flesh, yet in truth it is the moral decline of the spirit that plagues us and brings us to our doom.

Contrary to popular belief, we are not the youngest nation on this earth. And even among the most powerful countries, we are the oldest living, functioning government. At his Inaugural Anniversary Dinner in Washington, D.C., on January 20, 1962, John Fitzgerald Kennedy spoke these words, "...Though we like to think of ourselves as a young country – this is the oldest republic in the world. When the United States was founded there was a King in France, and a Czar in Russia, and an Emperor in Peking. They have all been wiped away, but the United States has still survived." We survived because of our Christian spirit and as pioneers unafraid of challenges for we had the promise of our Lord and Savior to sustain us. A promise reflected by our deeds and the goals we set for ourselves. Where are those deeds and goals today? Where is this promise reflected or has it died within our hearts?

I can just hear some of you saying, “Hasn’t this guy ever heard of the computer, the Internet?” Yes, of course I have. But, to what purpose was this great invention used for? I’m thankful we didn’t just give away the invention and finally, for the first time, controlled its manufacture and use throughout the world, creating much-needed jobs and opportunities in America. But this is where the convoluted logic begins to come into play. What purpose? To increase the productivity of the American worker, do more and create more with LESS LABOR! Less labor equates to greater profit, enabling the American worker to compete with third world labor. Would someone tell me just how “labor” could possibly equate itself with scientific discoveries capable of saving the resources of our planet? Aren’t we just creating a way of enabling Americans with the ability to continue to consume more and more of those resources without contributing to life-style changes brought about by scientific and innovative discoveries? Remember what I said about the “eternal ladder”? How can the other nations occupy the same rung of the ladder, which we stand upon, the rung that requires the steady consumption of resources?

The tools for using solar power for the heating and cooling of our homes are a reality. Recently, in the Southwest, a subdivision was built. Unlike other subdivisions, this one incorporated solar panels in the roofs. The added cost per home was only \$5,000 and yet saved the homeowner 65% of their electric consumption! And now, the convoluted logic again. During this past Presidential race, one of the nominees, in order to save energy use, proposed a five billion dollar plan to help CORPORATIONS install solar generators for their use! And this comes from a Democrat! Why would one have to subsidize a corporation to help them save money? Why wouldn’t you take that five billion dollars and solarize the homes of FIVE MILLION low income and elderly citizens. If their average light bill is \$150, then that would save our nation some five hundred million dollars every month and six billion dollars every year in oil and energy costs! It would also assist those who were in dire need of stretching incomes to match continuing rising costs of local taxes, food and medicines.

The earth sciences have shown us that nature, if used properly within our buildings, will comfort our temporal bodies with little or no need of outside energy. We fly to the stars and create insulation made of only a few strips of paper-thin materials that keep out the tremendous heat of the sun and the freezing coldness of vacant space. Yet, we toil on earth with bulky and costly materials to control only a few degrees of comfort. The world of Buck Rogers, which so many used to enjoy and look forward to, has been with us for many, many years, yet our hollow Christian souls have turned away from the promises of that future. Content in our own knowledge of things, we no longer pioneer the new, and if the great men who see the future goodness to come offer the new, we reject it without investigation. Content to follow, the gifted few are caught-up in this madness of a strayed, convoluted society and rebel rather than lead. Content to write our checks, we no longer give of ourselves to God’s work in a one-on-one, personal basis.

The children of God search for simple, infallible truth and are turned away by the inconsistencies and complexities of the religious institutions, and are confused into Satan's design, which is the destruction of the soul and all it touches. Right and wrong are substituted for good and evil, and the substantive meaning of the true battle between these great forces is lost, lost in favor of evil, for the good know not what to do.

In the beginning, the good always had a foundation of superiority over evil. It came from within, a voice given to us in the form of the Holy Spirit whereby one could tell if something was of benefit or was designed to bring evil and misery upon the people. Now, we relegate this voice to nothing and to insulate our consciences seek right and wrongs, turning to the law for comfort. As in the days of Christ, the Church moves in the direction of Balaam, led by men and not by God. Confusion and evil is their only reward, for the law has not the spirit to comfort nor does it give the courage to face the unknown. Like any object created by man, this kind of attitude is subject to decay, whereas those ideas and principles created by God and nurtured by the Holy Spirit are everlasting, eternal.

Rather than show the nations of the world the way into the twenty-first century, our religious institutions would rather bring war upon the world to ensure their position, for without the call to arms by the "grass-roots" gospel deliverers this country would have been hard pressed to wage any war at any time in our history. If this is a false statement, then I submit to you that there would be no need for our war machines and that the greater good of mankind would be served daily by the example of giving freely all good and helpful things to all who sought to better themselves. That the problems facing the world would not have occurred and we would be enjoying this day a life that no man ever dreamed could be possible. Comfortable in the world we have provided for our children, they would have readily accepted the new for us, as has been the case since the founding of this nation. I know there has been much brutality and injustice in our land, but the spirit was strong and each man felt the pull of tomorrow, rich or poor, whatever his station in life. Today, the spirit sleeps and has slept for many years. If not reawakened in our time there will be no more future times for our children, for Balaam will have captured every heart and evil will have confused every mind to the truth and ultimate potential of every human on this earth.

I know you've seen, in your lifetime, the riots, beating, killings and random destruction all in the name of "right". These are the ways of desperate people, people who have lost the vision and spirit of their forefathers. Offered the world, they received nothing. Given the resources to create, they gave nothing. Now, to reestablish a position of worth they have turned to aggression and oppression as a means of influencing others for it is the easiest way that requires nothing but a heart filled with greed and a mind filled with evil. Certainly not a pretty picture but one which cries out the pending demise of this nation's Christian spirit, the lack of goals or the means to accomplish them, and the awful lack of the ability to

boldly fulfill promises to our own people. The spirit continues to fade and die and our religious physicians either do not recognize the illness or sadly they no longer have the cure at their disposal.

If you have been following the star wars and recent anti-missile missile defense debates and our conflicts in the Gulf War and Kosovo, compare what you have seen and heard with the words I wrote twenty years ago, remembering that this work has been given to every President since Ronald Reagan and many, many world leaders over those same years.

Instead of building greater war machines, let us devote ourselves to protection from attack. Let us not be the aggressor, but let us show the world we cannot be hurt by any attacker. Our Navy's research efforts to develop rays capable of confusing and numbing whole masses of populations are a step in the right direction, a weapon of defense rather than offense. Our laser technology already provides protection from any air attack by any means and if improved would yield protection of equal strength on the ground and at sea. Again, a weapon of protection rather than oppression. Our flying fortresses and satellites give us an early warning capacity unequaled by any country. We must remember that the ability to give war only makes other nations fearful of aggression from us. Whereas, if we cannot be harmed by their ability to give war, has not the same effect been achieved which we so tenderly reserve for the arms race? Which makes more sense? Realigning our efforts in this area of the military would make us far stronger than any nation on earth, regardless of how many weapons of destruction they had at their disposal. Our technology now gives us the power to block every channel of communication on this planet, i.e., radio, telephone, television, everything. We can stop anything from invading us by land, sea or air, rendering useless any nation who tries. Our cloaking devices are no longer a part of science fiction but a reality of fact. Why the need for bigger, more destructive weapons? Reverse the idea that the ultimate weapon must destroy, instead the ultimate weapon must protect and preserve. Think about it.

Beginning in the early seventies, I know because I was there, the foot soldier began receiving more and more training in the art of riot control, the first logical step in populace and resources control. In a wartime environment, the Christian thing to do is to control the people and all their resources until the government can be reestablished, instead of destroying everything in sight. This is a step in the right direction and reflects the morality of the Christian spirit. With this I find no evil, unless it is directed at destroying the very fabric of the civilization that had been invaded. Then, even if the method is humane, the overriding image is one of domination rather than supplication.

Everyone is following the recent declaration of war against terrorists. Specifically, I want you to turn your attention toward Afghanistan. We declared war on a government that allows terrorism to flourish within its borders, but have

stated again and again we are not at war with the general population. In fact, the government is sending airlifts to drop food to the citizenry during this time of action against their leadership. On top of that, our government is conferring with the world nations to insure a new government is formed in Afghanistan that will reflect the needs and backgrounds of all its inhabitants. Oh sure, there are those who say all this is being done so we can obtain a pipeline for oil shipments from Russia which will benefit our economy and at the same time destabilize other Muslim autocratic nations in the area, but is that a “bad thing” for the people of that region? Would the inhabitants not enjoy a better life without losing their principle religious beliefs, way of life and heritage? You be the judge.

We must rethink the idea that some of our production must be destroyed or must wear out in order for us to enjoy a continued growth. The examples given us in each world war and those in between conflicts every time the nation or world enters a period of depression or recession should be shunned by clear thinking Christians as just another way Balaam seeks to enslave mankind’s spirit. We constantly hear that America’s production has not kept up with the rest of the world, yet we refuse to alter our lifestyles to compensate for our entering the twenty-first century. Rather than see ourselves only as consumers of perishable goods which will normally shrink in quantity as our society technologically improves itself, we must turn our thoughts to other areas of production which will be long lasting and will benefit us in the new era.

The items, which are required for the immediate future survival of our species, are so numerous it is difficult to understand why we have fallen behind in these NEEDS. Solar power is here and so are the available tools and resources to make it an every day reality, common within the framework of every building and habitat. Millions upon millions of units are needed today! Complete new cities of tomorrow are needed and each may take fifty or more years to build. Yet the need is now, it is present; it is imperative to our survival as a viable race and nation. If the government can build or supplement small, outdated means of shelter on such a massive scale, then why does it not go ahead and build the new cities we so desperately need, or rebuild the ones we have. If land can be bought to build super highways for the automobile, then why cannot land be purchased for people? Where are the mass transit systems linking this land from one end to the other? Can we continue to rely solely upon the commercial air services with an ever-expanding population? If the skies are over-crowded now, what does the future hold? Where is the guiding Christian spirit, which demands of its government the provision of a proper environment?

Twenty years ago, I thought the improvement of the telephone with visual monitors could put thousands of people to work. Little did I foresee the advent of this miracle through the Internet and the use of personal computers. But, it did put thousands to work anyway. What about the medical field with the need for a myriad of medical machines of all types and descriptions? Why do we allow our financial and industrial institutions to falter and sit back while the world hurdles

into chaos? Why do we tolerate the predatory prices of new additions to our technology, a system that restricts the full utilization of any discovery, especially in the medical field? Where is this Christian spirit which demands better of the choices it is given? Where are our religious leaders, the ones who would rather uplift and feed the spirit of man, rather than condemn and bring words of doom and destruction at every opportunity?

As the wayward religious institutions have complicated the word of God, so they spill over into the affairs of government by telling people that solutions to problems are too complicated to discuss and too complicated to solve justly. And so the Christian spirit becomes trapped in a philosophy that slowly but surely destroys the rightful urgings to forge ahead to the new. Our economic institutions who have the financial and distribution responsibility to the populace should be reminded that with each new product there is a need for new workmen. With each new workman there is a need for additional services and goods to sustain him. The old adage of "quantity of sameness" should be replaced by a new axiom of "quality of newness". In other words, become the engine that creates this new world of products that protect the environment and lead us into a new era.

I am not wise enough to know all the wonderful things we have on the shelf just waiting for someone to place into production for trade with the world. But, if the specter of falling production begins to raise its head and the only solution seems to be to raise prices to cover the shortfall, how can we blame the countries of the world for raising their prices on oil and other raw materials we need, especially if they rely on us for their own consumer and technological goods? Where does the evil lie now, with other nations who rely on us or with ourselves? Cannot your Christian soul sort out what is and is not the ultimate truth, and cannot your Christian spirit formulate the ways and means to correct the wrong?

The hour draws near when there will be no turning back, when the nations of the world will rightfully demand we either become strangled on our own poverty from a lack of natural resources so they can either join us in our era or move ahead of us, or on the other hand we create a situation where we are faced with a brutal war to protect our world position in which there are no victors. Do those who demonstrate against the World Bank or the World Trade Organization really understand what is going on, or are they like the confused, empty vessels I spoke of earlier? Why do we hesitate? Why do we tarry?

I debase no man, no institution, no religious group, for I have learned that all good works are of God, no matter who or where these good works come from. But, as I look out my window and see the vast ignorance and the decline of America's spiritual morality, I cannot help but weep. After weeping, I am filled with rage at the blatant stupidity which has reared its ugly head and called itself Christianity, which claims for its roots the teachings of the Son of God; for its

justification for existence, for its desire to dominate and enslave the people of God, and its deceitful shadowing of the truth. It seeks blind obedience from those of questioning, seeking minds. The ultimate end is the loss of the true Christian spirit, for even the most trusting of men must rationalize the reason for his belonging to a chosen denomination, forever clouding his mind with doctrines of man, doctrines of law, doctrines of decay.

The world spins through space, a world which threatens to become another dead sphere in the heavens, and our Christian leaders sit in their gaudy palaces to Balaam, wearing fine raiment bought by the pennies of the poor, drinking from the cup of the peoples' misery, preaching as to frighten the angels of God into submission, and supporting a rationalized doctrine and rationalized misconcepts. The world threatens to break apart and they do nothing but pray for deliverance. Like a man who is drowning in a shallow pool of water, he prays for someone to pull him out and save him, and yet all he has to do is stand up and breathe the fresh air he so desperately needs for survival. Jesus Christ gave us the means and the spirit to save ourselves in times of tribulation, but we have forgotten how to call upon it for assistance in our time of need.

The spirit was given to all, to motivate, to console, to accomplish and appreciate that which could not be accomplished. How foolish mankind has become. After nearly two thousand years of having the truth given us, we have changed and mangled it to such an extent that most will not yield to its authority in their lives out of fear of the unfamiliar, because they have forgotten its existence and purpose.

More and more we hear accounts of alien craft sweeping our skies and terrorizing the countryside. Yet, there are few reports of actual contacts with the pilots of these strange craft. It does not surprise me, but I wonder why there are any contacts at all. We have certainly allowed ourselves to become unworthy of any consideration by any other species, which may inhabit the Universe. In parallel, I would suggest that contact with the human species without it first having acquired the true Christian spirit would be like one of us jumping into a pool of crocodiles and trying to communicate with them before being devoured. If there are aliens visiting, I am sure that somewhere in their history our Lord and Savior visited their race, in a form that was compatible to them. The fact they were able to make it here may be an indication they kept His word and teachings close to their hearts. I cannot overstress the importance of the condition of the spirit and soul, for these are the only truly equal commodities in an expanding and unknown Universe.

My spirit is ready to leap headlong into the twenty-first century. My spirit yearns to tread upon the stars and bring back the wealth of knowledge and wisdom they contain. My spirit is ready to build a new world, new cities, new forests and wildernesses, and a new environment where all small children smile and sing and dance because they know no other way. My spirit is ready for all

new things and holds no man in contempt because he may have had it a little easier than I did. My gauge will always be what did he do with his privilege?

I know my spirit is ready for its has been forged to revel in all things worthy and good. When I see a new dawn I am filled with such joy I could almost cry. When I see great buildings I am filled with awe at so great an accomplishment. When I see people struggle for their daily bread there comes a pride that makes me want to reach out and say thank you for being the person they are. When I see the elderly I feel I must show a great compassion born of respect, for they have gone before and no matter what they have done, they have laid the way for me to trod. Each time I see someone increase their wealth and display it by their rich houses, or great boats, or beautiful gardens of flowers and statuary, or paintings by the masters, whatever they do I am thankful to have been allowed the opportunity to behold and enjoy the beauty they have displayed. With each contest of physical might I am inspired by the knowledge that these participants, whether the long distance runner or the player on the contest field, have suffered greatly just to be there. Each time I see a marching band, or a drill team, or whatever that requires precision execution, I am filled with a pride for the participants because they have given long and hard hours to perform even the simplest move. For every one in every station of life I am again and again honored for having had the opportunity to even know of them and their trials, defeats and successes. For the artists, poets, writers and entertainers, I am doubly thankful for they constantly reflect what was, what is and what can be the higher purpose of mankind.

Will you join me? Will you yield to the majesty and perfectness of the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Son of God Most High? Will you allow your spirit to soar to new heights above the pettiness of greed, or fear, or superstition? Believe on Him and show the world by your works and aspirations that He is in your life. By such means will the world be saved from itself, for Christians and non-Christians alike, and mankind will know that the God of Abraham is the only true God, and that Jesus Christ was His only Son. Amen.



## **Chapter 15**

### **OPEN LETTER TO ALL DEVIL, SATAN AND LUCIFER WORSHIPPERS**

I sometimes feel like I am one of the last Christians on earth. Everything I see and hear, involving practices and beliefs, comes to me in convoluted, chaotic forms that have little resemblance to the truth of the deity being worshipped.

If you had any knowledge of the scriptures, you would KNOW that basically anyone who eats, builds anything, works for a living or even takes a shit, in fact, worships the devil. At the very root of devil worship is the worship of the FLESH. So, those of you who find it necessary to formalize this process with the wearing of robes, uttering chants, praying to a ram's head or concentrating

upon archaic symbols expose yourself to ridicule and laughter by the very being you wish to elevate to God status.

Want to find REAL Satan worshippers? Go to any Christian Church and listen to the so-called Christian Pastor butcher the words and teachings of Jesus Christ. Watch as he snuffs out the “Christ”, free spirit, in his flock and substitutes it with “blind dogma”. Watch him make slaves of his congregation and watch as he confiscates their money away from God’s direction, so that he can become rich and powerful.

Do you think you can come close to matching the evil perpetrated by these ministers and their congregations? Ever notice how they proclaim how the government should spend your tax dollars for charity and welfare so they can keep even more of what they have stolen from God? And, they use Christ’s platitudes to hide their true purpose to dominate and control all they touch.

This book was written about the TRUE teachings of Jesus Christ and I feel I proved, scientifically, that He was the Son of God. But, in the process, I discovered most, if not all, current Christian institutions are diametrically opposed to Christ’s teachings. Their interpretations are so convoluted; it had to be invented by Satan.

If Lucifer was the most beautiful angel in Heaven, why do you portray him with horns, hooves, bat wings or with a tail? Would not he and his fellow angel followers be the most beautiful beings you could possibly behold? In the middle ages, the populace invented gargoyles to “scare away” demons and evil spirits by their ugly appearance. Now, these beautiful demons are displayed by followers as the very aforementioned nonexistent gargoyles. By the way, a demon is NOT a follower of Satan. A demon, according to the scriptures, is a messenger of God who is placed in the way of something you want to do. Why do you think King Solomon thought he could call up demons to assist him in ruling the Hebrew people? Did Solomon think he was worshipping Lucifer, or was he requesting assistance from God’s messengers? If you will take the time to look up the original term for “demon” you will find “angel of light” or, in other words, “heavenly being of truth”.

The Hebrew thought all demons were “Malech” (messengers) of God. The Greeks felt the same way but called them “Angelos” (messengers) of God. It wasn’t until 1,000 years ago that somehow a difference was made between demons and angels. But, that ill-conceived difference does not change the truth of the matter. These entities all come from God. The stuff you see in movies is just that; stuff you see in movies.

When Satan was cast down, he was given dominion over the earth, the weather, wind, etc. But, at the same time (a later time), man is given dominion over the earth. Wow, just think; Satan = man? Or, Satan = flesh? Remember

the number of the anti-Christ? It is 666, which is the number of man. Remember, Christ's Kingdom is not of this world and He extols all to worship God in the spirit. There it is again. Satan is of the flesh, whereas God is of the spirit.

I do adhere to the creation theory, but at the same time can see evolution at work. I explain this in this book and scientifically prove both. What it boils down to is that God did create Adam and Eve, but their sons married evolutionary stock. That is why we are not only the product of evolution, but also carry the genetic code passed down through Eve. You are an animal that carries the GOD SEED within your DNA. It is the primary reason one can seem a saint and yet the results of all their endeavors sow the seeds of evil.

Maybe, your attempt to worship Satan as a deity is really the Holy Spirit telling you that something is wrong. Your confused reaction is not to see the evil in the institutionalized religions, but to "physically" seek out that which puts your soul to task.

Does Satan really need dedicated worshippers? Every time a Church takes up an offering to build a sanctuary, or buy song books, or install plush seating, or a raise for the pastor; the Church STEALS from the poor. Every time Church members raise their voices in joyful praise and song for a spiritual fulfillment instead of obtaining this gift from God by serving the poor and afflicted, they perform the greatest service to Lucifer. How can your pitiful, secretive attempt to call upon Satan in your worship even remotely compare to what the Christian Church does?

How in the world does the insane sacrifice of animals or humans serve Satan? I thought he was a purveyor of conflict and would not death cut that short? Or, does the disturbance of deceased bodies in the cemetery serve Satan? What good is a dead person's body to Satan? Think he gives a hoot if you wear a pentagram? Do you really think Satan has to have something physical in order to do something he wants to do? For your sake, wake up to reality and listen to the "inner voice", the Comforter, that Jesus gave to all who will seek Him. You owe it to yourself to investigate your options before committing yourself to something that really, really makes you look very foolish to God, to Jesus, to Satan and to any man who has command of the TRUTH!

This letter is not to be confused as having been written for "Satanists", a loose group of people who believe there is "no god above man", who believe in neither the Christian God nor the Christian Satan, but who constantly question and seek absolute, scientific truths in all things. A truly worthy endeavor.

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## POSTSCRIPT

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.” John 16:13

Know this, that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, on a mission for His Father, the Creator, to justify mankind unto Himself. He did this with an identification and explanation of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, that is a direct link with God the Father and all others who engage in His work. It is the primary guide and ruler of those who follow in the footsteps of Christ.

Faith cannot be substituted for understanding, for “no man is saved in ignorance”. When it is written that one must accept Jesus and that Jesus Christ was the Son of God on faith, it is saying that this is the highest principle of belief. But, to use this to reject all teachings of works as an outward sign of one’s condition of the soul is convoluted. We believe on Jesus and do His will in our lives, but the “doing” is that which reflects whether or not we give only lip service to our faith. And, it is the yardstick God will use to determine whether or not we are to be rewarded, for “Not all who call upon the Father shall be saved.” Be warned, for the false teachers will use this catch phrase, faith, to ensnare you into a belief system that will ultimately cause you to blaspheme against the Holy Ghost.

Jesus was not a Christian, but those who profess Him to be the Son of God are. Those who are truly saved, truly fellowship with the Holy Spirit, regardless of their faith, will be saved. Jesus Christ promised mankind He would intercede before the Father at judgment, by standing at the right hand of God and judging every man “according to their works” (the outward sign of the Holy Spirit in one’s life) and not by their faith. It means, many will be saved whether they be Muslim, Hindu, Christian, Pagan, Wiccan, even Satanist. And, they will stand among the righteous on Judgment Day. It is a promise that cannot be changed to suit a particular inaccurate interpretation of the Scriptures.

The message of our Savior was offered to all mankind and not to a select few. He set the stage for certain things to happen in response to certain activities. He did not make a religious affiliation requirement for any of these things to occur. It

literally means that if one follows the path set by Jesus, they will be saved, whether they are aware of the path they have chosen or not. By faith we accept Christ as our savior, and by faith we accept to do that which is good and causes no harm. Those who follow another religious path, but by faith have chosen our Savior's approach to life, they will have their part of His Kingdom and will not be condemned in the hour of judgment. For God and His Son, Jesus Christ, are sufficient unto Themselves and will gather Their own unto Themselves at the appointed time, regardless of their religion or lack thereof.

To say that only those who call upon the name of Jesus shall be saved is evil and not from the Scriptures. All those descriptive references in the Holy Bible are a description of one's acceptance of the true path as offered by Jesus Christ, and not just the acknowledgment that Jesus is the Son of God. He was not a blood sacrifice, only in that He had to suffer, die and resurrect in order to fulfill the prophecies of the Hebrew, to prove He was the Messiah. In so doing, He fulfilled the law (put an end to it) and wrote the words of God the Father into the hearts of man through the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

For one to say they believe in the Judeo-Christian philosophy is someone who makes an oxymoron statement. The Old Testament is God's hand in dealing with the Hebrew nation. The New Testament is His Son's hand in dealing with all of mankind. Jesus Christ's fulfillment of the law brought an end to the old laws of Moses and He substituted it with a direct link to God the Father through the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. This eliminated the need to write any law, creed or doctrine to define God's people or the way they should live in order to be acceptable to Him. Judeo-Christian doctrines are those that allow the modern Christian Institutions the ability to control their congregations and to steal the gifts (tithes), which God intended to uplift His people. And, it gives them the opportunity to substitute the Holy Spirit with manmade, ill-conceived laws, doctrines and dogma, all subject to change and decay. We know this through the teachings of Jesus Christ, His Son.

As a seeking Christian, I have come to condemn other Christians for their obvious ignorant applications of the Scriptures and their Satan-based interpretations whose sole purpose is to condemn all others and make captive those they convert, to include their soul and all they materially possess. It is, on its face, the exact description of the false prophets and teachers warned about in the Holy Bible. Such practitioners have "blasphemed against the Holy Ghost" and are like the "blind leading the blind".

These false teachers deny that Jesus, while dead and in the grave, crossed the river of death and taught to all those lost souls, before the days of Noah, the path to salvation, in the Spirit Prison. On the cross, Jesus called it Paradise.

These false teachers deny that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, will one day stand on the right hand of God and judge every man out of His Lamb's Book of Life,

“according to their works”, in order for those not of the faith to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven and live forever with Him and God the Father.

Their philosophy is a hollow, Devil inspired work that offers only subjugation to what they believe to be “right”, when the Scriptures tell us that not even the angels rant and rave against those things that mankind does not understand. Those who have known the “truth”, those who turn back to their “old ways” are like the hog that was washed, once again wallows in the mire, and the dog returns to eating it’s own vomit.

I praise the Son in all things and accept His message of love (understanding) for all mankind. This is the God I follow and not the God of the Old Testament. Jesus came to rectify all mankind to the Father and to write His laws WITHIN the hearts of mankind. The Christian I have known in my lifetime would destroy this gift and substitute it with convoluted doctrine. I am not ignorant, nor half-savage, but a human being, acceptable before God and His Son, Jesus Christ. He placed His mark upon my soul and I do not need the kind of treatment or laws that one would give a trainable animal in order to control it.



### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Ernest A. Steadman was born on April 3, 1947 in San Mateo County, California. At the age of one he was crowned King of the San Mateo County babies as the most healthiest. Baptized in the Four Square Baptist Church and later attending many Churches of God, the Steadman family enjoyed a relatively high middle class life. His father became ill in 1959 with bursitis of the hip and was out of work for six months. During that time and directly preceding his recovery, his father turned to drinking and gambling resulting in the loss of their home and everything they owned.

Moving to his father's home state, Florida, in 1960 with only the clothes on their backs, their poverty was without depth. Within three months of moving to Florida, Ernest lost from 185 pounds to 135 pounds due to starvation. Two sisters were added to the family bringing the total to seven children. Going against the racial "Old South" mentality of those around him, at the age of 13 Ernest attended several black Holiness Churches before converting to that religion. Settling on a white Holiness Church, which was very small, he soon learned first hand the power of healing when performed by those of unquestioning faith. His convictions were so great; he was honored by being given the temporary Pastorship of the Church at the age of fifteen while the regular Minister was away on a brief vacation.

It was in this time frame that Ernest remembers his mother sitting at the window and crying because she had nothing to feed her children. Once in awhile their cousin would come by with some fish for her to clean and feed them with. They had no refrigerator and cooking was done on a two-burner kerosene camp

stove. His father worked for an ice company and had to drive 15 miles to make 6 hours, 6 days a week, for \$1.00 per hour. To supplement their income, he also went to work for the State of Florida at a mental institution as an “overnight” patient caretaker for \$116.00 per month.

No stranger to work, having sold newspapers on street corners and in bars since the age of nine in California, Ernest began performing odd jobs at the age of 13. Many times he would work five days a week and go to school on an average of two days a week. He worked in the fields, loaded trucks with 50-pound bags of fertilizer and did every menial job that could be had by a willing worker. The school Principal, his teachers and his friends always seemed to understand and never low browed him for being poor. At the age of sixteen, the School Board mandated that Ernest either goes to school on a regular basis or he would have to drop out. He had no choice but to quit school and begin working full time.

He began working for a local motel (13 hours per night) and at a foundry (8 hours per day). This he did for 1-1/2 years. Immediately following this period of time, his father deserted the family to take up his life again in the casinos run by gangsters in California. Ernest took complete reins of the family and totally rejected welfare which at the time felt the sum of \$70.00 per month was sufficient to care for a mother and seven children; and sent someone around every week to check the cupboards to make sure all that money was not being spent on liquor. Remember, the date was 1965, not 1935!

With all the burdens of caring for six brothers and sisters and a partially invalid mother at the age of sixteen, Ernest would meet every dawn with a love for God and His greatness that would bring tears to his eyes. Spending some time in the Church of the Nazarene, he began consuming everything he could on religions throughout the world as well as the history of the Christian religion.

Being poor was hard enough, but Ernest felt the stares of those in the little town they had come to meant that he and his family were being perceived as “White Trash” and it was somehow unnatural for a young man to dedicate himself to his family as Ernest had done. Unskilled and uneducated, he determined to better their circumstance. And so he did. In the following five years Ernest earned a correspondence Certificate in Applied Economics, achieved his High School Diploma at night school, and complete a College Certificate in Personnel Supervision. His work took him from one assistant manager position to another; for a company supporting the Gemini Space Control Guidance Systems, for a manufacturing company and for one of the world’s largest engineering firms.

The family fared better with each passing year until Ernest felt called to the political arena to represent the poor and disadvantaged. The experience was costly because he was branded as a radical and not to be trusted within the professional community, thus costing him his livelihood. He learned truths that

were bitter to swallow and which left him empty of love and feeling for his fellow man. He learned that most of the so-called needy and disadvantaged were that way because they had not the capacity to appreciate the challenge of accomplishment. The real meaning of “casting his pearls before swine” became all too clear. Ernest also learned that ignorance and hatred was not the sole property of the poor, but was rampant among the rich and powerful he had met. Those who were intelligent, tolerant and feeling were few and far between the multitude of greedy, self-seeking and self-gratifying monsters guised in human clothing.

Ernest lost all he had, his savings, his home and his livelihood. More importantly, he had lost his own self-respect and felt he had let his family down. Placing his mother and the three remaining children in a low rent housing project, he entered the United States Army to begin anew. His love for law dictated his move to the Military Police. During a short period of time, Ernest not only completed basic training and his Military Police Advanced Individual Training, within 21 weeks of entering the service he achieved the rank of PFC and then took the highest score ever achieved at the Military Police Noncommissioned Officer Basic School. He was awarded a commendation by the Army, the School, and by the Association of the United States Army. Along with this came the rank of Specialist 4<sup>th</sup> Class at the end of only 34 weeks in the service, a rank which is not normally given until the completion of three years active duty. Ernest was assigned to the school and in the following weeks co-founded the Instructional Technology Division, made several training films and set criteria for the development of class films for each area of Police training and instituted materials for a self-contained Learning Center which could be used army-wide for individual training in a library setting. At the same time, he took correspondence courses through the Logistics Management branch of the service and completed work in areas of Business, Operations and Administration; Computers, Automation and Operations Research; Procurement; and Teaching and Education.

At the end of his first year of service, his mother passed away and left the three youngest children in need of a home. Ernest had to leave the service since none of the older children were capable or wanted to care for the younger ones and the military would not accept them as dependents for post housing unless he formally adopted them.

Ernest married and took on the challenge of raising two stepchildren, be a father to an older child and grandfather to her three children. While back in Florida, he took course work to complete the Florida Peace Officer Standard through college, and at the same time was the assistant to the Administrator of a special school for socially maladjusted and dysfunctional children. He also became involved in the criminal justice program as a Correctional Officer submitting programs to improve personnel morale and the implementation of identification and remediation programs for inmates.

He and his family then moved to Georgia. At the age of twenty-eight, Ernest joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) only to be excommunicated when he found he could not tolerate the false doctrine that someone owned him other than Jesus Christ and that if doctrine could be in error in one part, it was therefore in error in all parts, especially if it is purported to be infallible. It would be the only time in Ernest's life that his faith in Jesus would be shaken and doubts of the very existence of Christ would enter his thoughts.

Ernest would spend the next six years as an Administrative Assistant, running the office for a group of professionals. During this time he would obtain an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice and an Associate Degree in Constitutional Law. At the same time he would complete degree work in Personnel Management, Technical Drawing and finally Time and Motion Studies. He would also learn the "ins and outs" of operating a radio station in his spare time.

At the age of 31, Ernest came under the conviction to set the record straight for Jesus Christ and to give rebirth to His teachings for all mankind. For the next three years, he would again study everything he could, and would go back over those items of information and knowledge, which were not connected to Jesus in any readily apparent way but somehow pointed to the absolute truth and majesty of His teachings. In some unknown way, Mr. Steadman believes the keys have been placed in his hands to give to the world once again, and in such a way that will once and for all time establish Jesus Christ as the unquestionable Son of God whose message was distorted and completely changed to serve man's quest for domination rather than God's quest to give stability and salvation.

In 1979, Mr. Steadman lost the sight of his left eye and in 1980 moved back to Florida to live a semi-retired life on 10-1/2 acres of palmettos. In changing the land, he had hoped to raise catfish, have a fishing pond and a very large garden. He even hoped to eventually build a Chapel to God, which would have been open to all travelers, regardless of their race, creed or religion. But, sadly, he was struck down with a gulf-war like illness, which totally disabled him. It was not until 1994 he was finally diagnosed with shingles of the L-7 nerve group. All those years with no treatment and being told there was nothing wrong with him. The end result was the loss of everything he owned, forcing him and his wife to live with his wife's daughter for several years in complete poverty in North Carolina.

When his wife qualified for SSI, they moved into a little farm shack and lived for many more years on little more than \$300 per month. Finally, in 1989, Ernest was awarded a non-service connected disability from the Veterans Administration. It wasn't a whole lot, but gave them a better quality of life. By purchasing all their clothing from organizations like the Salvation Army, buying

marked-down groceries and the like, they are able to stretch every penny. In 1991, they moved to Nashville, Tennessee and bought a modest home through the Tennessee Housing Development Authority and the Veterans Administration. Their life is still far from easy, but Ernest has renewed his efforts to reintroduce searching souls to the majesty of the “true” teachings of Jesus Christ.

In early 2002, Mr. Steadman sold their home in Nashville, Tennessee and now resides in South Georgia. Although he must perform major rehabilitation to their new home, he no longer has the burden of a mortgage. His home is paid for. It sits on nearly an acre of ground and it is his hope to plant and build an Interfaith Garden on the site. He plans flowering and fruit trees and statues representing all the major religions of the world. Throughout the garden will be benches for anyone to sit and reflect and pray before their chosen image of God. But, at the center will be Christ, overlooking and embracing all who enter.

Like the prophets of old who cleansed themselves in the desert to receive God’s word, Mr. Steadman too has been cleansed over the years in a like manner of self-sacrifice and suffering; that his experiences and trials have all been for a purpose and now that he is independent of any religious, economical or political pressure, the time is now for that purpose to flower into concrete action, an action to restore the truth of Christ’s ministry in its proper perspective and correct the centuries old errors which keeps mankind from fully entering the twenty-first century.

Since 1982, copies of a version of this book have been given to every President and noteworthy world leaders. When asked about charitable contributions, every President since Ronald Reagan said they freely gave to people they knew who had fallen on hard times through no fault of their own (directly from this work). The arms movement towards defensive rather than offensive (Star Wars) and the UN’s effort to control weapons of mass destruction, not to mention talk of a New World Order to insure more equitable distribution of commodities (even to the poorest nations) are referred to in this work. As steadfast and stubborn as are the world’s religious institutions (ALL religious institutions) isn’t it amazing how our world leaders have been able to turn their old beliefs and positions 180 degrees? Ernest would like to believe the original version of this book had some small part in this “awakening”.

As Mr. Steadman summarizes his new commitment and accepts the call we relay to you the sincerity of his words, “I believe mankind is ready for tomorrow, but lacks the wisdom to accept the wonders and promises of that future. My present work and desires reflect the objective to assist man in obtaining that future by way of the truth of Jesus Christ’s teachings, not in some obscure mystical way but in a context born of applied science, lifting the veil of fear, pride, superstition and mistrust. The rectification of two thousand years of error must be boldly accomplished in our time if there is to be another future time for our children and our children’s children. The failure to do so means an end of

our civilization as we know it and the warnings of the futurists may come to pass all too soon for us to correct. For a second chance, for new hope, for the rebirth of Christian sanity as Jesus had originally intended for His people, I set upon the completion of this work.”

