

Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

To Show the Nothingness of Human Misdom?

Hen of great and distinguished talent, when they had entirely deboted themselves to learning, holding in contempt all actions both private and public, applied to the pursuit of investigating the truth whatever labour could be bestowed upon it; thinking it much more excellent to investigate and know the method of human and divine things, than to be entirely occupied with the heaping up of riches or the accumulation of honours.

For no one can be made better or more just by these things, since they are frail and earthly, and pertain to the adorning of the body only. Chose men were indeed most deserbing of the knowledge of the truth, which they so greatly desired to know, that they even preferred it to all things.

For it is plain that some gave up their property, and altogether abandoned the pursuit of pleasures, that, being disengaged and without impediment, they might follow the simple truth, and it alone. And so greatly did the name and authority of the truth prevail with them, that they proclaimed that the reward of the greatest good was contained in it.

But they did not obtain the object of their wish, and at the same time lost their labour and industry; because the truth, that is the secret of the Most High God, who created all things, cannot be attained by our own ability and perceptions. Otherwise there would be no difference between God and man, if human thought could reach to the counsels and arrangements of that eternal majesty.

And because it was impossible that the divine method of procedure should become known to man by his own efforts, God did not suffer man any longer to err in search of the light of wisdom, and to wander through inextricable darkness without any result of his labour, but at length opened his eyes, and made the investigation of the truth His own gift, so that He might show the nothingness of human wisdom, and point out to man wandering in error the way of obtaining immortality.

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But since few make use of this heavenly benefit and gift, because the truth lies hidden beiled in obscurity; and it is either an object of contempt to the learned because it has not suitable defenders, or is hated by the unlearned on account of its natural severity, which the nature of men inclined to vices cannot endure: for because there is a bitterness mingled with virtues, while vices are seasoned with pleasure, offended by the former and soothed by the latter, they are borne headlong, and deceived by the appearance of good things, they embrace evils for goods,—I have believed that these errors should be encountered, that both the learned may be directed to true wisdom, and the unlearned to true religion.

And this profession is to be thought much better, more useful and glorious, than that of oratory, in which being long engaged, we trained young men not to virtue, but altogether to cunning wickedness. Certainly we shall now much more rightly discuss respecting the heavenly precepts, by which we may be able to instruct the minds of men to the worship of the true majesty.

Nor does he deserve so well respecting the affairs of men, who imparts the knowledge of speaking well, as he who teaches men to live in piety and innocence; on which account the philosophers were in greater glory among the Greeks than the orators. For they, the philosophers, were considered teachers of right living, which is far more excellent, since to speak well belongs only to a few, but to live well belongs to all.

Hactantius, "The Divine Institutes," Book i, Preface, in Roberts and Bonaldson (Eds.), The Ante-Nicene Hathers (1886), Pol. 7, p. 9.



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A Note From the Editor

Third Quarter 2008

The VOE 2008 Third Quarter Financial Report has been submitted to *The Voice of Elijah*® Board of Directors, and thanks to our contributors, the report is a very good one. Each quarter, the reports to the Board document the progress being made to fulfill VOE's mission to reach True Believers with the Truth regarding the End Times. Eighty percent of VOE's year-to-date contributions have funded VOE's outreach, the other twenty percent for Printing/Publications and Administrative costs.

Our Free Offer outreach (providing a copy of *The AntiChrist* booklet free upon request) is reaching more and more individuals every day. Many of *The Voice of Elijah®'s* new subscribers came to learn of our newsletter (and everything else VOE has available to distribute) through this initial contact with VOE. As of October 1, 2008, over 35,800 copies of *The AntiChrist* have been distributed in 2008, as compared to the twelve-month total of 22,144 in 2007. As you can see, in nine months we have exceeded the twelve-month total from last year by a considerable margin. With three months yet to go in 2008, it's safe to say that we'll see more than twice as many Free Offer booklets mailed in 2008 as we did in 2007. True Believers are being reached in larger numbers as a direct result of your contributions to VOE—and I thank you for that!

No Need for Me to Spoon-Feed Anyone

Some of you may not be aware that VOE has only one full-time employee—me. As VOE's visibility and activity level increases, so do the demands on my time. Gone are the days where I could talk at length on the phone with curiosity seekers, answering all of their questions before they decided whether or not they were interested enough to request our Free Offer. Demands on my time dictate that my time be spent elsewhere. If someone is honestly looking for Truth, they need to go to the source for that Truth—not be spoon-fed by me or anyone else. Besides, if someone is truly interested, VOE has more than enough information available to answer all their questions and more. Larry Harper expressed it this way over fifteen years ago:

However, you should understand we are in the process of laying down a solid (written) surface for those who will come along behind us nearer the End. They won't walk then, as you are now. And they won't have to stumble around, wondering what to believe, as you are now either. They will run. We are, after all,

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speaking parabolically about the construction of "The Way" whereby the Redeemed will return to the Lord. ("Mystics, Meatballs, and the Marvelous Works of God," **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 1993, p. 14)

Fast forward to 2008—the "construction of *The Way*" has been in high gear for quite some time now. Ask anyone who has read the back issues of *The Voice of Elijah® Update* or is receiving The Next Step materials. There is more than enough food for the hungry (pardon my mixed parabolic images). For those who are seeking "The Way" back to the Lord, you've come to the right place:

A voice is calling in the wilderness:
"Turn to The Way of His Majesty!
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!
Every valley will be lifted up,
And every mountain and hill will be made lower!
The steep incline will become level,
And the rough terrain a broad valley!
Then, the glory of His Majesty will be revealed,
And all flesh together will see,
Because the mouth of His Majesty has spoken."
(Isaiah 40:3–5) —my interim translation
("If You Have a Love of the Truth, This Is Your Wake-Up Call," The Voice of Elijah®, July 2006, p. 27)

"So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth." (Hosea 6:3)

A steadily increasing number of True Believers who have begun to "walk in The Way" are now helping us reach other True Believers with the Truth. I fully expect our contributor base to continue growing exponentially from now until the End. True Believers feel the urgency in VOE's mission in these Last Days. If you have been considering becoming a Monthly Contributor, I can assure you that your contributions will enable VOE to reach even more who are seeking the Truth. In return, as a

Monthly Contributor, you will receive *The Voice of Elijah*® quarterly newsletter, *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update* (8 issues per year), *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1* (6-CD set), and all publications made available for distribution during the time you are an active contributor. You also become eligible to apply for admission to The Next Step.

The Next Step

As of October 1, 2008, The Elijah Project changed the admissions requirements for The Next Step discipleship training program. An independent Admissions Committee now evaluates all Monthly Contributors who submit an application for admisson into the program. Among other basic requirements, a Monthly Contributor must have been an active contributor for at least six months prior to admission. But please note: *The Voice of Elijah*® does not receive, approve, or reject applications for admission into The Next Step discipleship training program. Once you have been admitted, The Next Step materials come directly to you at no cost from The Elijah Project. If you are interested in The Next Step program, you will find more information on the Order Form included with each issue of The Voice of Elijah® Update.

The Old Testament Gospel

This summer The Elijah Project released *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1* on DVD. This 6-DVD set has been added to our Order Form and is now available for distribution. If you are unsure whether you have ever heard the life-changing Gospel message, I strongly urge you to acquire *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*. The Old Testament Gospel of Jesus Christ is clearly delivered in this 6-DVD set. The 6-CD set of this seminar presentation is also available on the Order Form and is free for all new Monthly Contributors or with any 2-year renewal to *The Voice of Elijah*®.

In Him,

Marciawoody

The Voice of Elijah®

"The Lie" Is Easy to Recognize When You Know the Truth

As one who firmly believes God has called him to accomplish a specific task, I often receive unsolicited input from folks who believe—equally as firmly—that I am definitely deranged, deluded, deceived, demented, and decidedly dogmatic. I do definitely declare those decidedly dogmatic dupes are correct with regard to the "decidedly dogmatic" charge. But I will not for a moment stop presenting evidence that the opposite of their assertion is, in fact, the Truth. That is, they are the ones who are definitely deranged, deluded, But, you get the idea. One man's "junk" is another man's "treasure." I'm not addressing them personally, so what's their problem? Could it be they recognize themselves when I mention "dolts," "dimwits," "morons," "imbeciles," ...? But, you get the idea.

In an article I wrote for *The Voice of Elijah*[®] sixteen years ago, I defined a delusional person as one whose STATE OF MIND does not line up with his STATE OF BEING. (See "Nobody in Their Right Mind Would Even Want to Be Napoleon!" *The Voice of Elijah*®, October 1992.) I now realize the title of that article should have been "Nobody in *His* Right Mind Would Even Want to Be Napoleon!" but what's done is done. No use crying over spilt milk now.

In this article, I am going to add a bit more to what I wrote in that article all those years ago. Specifically, I am going to show you that the reality in which most "Christians" live today is nothing but a delusion. That is, I am going to show you how *their* Bible does not support *their* claim that *their* goofy god of unconditional grace is the Father of the Man Jesus Christ, even though they desperately want to believe he is. It would be incredibly easy to do that by showing you the things stated about Him in the Old Testament; but most Christians stupidly believe some sort of bifurcation

separates the Old and New Testaments. So I am only going to use the New Testament to pop their bubble (that's an idiom) and rain on their parade (ditto).

For a bit more than ten years now I have been explaining the following passage and the fact that Moses is not saying our forefather, the first Adam, was created in the image and likeness of God:

Then God said, "Let Us make a man in Our image, according to Our likeness, so that they may have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the Sea of Waters and over the domesticated animals and over all the Earth and over all the crawling things that crawl on the Earth." Then God created "The Man" in His image. In the image of God He created Him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the Earth, and subdue her; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the Sea of Waters, and over every living thing that crawls on the Earth."

(Genesis 1:26–28) —my interim translation

As I have already pointed out on various other occasions, that passage is describing the Resurrection of the Second Adam, Jesus Christ, in the image and likeness of God. So much for the "conventional wisdom" that tells narrow-minded knuckleheads we are all God's "children" because the first Adam was created in His image and likeness. However, the passage above does contain *the promise* that other "male and female" Believers are going to be resurrected in the image and likeness of God. So I assume there is still hope that the delusional reality in which some fools *choose* to live will actually become a reality in which a few of Adam's descendants get to live.

Concerning the possibility that some of us might actually be created in the image and likeness of God, let me say this: Every one of God's creatures reproduces in its own image and likeness. That same principle applies to those who are going to be resurrected in the image and likeness of God at the End of this Age. It is, in fact, precisely what Jesus had in mind when He said the following to a "teacher" in Israel who should have already known better:

But there was a man, one of the Pharisees, whose name was Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This one came to Him at night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a Teacher, for nobody would be able to do these signs that You do if the {Living} God were not with Him." Jesus responded and said to him, "Without doubt! Without doubt! I say to you: If one has not been engendered from above, he is not able to see the kingdom of the {Living} God." Nicodemus says to Him, "How is a man who is old able to be engendered? He is not able to enter into his mother's womb a second time and be engendered!" Jesus responded, "Without doubt! Without doubt! I say to you: If someone has not been engendered from water and Spirit, he is not able to enter into the kingdom of the {Living} God. Whatever has been engendered from the flesh is flesh, and whatever has been engendered from the Spirit is Spirit. Don't be amazed because I said to you, 'You have to be engendered from above.' The Spirit 'blows' where He wants to, and you hear His voice; but you don't know where He comes from and where He goes. Thus is everyone who is engendered of the Spirit." Nicodemus responded and said to Him, "How are these able to be engendered?" Jesus responded and said to him, "You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? Without doubt! Without doubt! I say to you that We speak what We know, and We testify to what We have seen, and you do not **receive** 'The Testimony' We have. If I said earthly things to you and you do not believe, how will you believe if I say heavenly things to you? And nobody has ascended into Heaven except the One Who descended from Heaven—the Son of 'the man.' And just as Moses raised high the serpent in the wilderness, so also must the Son of 'the man' be raised high, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in Him. For the {Living} God loved the world so {much} that He gave His only engendered Son, so that everyone who believes into Him might not perish, but might have eternal life. For the {Living} God did not send the Son into the world so that He might judge the world but so that the world might be saved through Him. The one who believes into Him is not judged; but the one who does not believe into Him has been judged already, because he has not believed into 'The Name' of the only-begotten Son of God. But this is 'The Judgment': That 'The Light' has come into the world, and the men loved 'The Darkness' rather than 'The Light,' for their works are evil. For all the one who is doing bad things hates 'The Light,' and he does not come to 'The Light' so that his works won't be exposed. But the One who is doing the Truth comes to 'The Light' so that His works might be made known, because they have been worked in God."

(John 3:1–21) —my interim translation

Now, the thing that you need to keep in mind regarding that passage is precisely what the Pretenders in the Church *choose* to overlook. That is, John 3:16 stands smack dab in the middle of a rather lengthy passage in which Jesus explains why Judgment Day is going to be really bad news for those who *choose* not to "see" reality as it actually is. You know what I *mean*: They go blind as a bat when Jesus starts *talking about* "The Judgment," but they have ears as big as an elephant when He says this:

"For the {Living} God loved the world so {much} that He gave His only engendered Son, so that everyone who believes into Him might not perish, but might have eternal life."

(John 3:16) —my interim translation

That is just about the only thing that Pretenders can "see" in everything Jesus said to Nicodemus that day. Consequently, they completely overlook the point of everything else He said. In case you missed it, His point has to do with the central role that *believing* plays in the new birth. Now, if you know anything at all about grammar, you have most likely heard of *transitive* and *intransitive* verbs. It just so happens that the verb *believe* is *transitive*. That is, it always requires a direct object that denotes what is *believed*. But the deceptive thing in that regard is, the direct object required by the verb *believe* can be either *expressed* or *implied*.

In the New Testament, the direct object of the verb *believe* is most often *implied*. That's how Satan was

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able to use the wannabe philosopher Søren Kierkegaard to substitute the *meaning* "hope" for the verb *believe*. (See "Satan's Fools Are Satan's Tools," *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 1994.) The verb *hope* is also a *transitive* verb whose direct object can be either *expressed* or *implied*. But unfortunately, in spite of the fact that *hope* is *derived from and based on belief*, *hope* is not *belief*.

The content of one's belief always provides the foundation for one's hope—always. But the thing hoped for is never the same as what is believed—never. If you think they are, it is only because you have chosen to believe Kierkegaard's goofiness. And as I do believe I have already stated rather sarcastically on other occasions, I may choose to believe my rich uncle is going to die and leave me his many millions. That does not mean that what I hope for—which is based on what I believe—is actually going to happen. That is especially true since I still don't have a rich uncle.

I mention John 3:16 because Pretenders have made that verse a "proof text" that they *think* "proves" the unconditional love of God. It isn't; it never has been; and it never will be. That is the unadulterated Truth simply because Jesus goes on to specifically define what *content* one must *believe* to be "born again" and become one of those whom God loves:

"But this is 'The Judgment': That 'The Light' has come into the world, and the men loved 'The Darkness' rather than 'The Light,' for their works are evil." (John 3:19) —my interim translation

If Jesus' use of the *parabolic image* of "The Light" confuses you, just remember what John told you at the beginning of his Gospel:

In the beginning was the Word; and the Word was with the {Living} God; and God was the Word. This One was in the beginning with the {Living} God. Everything came into being through Him, and without Him nothing that has come into being came into being. Life was in Him, and the life was "The Light" of men. And "The Light" is shining in "The Darkness," and "The Darkness" has not grasped Him. A man who had been sent by God came; his name was John. This one came for a witness, so that he might testify concerning "The Light," so that everyone might believe through Him. That one was not "The Light," but {came} so that he might testify concerning "The Light." "The (true) Light" was the One Who enlightens every man who

comes into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His Own, and His Own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the ability to become children of God—to those who believe into "The Name" He has. These were not engendered from blood, nor from a desire of flesh, nor from a desire of a male, but from God. And the Word became flesh, and He took up residence in us, and we "saw" His Glory—a Glory like an only begotten by a father, full of a "Favor" and Truth. (John 1:1–14) —my interim translation

Did you "see" that? If you "receive" "The Light"—which is also called "The Glory"—you can become one of the "Children" of God. So much for the goofy belief that all the children of Adam are also the "Children" of God. Just keep in mind the fact that John is using the verb receive as a synonym for believe. In that, he is just participating in a little game the Prophets and Apostles played with those numskulls among us whose only interest in the Truth is how they can use it to speculate and impress others with their great intellect. If you need further confirmation that "The parabolic Light" John had in mind is the Truth of The Apostolic Teaching, take a look at what the Apostle Paul said in his second letter to the Corinthians:

For this reason, having this service, as we were shown mercy, we don't despair. Rather, we renounced the things hidden due to shame—not walking in cleverness, nor contaminating the Word of the {Living} God, but by the manifestation of the Truth, are commending ourselves to every man's conscience before the {Living} God. But even if our Gospel has been veiled, it has been veiled in those who are perishing—in those whom the {Living} God has blinded the minds of the unbelieving of this Age—so that they cannot see "The Light" of the Gospel of "The Glory" of "The Anointing," which is the image of God. For we do not preach ourselves but Jesus "Anointed," and ourselves as your slaves through Jesus. Because the {Living} God is the One Who said, "A Light will shine out of darkness"—the One which has shone in our hearts for an enlightenment of the knowledge of "The Glory" of the {Living} God in the face of Jesus "Anointed." But we have this—"The Treasure" in vessels made of clay so that the extraordinary power is the {Living} God's and not from ourselves.

(2 Corinthians 4:1–7) —my interim translation

Did you see what Paul said about unbelievers? Read it again. He said:

But even if our Gospel has been veiled, it has been veiled in those who are perishing—in those whom the {Living} God has blinded the minds of the unbelieving of this Age—so that they cannot see "The Light" of the Gospel of "The Glory" of "The Anointing," which is the image of God.

(2 Corinthians 4:3-4) —my interim translation

Imagine that! "God has blinded the minds of the unbelieving of this Age—so that they cannot see 'The Light' of the Gospel." That God doesn't sound anything at all like the goofy god of unconditional grace they preach in the Church today, does He? Of course not! Do you know why the two don't sound like the same God? Because they are not the same God! The pulpit parrots in control of the Church today are not preaching the God of the Bible—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Instead, they have gone off preaching a completely fictitious god of their own creation. That is precisely why God is going to use their delusion to bring about a swift and decisive conclusion to this Age. Take a look at what the Apostle Paul said about that:

But we ask you, brothers, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our "gathering" to Him, that you not be quickly shaken from the understanding or be disturbed either by a spirit or by a word or by a letter as {though} from us, as {though} the Day of His Majesty has come. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, because {that cannot be} unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of "The Lawlessness" is revealed—the son of "The Destroyer"—the one who opposes and elevates himself above everything called "god" or "object of worship," so that he seats himself in the Temple of God, himself proclaiming that he is God. Don't you remember me telling you these things while I was still with you? And you now know what is holding fast so that he will be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of "The Lawlessness" is already "working"—{which is} only the one now holding fast until he comes out of the midst. And at that time "The Lawless One" will be revealed, whom His Majesty {Jesus} will kill by the "Spirit" of His mouth and wipe out by the appearance of His coming; the one whose coming is according to the "working" of Satan—in all power and signs and lying wonders and in all deceptive injustice for those who are perishing—against those who did not receive the love of the Truth for them to be saved. And because of this, God will send upon them a delusional "working" so that they believe "The Lie," in order that all those who did not believe the Truth but took pleasure in "The Injustice" would be judged.

(2 Thessalonians 2:1–12) —my interim translation

There he goes again! Paul is clearly describing a God Who is nothing at all like the goofy god of unconditional grace the fools in the Church are touting. Did you hear what he said? Put on your elephant ears! He has just negatively defined what the direct object of the verb *believe* must be—that is, what *content* must be believed—for those True Believers who get a free pass on Judgment Day. He said:

And because of this, God will send upon them a delusional "working" so that they believe "The Lie," in order that all **those who did not believe the Truth** but took pleasure in "The Injustice" would be judged.

(2 Thessalonians 2:11–12) —my interim translation

If you can't see the Truth in that, I certainly can't explain it in terms you can understand. But the reason I say that is easy enough to understand. Paul describes your situation perfectly when he says this:

The {Living} God has blinded the minds of the unbelieving of this Age—so that they cannot see "The Light" of the Gospel of "The Glory" of "The Anointing," which is the image of God.

(2 Corinthians 4:4b) —my interim translation

Now that I have shown you a couple of places where the Pretenders' goofy god of unconditional grace is clearly not the God of the Bible, let me show you the most obvious bit of Truth that the Pretenders in charge of the Church have *chosen* to overlook. It has to do with the fact that their nonexistent, ever-loving, namby-pamby, walk-all-over-me, door-mat god has nothing at all in common with the angry, jealous God of the Bible Who is going to exact retribution on those who hate the Truth that He is. That angry, jealous *Living* Word of God is the God Who, I might add, fully intends to reveal their ridiculous nonsense for exactly what it is—a one-way ticket on the "fast train" to Hell.

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That "fast train" is already pulling into the station, so you might want to check your ticket just to make sure you don't have a space reserved on it.

Let me show you where the Pretenders' view of the God of the Bible comes up quite a bit short of the Truth. Actually, now that I think about it, that is not true. I am going to show you several passages of Scripture that reveal their view of God is so far short of the Truth that the two are not even in the same ballpark. But you will "see" that for yourself soon enough—provided you have eyes to see and (elephant) ears to hear. Look at how Paul said God responded to those who did not want to believe the Truth in ancient days:

For the anger of God is being revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of men—those who are holding the Truth in injustice—because the knowledge of the {Living} God is visible in them, for the {Living} God made it visible to them. For His invisible things being recognized in His works—{that is,} from a creation of a world—both His everlasting power and His divine nature are clearly seen, so that they are without excuse. Therefore, having known, they did not glorify the {Living} God as God or give thanks, but they became illogical in their reasoning and their ignorant heart was darkened. Declaring themselves to be wise, they became morons, and they changed "The Glory" of the immortal God into a likeness of an image of mortal man and of birds and of quadrupeds and of reptiles. Therefore, the {Living} God handed them over to the desires of their hearts for defilement so that their bodies might be degraded by them—whoever exchanged the Truth of the {Living} God for "The Lie," and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, Who is to be praised into the ages. Without doubt! For this reason, the {Living} God handed them over to degrading desires. For their females exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the males, having rejected the natural use of the female, were set afire in their craving for one another, males in males committing the shameless act and in return receiving the retribution which is bound to the deception within them. And just as they did not approve of the {Living} God—to have {Him} in {their} knowledge—the {Living} God handed them over to a rejected mind, to do things that are not fitting.

(Romans 1:18–28) —my interim translation

Did you see all the things Paul says the God of the Bible did to those ancient people because of His anger? Come on, now! Put on your elephant ears! Paul says the God of the Bible got angry with them because they "exchanged the Truth of the {Living} God for 'The Lie." But did you see what Paul says those morons did after they believed "The Lie"? They "worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator." Now, you tell me, is that not exactly what the pompous, pious pulpit parrots in the Church have done?

The fools in charge of the Church today no longer believe in an angry, jealous God Who would do what Paul describes here. They preach a goofy, and totally fictitious, god of unconditional grace who would never do anything so dastardly dirty to his "children"—you know, the descendants of the first Adam, the "Adam" they think was created in the image and likeness of God—because he loves them so much. Do you know why they preach that nonsense? It's because their god is "the creature rather than the Creator." That is, they worship Jesus Christ, the Man Who walked the dusty trails of Palestine 2000 years ago. They don't worship Jesus Christ, the Man Who was resurrected in the image and likeness of the angry, jealous, Living Word of God He was before He "emptied Himself" and took on the image and likeness of the first Adam.

Let me give you fair warning: The *Living* Word of God does not take it lightly (that's an idiom) when some fool takes it upon himself to misrepresent the Truth of the *Living* Word that He is. That's why He reacted in anger against the mendacious morons who gave up the Truth in ancient days. And that is precisely why He is planning to wrap up this present Age all nice and tidy here at the End of the Age. Well, maybe not all that nice and tidy. From all indications, things are going to get completely out of control before He finally steps in and sweeps the "threshing floor" with all those fools who *think* they can get away with (that's an idiom) saying anything and everything about Him.

Look at it this way: How would you like it if you had a book published in which you laid out—as plainly as you possibly could—exactly who you are and how you feel about things; then you hear a bunch of brainless, blathering boneheads get up in the pulpit and tell people your book says you are exactly the opposite? How would you like it? Wouldn't their lies make you just a little bit angry? Sure they would; and if you say they wouldn't, it's only because you need a bit stronger

hold on reality and a little weaker hold on whatever you have been sniffing, snorting, imbibing, or otherwise introducing into your pea brain.

The fact is, the pompous, pious proclamations of pedantic pulpit parrots made the angry, jealous God of the Bible angry long before He even had His book published. But in *The Book* He explains precisely what makes Him angry. That is, the God of the Bible says He gets angry when people don't believe the Truth of the Living Word of God that He is. Yet fools being what fools always have been, none choose to accept the Truth regarding the God of the Bible—that is, the Living Word of God Who actually is—much less what makes Him angry. Instead, they go on telling folks the God of the Bible is some goofy god of unconditional grace when the facts clearly indicate they are merely riding the crest of a delusion. So the next time you hear some dimwitted, dogmatic, divinity-schooled dolt denigrate the dogma that declares the God of the Bible hates both the sin and the sinner, you might want to consider just how far away from him you should stand.

The God of the Bible has already said He is eventually going to take vengeance on all those fools who deliberately *choose* to believe a distortion of the Truth of the *Living* Word of God that He is. The question I can't answer for you is: When will His vengeance begin? The Truth is, it may have already begun. Therefore, the question you should be asking yourself every step of "The Way" is: Do I have the good common sense I need to recognize when someone is deceiving me with "empty words"? If not, you are definitely "standing" right there in "The Darkness" with them rather than "walking" in "The Light":

Don't {collectively} let anyone deceive you with empty words, for through these things the anger of the {Living} God comes on the sons of "the unbelieving one." Therefore, don't {collectively} become sharers with them, for you {collectively} were once "darkness," but now "Light"—in His Majesty. {Collectively} "walk" as children of "Light"—for "The Fruit" of "The Light" is in all goodness and innocence and truth—assaying what is well-pleasing to the Lord.

(Ephesians 5:6–10) —my interim translation

Have you noticed how many times we have seen "the Truth" or "The Light" mentioned in the same context with the angry, jealous God of the Bible doing

some rather not-so-nice thing to dimwitted dullards who refuse to believe the Truth of the *Living* Word of God that He is? Go back and check all the passages I quoted. What you will find is, the dumbness with which the angry, jealous God of the Bible takes issue is always the same. Morons want to go on believing a lie, so the angry, jealous God of the Bible readily accommodates them. That is, He locks them into their stupid notions so that they can't escape. Unfortunately, the angry, jealous God of the Bible is going to do exactly the same thing to those knuckleheads who refuse to believe the Truth of *The (restored) Apostolic Teaching* here at the End of the Age. Paul has already told you that in the passage I quoted above:

And at that time "The Lawless One" will be revealed, whom His Majesty {Jesus} will kill by the "Spirit" of His mouth and wipe out by the appearance of His coming; the one whose coming is according to the "working" of Satan—in all power and signs and lying wonders and in all deceptive injustice for those who are perishing—against those who did not receive the love of the Truth for them to be saved. And because of this, God will send upon them a delusional "working" so that they believe "The Lie," in order that all those who did not believe the Truth but took pleasure in "The Injustice" would be judged.

(2 Thessalonians 2:8–12) —my interim translation

Now, I know the imbeciles in charge of the Church today will never "see" the Truth in what I say until it smacks them right in the face. Neither will any of the mendacious morons who have a vested interest in believing the tripe they hear pompous, pious peabrained parrots preach from the pulpit in all segments of the Church today. That's why I am not addressing myself to them. That is, I am not telling *them* they are morons; I am telling *you* they are morons—provided you still have (elephant) ears to hear and eyes to see—so that *you* can avoid the nonsense they cling to.

The angry, jealous, *Living* Word of God called me to prepare "*The Way*" for Him. So I am quite certain the One Who is "*The Way*" that I teach will be along shortly. And when He arrives, I am just as certain that He has more than a few things He wants to make clear to all those addle-pates who *think* they can speak for Him by just making things up as they go along. But the Truth is, "The Testimony" is all you really need to know,

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because "The Testimony" still contains a succinct summary of everything in *The Teaching of Moses*:

So they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, the One Who was with you beyond the Jordan? The One about Whom you testified? Look! He is baptizing, and everybody is going to Him!" John responded and said, "A man can receive nothing if it has not been given to him from Heaven. You yourselves are my witnesses, that I said, 'I am not the "Anointed {One},"' but, 'I have been sent before that One!' The One Who has the Bride is the Bridegroom; and the friend of the Bridegroom, the one who stands and hears Him, is overjoyed because of the Bridegroom's voice. Therefore, this joy I have has been fulfilled. That One must increase, but I must decrease. The One Who comes from above is above all things. The one who is from the Earth is from the Earth, and he speaks from the Earth. The One Who comes from Heaven is above all things. This One testifies concerning what He has seen and heard, and nobody receives 'The Testimony' He has. The One Who has received 'The Testimony' He has, secured with a seal that the {Living} *God is true.* For the One Whom the {Living} God sent speaks the statements of the {Living} God; for He does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and He has put all things into His hand. The one who believes into the Son has eternal life. But the one who does not believe in the Son will not 'see' life, but the anger of the {Living} God remains on him." (John 3:26–36) —my interim translation

If you didn't already know that the *Living Word* of "God is true," you might want to take a closer look at your ticket to Heaven. What I *mean* is, the person who gave you that ticket may not have known "*The Way*" to Heaven. Now wouldn't that be something? There you are, your bags all packed and ready, thinking everything about your trip is all in order, then the train arrives and you suddenly realize some newbie ticket agent gave you a ticket on the "fast train" to Hell. Just imagine that! But maybe you would rather not.

Let me ask you a very simple question: Do you know what "The Lie" is? It is the belief that the angry, jealous, *Living* Word of God is anything other than the angry, jealous, *Living* Word of God He actually is. So, if you don't know that the angry, jealous God of the Bible is the *Living* Word of God Who hates those who hate Him, you already believe "The Lie." And just in case

you didn't know that the angry, jealous God of the Bible hates those who hate the Truth of the *Living* Word of God He is, let me be the first to point it out for you:

"And you know that His Majesty your God is the {Living} God, the true God Who guards the covenant and 'The Loving Kindness' to a thousandth generation for those who love Him and for those who guard His commandments, but repays the one who hates Him to his face, to destroy him. He will not take long with the one who hates Him. He will repay him to his face." (Deuteronomy 7:9–10) —my interim translation

For the benefit of those True Believers who can clearly "see" that the angry, jealous God of the Bible called me to explain the Truth of the Living Word of God you need to know in order to avoid "The Delusion" the Apostle Paul said God is going to send on the dimwits of this world right before the End of the Age, let me explain something you need to always keep in mind. That is, the closer we get to the appearance of the Antichrist, the more controlling the "children" of "The Liar" are going to become. That is, they are going to find it impossible to accept the fact that you do not believe "The Lie" that they believe. Consequently, they will do everything in their power to persuade you not to believe the Truth. Imagine that, according to their dimwitted dogma, you can believe anything you want to believe about the angry, jealous God of the Bible as long as it is not the Truth!

Just remember this: The choice as to what you believe is yours to make, not theirs. The fools in the Church currently believe a wide variety of things about the angry, jealous God of the Bible, very few of which are actually true. But before the End, they will all be in perfect agreement in their belief in "The Injustice." So before you choose to go down that "road" with them, you might want to carefully contemplate and consider what their divisive "independent thinking" and rather ridiculous rejection of the Truth is going to get them:

But we know that "The Judgment" of the {Living} God is—in accordance with Truth—{already} on those who do such things. But do you reckon this, O man—you who judges those who do such things and do the same—that you will escape "The Judgment" of the {Living} God? Or do you despise the wealth of His goodness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the

kindness of the {Living} God is leading you to repentance? But in accordance with your stubborn and unrepentant heart, you are saving up anger for yourself in the day of anger and revelation of the just judgment of the {Living} God, Who will Give to each one accordance with patience of good work—are seeking glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but to those who are divisive and are not persuaded by the Truth, but have been persuaded by "The Injustice," anger and rage: persecution and distress on the soul of every man who does evil, of Jew first, but also of Greek, but glory and honor and peace on all of the One Who does good, on Jew first but also on Greek. For there is no favoritism with the {Living} God.

(Romans 2:2–11) —my interim translation

I have been called to both *restore* and teach *The Apostolic Teaching* for the benefit of those who want to know the Truth about the angry, jealous God of the Bible, the One Who is nothing other than the *Living* Word of God I teach. I have not been called to waste time trying to convince anyone that what I teach is true. The time remaining is far too short for that. Convincing unbelievers that they should believe the Truth of the *Living* Word of God is the role of an Evangelist, and I have not been called to exercise that authority. Besides, I have more than enough to do just putting together an explanation of the Truth so that those who actually want to know the Truth can "walk in *The Way*" just as True Believers did in Paul's day:

Therefore, I say this and testify in His Majesty so that you no longer "walk" just as the Gentiles "walk"—in the futility of their mind, having been darkened in their understanding, separated from the life of the {Living} God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their "heart" who, having become totally insensitive, have delivered themselves over to sensuality to practice all immorality in covetousness. But you did not learn "The Anointing" that way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as Truth is in Jesus: (1) that you "take off"—in accordance with your former behavior—the "old man," the one being corrupted in accordance with the desires of "The Delusion"; and (2) that you be renewed in the Spirit of your mind; and (3) that you "put on" the "New Man," the One Who has been created in accordance with God by a declaration of not guilty and devotion to the Truth. For this reason, "take off" "The Lie." Speak Truth, each with his NEIGHBOR, because we are members of one another. Be Angry and don't sin—{that is,} don't let the sun set on your anger, so as not to give the devil {any} space. (Ephesians 4:17–27) —my interim translation

If you are one of the True Believers to whom the angry, jealous God of the Bible called me to explain the Truth, you are already well aware of that fact. If so, now is the time for you to act; later may well be too late. Just keep in mind the "children" of "The Liar" will never be able to "confess" that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Father. That is because they have no idea the Father and the Son are the same angry, jealous, *Living* Word of God Who is "The Anointing" they reject and the One with which you were "anointed" when you repented, believed the Gospel, and were born again:

Children, it is the last hour! And just as you have heard that one who opposes "an Anointing" is coming, even now many who oppose "an Anointing" have come to be. Therefore, we know that it is the last hour! They went out from us, but they were not from us; because if they had been from us, they would have remained with us. But {they went out} so that they {would} be made apparent, because everyone is not from us. But you have "an Anointing" from the Holy {One}, and you know everything! I have not written to you because you do not know the Truth, but because you know it, and because every lie is not from the Truth! Who is "The Liar," except the one who denies that Jesus is "The Anointing"? This is the one who opposes "an Anointing"—the one who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father! The one who confesses the Son also has the Father. As for you, let what you have heard from an authority remain in you. If what you have heard from an authority remains in you, {then} you will also remain in the Son and in the Father. This is also the promise that He promised us—eternal life! I have written these things to you because of those deluding you. As for you, "The Anointing" that you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But just as His "Anointing" teaches you concerning everything—and {just as} He is true and is not a lie, and just as He taught you—remain in Him. (1 John 2:18–27) —my interim translation ■

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he Voice of Elijah® includes this column to show you how some of the underlying parabolic images of the Gospel message of the Old Testament speak to the times in which we find ourselves. There are a variety of weather images to be found in the parables of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Most are associated in some way with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

By the time most True Believers read this, the "time of distress" Daniel mentions in this passage will have already been underway for quite a while:

"In that time Michael, the great prince who stands over the sons of your people, will stand; and there will be a time of distress that hasn't been seen since there was a nation until that time. In that time your people (everyone found written in the scroll) will be set free. Many will awaken from sleeping in the dust of the ground. These? To life of 'olam! But these? To reproach and repulsion of 'olam. Those who have insight will enlighten like the One enlightening the expanse; and those who lead the Many to a declaration of not guilty like the stars to 'olam and beyond. But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal up the scroll, until an End Time."

(Daniel 12:1—4a) —my interim translation

Now I had heard, but I couldn't understand. So I said, "My Master! What is the culmination of these {things}?" But He said, "Go, Daniel! Because the words are locked up and sealed until an End Time. Many will be purified, made white, and refined. The guilty will condemn {themselves}, and all those who are guilty will not understand. But those with insight will understand." (Daniel 12:8–10) —my interim translation

True Believers here at the End are going to "have insight" and "be purified, made white, and refined" through their belief in the *Living* Word of God I teach. But "all those who are guilty will not understand" that Living Word. So if you are a True Believer—that is, if you have been born again and can "see" the Truth of the Living Word of God in what I teach—you need to know that Living Word of God is in full control of events here at the End. And you will be completely protected from the incredible turmoil that descends on the world, provided you "remain in" the Truth you believe. Just keep that in mind as the "winds" pick up and the howling "storm front" moves through:

Wisdom is shouting outside; She is giving Her voice in open areas. *She is calling out in front of boisterous ones; She makes Her statements at the entrance* of the gates into the city: "How long will you simpleminded love simplemindedness, And scoffers enjoy scoffing, And those who are stupid hate knowledge? Would that you return to My correction! Here! Let Me bubble forth My Spirit for you! Let Me make you know My Word! *I have called and you have turned {away},* I have stretched out My hand; Yet there isn't anyone who pays attention! You have ignored all My advice; And you haven't accepted My correction! I, too, will laugh during your catastrophe! I will mock when your dread comes in; When your dread comes in like a devastating storm, And your catastrophe comes like a hurricane; When stress and distress come over you! They will call Me—then! But I won't respond! They will eagerly seek Me, but they won't find Me! Instead, because they have hated knowledge, And they haven't chosen the fear of His Majesty, {Because} they haven't accepted My advice, {Because} they have spurned all My correction, *In order to 'eat' from the 'fruit' of their 'way'* And be satisfied with their own opinions, The apostacy of the simpleminded will definitely kill them, And the tranquility of those who are stupid will destroy them! But the one who listens to Me will inhabit security, And be untroubled by dread of evil."

(*Proverbs* 1:20–33) —my interim translation ■

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The Voice of Elijah® publishes articles based on the findings of The Elijah Project, a private research group headed by Larry D. Harper. In this column we seek answers to general-interest questions concerning the findings, purpose, and philosophy of this project.

Editor: One of our readers said he has read and reread The Passover Parable and feels like he has a basic grasp of this article. But he also said he's looked all over the website and can't find any information about the sacred marriage ceremony and practice. He would like to know where he can find more information on this subject.

Elijah: The most concise presentation of that information is a book by the late Sumerologist Samuel Noah Kramer titled *The Sacred Marriage Rite*. That book is long since out of print, so the only way to get a copy is to check it out from a library—unless you have \$150 to spend on a used copy. If you have a more esoteric bent, you might also want to take a look at *The Babylonian Akitu Festival* by S.A. Pallis. Just be prepared to skip over the Akkadian texts and infer what those texts say from the English discussion of them.

A couple of other books with information more specific to the Old Testament history are *The Violent Goddess: Anat in the Ras Shamra Texts* by A.S. Kapelrud and *The Goddess Anat in Ugaritic Myth* by N.H. Walls. The best source of information about Anat is still the original mythological texts. But to understand what those texts say, one first has to understand what they are *talking about*. Unfortunately, scholars have not yet been able to figure out how those texts relate to the biblical account of the creation of the Second Adam in the

image and likeness of God. No surprise there, since scholars aren't even aware the biblical account describes the creation of the Second Adam in the image and likeness of God. Consequently, secondary sources won't help you much at all in that regard. But if you want to check out the myths for yourself, you can find a translation of the original texts in *Stories From Ancient Canaan* by Michael David Coogan. (See the Order Form.) You can also find a translation along with a *transcription* of the original cuneiform texts in *Canaanite Myths and Legends* by J.C.L. Gibson.

Editor: We also had someone ask, "What makes you say that the Antichrist will be Jewish? This smacks of anti-semitism." You have told us you received your knowledge of the Antichrist from the writings of several Early Church Fathers, including Irenæus and Hippolytus; but do you expect to be charged with anti-Semitism by many in the Church because of what you write?

Elijah: Thanks for helping me out on this one. It is sometimes blatantly obvious that some folks are blatantly oblivious to the blatantly obvious. What makes me say the Antichrist will be Jewish is the fact that the disciples of the Apostle John—the only Apostle to actually call the Antichrist "the Antichrist"—clearly understood the Antichrist would be a Jewish person who rules as king over the reestablished kingdom of Judah. And the primary reason why I believe that to be true is this: Those same men insisted they were handing down an oral tradition that had been delivered to them by the Apostles.

Based on the things the disciples of John insisted were true, simple logic should convince anyone but a total loon that this is also true: If Early Church leaders who were second- and third-generation disciples of the Apostle John did not know the Truth, how could any Church leader today possibly claim to know a "truth" that contradicts the Truth of *The Apostolic Teaching* that those men were obviously intent on *handing down* just as they had *received* it? Could it be because some moron *thought* he was born with a bigger brain in the meantime? Someone, say, like John Darby, the mendacious mental midget who concocted, and conned folks into believing, Satan's Dispensational Theory?

In a booklet titled *The AntiChrist*, I have already published a summary of some of the things written by

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second- and third-generation disciples of the Apostle John. As you well know, your organization provides a free copy of that booklet to anyone who requests it. But I have also published the totality of what the second- and third-generation disciples of the Apostle John wrote about the Antichrist in a book titled *The Advent of Christ and AntiChrist*. So whoever asked the question in regard to my "anti-semitic" views could have easily answered their own question just by reading either of those two publications *with understanding*.

But the Truth is, the person who asked the question was not interested in the Truth. His or her only interest was in accusing me of "anti-semitism." But I wonder, if I said the Antichrist would be Polish or French, would they accuse me of anti-polishism or antifrenchism? The charge of "anti-semitism" in my case is abjectly stupid, but don't bother trying to tell that to anyone who makes it. They are too abjectly stupid to apply the logic necessary to understand why it is abjectly stupid.

Do I expect to be charged with "anti-semitism" because of my beliefs in regard to the Antichrist being a Jewish king who reigns over the restored kingdom of Israel? Yes, I do. Do I expect dimwits to bring various other false charges against me as well? Yes, I do. Do I expect those dimwits to believe their own dimwitted lies about me? I most certainly do. But I will not be alone in that situation. Anyone who believes the Truth of The Teaching here at the End is going to find themselves squarely in Satan's sights. He simply cannot allow the Truth of the Living Word of God to be restored in the minds of True Believers because he knows their knowledge of that Truth will destroy everything he has been trying to accomplish. Face the facts, folks, the Truth is always more powerful than a lie—always. And the only person who will believe a lie in the face of the Truth is a person who has a vested interest in believing the lie. Believe me, there are already more than enough of those.

The Prophet Isaiah clearly described the fate of those who *choose* to cling to Satan's lies here at the End. Since he has already done a much better job of that than I ever could, I'll just show you what he says. In the following passage, he is speaking *parabolically* in terms of Satan's lies as "wine" that is readily available on the open market and the Truth of *The Teaching*—that is, the *Living* Word of God that Jesus Christ is—as "Water" that God has sealed up in the Hebrew

Scriptures. His point is, a person can *choose* to "drink" one or the other. But those who *choose* to continue "drinking" *The Harlot's* "wine" will eventually find the "Water" of the *Living* Word of God has become a rushing "torrent" that sweeps them away:

Woe! The drunkards of Ephraim are a splendid crown! But the beauty of his finery is a withering blossom On the head of a valley of fat ones smitten by wine! Look! My Master has a Strong and Bold One! *Like a Rainstorm of hail;* A Storm Front of destruction! Like a Rainstorm of abundant flood water He has caused to settle to the Earth by hand! A splendid crown—the drunkards of Ephraim! They'll be trampled under foot! A withering blossom—the beauty of his finery, On the head of a valley of fat ones! They'll be like a first-ripe fruit before summer harvest! When the One Who sees sees it, He'll swallow it as soon as it's in His palm. *In that day, His Supreme Majesty*

will become an exquisite Crown—
A beautiful Diadem for "The Remnant" of His People.
A Spirit of deciding {to believe the Truth}

For the one who sits on the decision {to believe the Truth};

And valor, for those who turn back the battle at the gate. But even these had been intoxicated by the wine; They had staggered because of the liquor! Priest and prophet were intoxicated by the liquor. They were consumed by the wine. They staggered on account of the liquor. They were intoxicated by looking. They wavered in rendering a decision

{concerning the Truth}, Because all the tables were full of putrid vomit, without a **maqom**!

To whom would He teach knowledge? Whom would He cause to understand a proclamation? Those weaned from milk! {At least!} Those removed from the breasts! {At least!} Because:

"A commandment {refers} to a commandment; A commandment {refers} to a commandment. An indicator {refers} to an indicator; An indicator {refers} to an indicator. A little bit is here;

A little bit is there."

Because with a mocking lip—in another tongue—

He speaks to this people.

Because He told them:

"This is rest!

Give it to the weary.

This is tranquility!"

But I couldn't gain their attention.

So the Word of His Majesty to them will be:

"A commandment {refers} to a commandment;

A commandment {refers} to a commandment.

An indicator {*refers*} *to an indicator*;

An indicator {*refers*} *to an indicator.*

A little bit is here;

A little bit is there."

So that they will walk, stumble backwards,

be broken, trapped, and captured.

Therefore, listen to the Word of His Majesty, you mocking men

Who rule this people who are in Jerusalem:

Since you've said:

"We've cut a covenant with Death.

We've made a deal with the Sea of El.

When the overflowing Flood passes, He won't enter us,

Because we've made a deception our place of shelter,

And we've hidden ourselves in a lie!"

Therefore, this is what My Master, His Majesty, has said:

"Look! I'm going to lay a stone in Zion—a proven stone!

A valuable corner of the foundation—well-founded! The one who believes {the Truth} won't hurry about.

I'll establish a decision {to believe the Truth}

as a measure.

And innocence as a level.

Then Hail will sweep up a deceptive place of shelter,

And Water will overflow a secret place.

Your covenant with Death will be nullified.

Your deal with the Sea of El won't stand.

When the overflowing Flood passes,

You'll become His trampling-place.

As often as He passes, He'll take you.

Morning after morning He'll pass.

During the day and during the night!

Understanding what's heard will be nothing but terror!"

(1) Because the bed will be too short to stretch out on,

And the coverlet will be too scant even curled up!

(2) Because, when His Majesty arises like Mt. Perazim,

He'll be shaking like a valley in Gibeon!

To work His work! (His work is strange!)

To do His labor! (His labor is alien!)

But now, don't scoff,

Lest your shackles be strengthened;

Because I've heard from My Master,

His Supreme Majesty.

He has completely decided concerning all the Earth!

Give ear and listen to my voice!

Pay attention and listen to my statements!

(Isaiah 28:1–23) —my interim translation

If you know your Bible, you already know that passage is either quoted or paraphrased several times in the New Testament. That occurs exactly six times by my count (Rom. 9:33, 10:11; 1 Cor. 3:11; Eph. 2:20; 1 Pet. 2:4, 6). Now that I have summarized the passage, you know what the authors of those texts had in mind when they quoted what Isaiah said. They were talking about the Truth of The Teaching of Moses as the parabolic "foundation" on which "The eternal House" of God is going to be "built." That should give you new insight into what Peter has in mind when he quotes what Isaiah said about Jesus Christ. He is talking about the fact that those who choose to believe the Truth of The Teaching—the Living Word of God that Jesus Christ is thereby become members of "The House" of Corporate Israel that Jesus Christ is:

Having purified your souls by listening to the Truth, in brotherly love—without hypocrisy—love one another fervently from the heart, having been engendered again—not from perishable "seed," but imperishable—through the Living (and remaining) Word of God. For:

"All flesh is like grass,
And all its glory is like the flower of grass,
The grass has withered,
And the flower has fallen off,
But the proclamation of His Majesty
remains into the Age."

And this is the proclamation of the Gospel that was preached to you. Therefore, getting rid of all ill-will, all deceit, hypocrisy and jealousy, and all speaking badly of others, as newborn babies, desire the unadulterated rational milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation, if you have tasted that His Majesty is good. To Whom coming—a Living Stone declared useless by men, but Chosen and Valued by God—you also as "living stones" are being

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"built" a spiritual "house" into a holy "priesthood," to offer spiritual "sacrifices" acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

"Look! I am laying in Zion a Chosen Valued Corner Stone; And the one who believes on Him will not be disappointed."

A ROCK OF OFFENSIVENESS."

Therefore, the value is to you—to those who believe—but to those who do not believe:

"The Stone Which the builders declared useless? This One became a Cornerstone," and "A Stone of stumbling and

Those who stumble at the Word do not believe—to which also they were "laid." But you are A Chosen Race, a Royal Priesthood, A Holy Nation, A People for Acquisition, in order that you may proclaim the virtues of the One Who called you out of darkness into His astonishing Light—those once not a people, but now A People of God; those who had not received mercy, but have now received mercy.

(1 Peter 1:22–2:10) —my interim translation

In quoting Hosea, Peter is merely referring to the fact that Gentiles—those who were born as "children" of *The Harlot*—have now become members of *Corporate* Israel and "Children" of God. That is nothing more than a *parabolic image* that describes a completely different reality, telling us what that reality IS LIKE. But to get back to the question you asked, let me explain three things that you, as a True Believer, need to keep firmly fixed in your mind if you intend to maintain your belief in the Truth until the End.

The first thing you need to keep in perfect focus is this: Jesus called Satan "the Liar and the father of all lies" because that is exactly who he is and exactly what he does. Take a look at what Jesus said to the Jews who did not believe He was teaching the Truth of *The Teaching of Moses*:

Therefore, Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, "If you remain in My Word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the Truth, and the Truth will free you."

They responded to Him, "We are Abraham's seed! We have never been enslaved by anyone! How can you say, 'You will become freemen'?" Jesus responded to them, "Without doubt! Without doubt! I tell you that everyone who does 'The Sin' is a slave of 'The Sin.' Yet the slave does not remain in 'The House' into the Age. The Son remains into the Age. If the Son frees you, you will definitely be freemen! I know that you are Abraham's seed. But you are seeking to kill Me, because My Word does not make room in you. I am speaking what I Myself have seen with My Father; therefore, you also do what you have heard from your father." They responded and said to Him, "Our father is Abraham!" Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's 'Little Ones,' you would do Abraham's works. Yet now you are seeking to kill Me—a Man who has told you the Truth He heard from God! Abraham didn't do this! You are doing the works of your father!" Therefore, they said to Him, "We weren't engendered from prostitution! We have one Father—the {Living} God!" Jesus said to them, "If the {Living} God were your Father, you would love Me because I came out, and I have come, from the {Living} God—because I have not come from Myself, but that One sent Me. Why is it you don't understand what I'm saying? {It is} because you can't hear My Word! You are from your father, the Devil, and you want to do the desires of your father! That one was a murderer from the beginning, and he does not stand in the Truth because there is no Truth in him! Whenever he speaks 'The Lie,' he speaks from himself, because he is a liar and the father of it! But because I speak the Truth, you don't believe Me. Which of you reproves Me concerning sin? If I speak the Truth, why don't you believe Me? The one who is from the {Living} God hears the statements of the {Living} God. This is the reason why you don't hear, because you aren't *from the* {Living} *God!*"

(John 8:31–47) —my interim translation

Now, I realize that there are some misguided "Christian" racists out there who use—or should I say "misuse"—a literal interpretation of this text to advance their own racist agenda against the Jews. These neo-Nazi, Aryan fascist boneheads claim Jesus was saying the Jews are literally the offspring of Satan just as they contend that anyone with black skin is also the literal offspring of Satan. These wannabe "Christians" even go so far as to make the idiotic assertion that the Jews and anyone with anything other than white skin are the descendants of Cain, who was himself the product

of an illicit, adulterous relationship between Satan and Eve.

I'm not exactly sure how a *literal* interpretation of the biblical text would ever allow the descendants of Cain to survive the Flood, but I am fairly certain the adherents of this warped view of reality have a really creative explanation in that regard. Maybe they *think* one of Cain's male descendants was herded into the hold of the Ark along with his sweetie and all the other "animals" while Noah and the three other male descendants of Seth lived the life of luxury in the upper staterooms. And maybe Moses just forgot to tell us about that. I'm just saying "maybe." I am not aware of everything these misbegotten "Christians" teach because I got tired of wading through their tripe and went back to studying things that have a bit stronger hold on reality.

One simple fact that these blind—but thoroughly indoctrinated—"children" of the Liar intentionally *choose* to overlook is what Jesus says to the Jews:

"I know that you are Abraham's seed." (John 8:37a) —my interim translation

That one statement tells us Jesus is not *talking about* the Jews as *literally* the children of Satan—through Cain or anyone else. Instead, when He has the following exchange with them, He is speaking *parabolically*, referring to the fact that the Jews who reject what He teaches have been *spiritually*—and *parabolically*—"engendered from" the lies of Satan:

"I know that you are Abraham's seed. But you are seeking to kill Me, because My Word does not make room in you. I am speaking what I Myself have seen with My Father; therefore, you also do what you have heard from your father." They responded and said to Him, "Our father is Abraham!" Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's 'Little Ones,' you would do Abraham's works. Yet now you are seeking to kill Me—a Man who has told you the Truth He heard from God! Abraham didn't do this! You are doing the works of your father!" Therefore, they said to Him, "We weren't engendered from prostitution! We have one Father—the {Living} God!" Jesus said to them, "If the {Living} God were your Father, you would love Me because I came out, and I have come, from the {Living} God—because I have not come from Myself, but that One sent Me. Why is it

you don't understand what I'm saying? {It is} because you can't hear My Word! You are from your father, the Devil, and you want to do the desires of your father! That one was a murderer from the beginning, and he does not stand in the Truth because there is no Truth in him! Whenever he speaks 'The Lie,' he speaks from himself, because he is a liar and the father of it! But because I speak the Truth, you don't believe Me."

(John 8:37–45) —my interim translation

Jesus is obviously using the idiomatic Greek expression "engendered from" to speak *parabolically* in terms of people being what they *choose* to believe. I have already discussed the Apostle Paul's use of that Greek expression in a series of articles I wrote concerning the fine distinction he makes by his use of "law" and "the Law." So I see no need to repeat those things here. You can read them for yourself.

[See "We Know the Law Is Holy. But What About the Commandment?" *The Voice of Elijah*®, July 1998; "There Is Nothing More Amazing Than Dead Men Walking (in '*The Way'*)," *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 2000; "'The Law' of This, 'The Law' of That, So Much 'law' One Can't Keep Track," *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2001; "Two Agreements Made: One a 'Covenant,' the Other a 'Testament," *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 2002; and "Only a Fool Would Keep Working When There Is Nothing Left to Do," *The Voice of Elijah*®, July 2004.]

The essence of what I said in those articles is exactly what Jesus had in mind when He told the Jews their *spiritual* "father" was Satan the Liar. That is, He was saying that just as True Believers are "engendered again" as the "Children" of God through their belief in the Truth of the *Living* Word of God they *choose* to believe, so also the "children" of Satan are "engendered from" the lies of Satan that they *choose* to believe. What He says is based on the fact that everyone has a *choice*, and everyone *chooses* to believe whatever they find most convincing. Those who love the Truth are convinced by the Truth they love; and those who hate the Truth are repelled by the Truth they hate. Therefore, everyone *chooses* their own eternal destiny. That is what Jesus is *talking about* in this passage:

"Without doubt! Without doubt! I say to you that We speak what We know, and We testify to what We have seen, and you do not receive Our testimony. If I said earthly things to you and you do not believe, how will

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you believe if I say heavenly things to you? And nobody has ascended into Heaven except the One Who descended from Heaven—the Son of the man. And just as Moses raised high the serpent in the wilderness, so also must the Son of the man be raised high, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in Him. For the {Living} God loved the world so {much} that He gave His only engendered Son, so that everyone who believes into Him might not perish, but might have eternal life. For the {Living} God did not send the Son into the world so that He might judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him. The one who believes into Him is not judged; but the one who does not believe into Him has been judged already, because he has not believed into 'The Name' of the only-begotten Son of God. But this is 'The Judgment': That 'The Light' has come into the world, and the men loved 'The Darkness' rather than 'The Light,' for their works are evil. For all the one who is doing bad things hates 'The Light,' and he does not come to 'The Light' so that his works won't be exposed. But the One Who is doing the Truth comes to 'The Light' so that His works might be made known, because they have been worked in God." (John 3:11–21) —my interim translation

I realize it is impossible to understand everything that Jesus says in that passage unless you can "see" the same parabolic imagery He had in mind when He talked about "The Light" and "The Darkness." If you have a love of the Truth, cheer up. I explain those things in The Next Step program. But that is just an unabashed advertisement for that program. Surely even the most dimwitted among us can understand Jesus is talking about the fact that those who are "saved" freely chose to believe the Truth and those who are "lost" freely chose not to believe the Truth. That is, "The Judgment" of God ultimately consists in the fact that each of us chooses our own destiny when we choose what we want to believe:

"But this is 'The Judgment': That 'The Light' has come into the world, and the men loved 'The Darkness' rather than 'The Light,' for their works are evil." (John 3:19) —my interim translation

This is just an observation on my part, but it seems to me that the Protestant doctrine of salvation by "faith" is concisely summed up in that verse. But that is "faith" in the sense of *what you believe*, not "faith" in the

sense of that you believe. After all, every mentally knock-kneed knucklehead has his or her own "special" opinion about Who God is. My point is, you can freely choose to believe the Living Word of God is a fence post if you care to (or is it "dare" to?). That doesn't change the fact that the Living Word of God is, and always has been, exactly Who He says He is—nothing more, nothing less. Yet boneheads being what boneheads are, there will always be those who think they can add to or take away from the Truth that God is. But enough sarcasm, I have more important things to tell you.

If you are a True Believer, here is the second thing you always need to keep in mind about the *parabolic* knock-kneed, knot-headed knuckleheads who have been "engendered from" Satan's lies. It is one other thing that Jesus says to the Jews in the passage above:

"Why is it you don't understand what I'm saying? {It is} because you can't hear My Word! You are from your father, the Devil, and you want to do the desires of your father! That one was a murderer from the beginning, and he does not stand in the Truth because there is no Truth in him!"

(John 8:43–44a) —my interim translation

As Jesus said, Satan's *spiritual* "children" don't—and can't—understand the Truth of the *Living* Word of God. That is not because they lack the *ability* to believe, but because they *freely choose* not to believe the Truth. Consequently, when they finally face up to that fateful fact, they always act hatefully toward those who *choose* to believe and understand the Truth—*always*. In that, they are acting just like their *spiritual* "father" the Liar. And because they have been "engendered from" their belief in a lie fabricated by that dimwitted dullard, they do exactly the same thing he does. That is, they make things up as they go along—things that come right off the top of their head in most cases.

The "children" of Satan "the Liar" act just like their *spiritual* "father" in several other ways as well, but in this case we are only *talking about* their tendency to make up lies—which brings us to the final thing you need to keep in mind if you intend to endure to the End. But just remember why I am telling you this. I am responding to your question regarding a person who falsely accused me of "anti-semitism."

The final thing you should *always* keep in mind regarding Satan and his misbegotten "children" is this:

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He is called "the Accuser" and "the Devil" because that is precisely what he does. That is, he constantly accuses people of anything and everything so that they will be so busy dealing with the guilt he heaps on them that they cannot easily escape the bondage of his lies. (In case I somehow forgot to mention it, the Greek term diabolos—that is, "devil"—actually means "one who accuses falsely.") Satan's constant condemnation is what the Apostle Paul had in mind when he wrote this:

So therefore, now there is no condemnation on those who are in "The Anointing" of Jesus. For the Law of the Spirit of "The Life" {which is} in "The Anointing" of Jesus has freed you from the Law of "The Sin" and "The Death." For the inability of the Law, in which it was weak because of the flesh, the {Living} God, sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and on account of sin, condemned "The Sin" in the flesh, so that the requirement of the Law could be accomplished in us-those who are "walking," not in accordance with flesh but in accordance with spirit. For those who are in accordance with flesh think about the things of the flesh, but those {who are} in accordance with spirit {think about} the things of the Spirit. For the flesh's way of thinking is death, but the Spirit's way of thinking is life and peace, because the flesh's way of thinking is hatred toward God, for it cannot submit to the Law of the {Living} God, for it is not able. So those who are in flesh are not able to please God. Yet you are not in flesh, but in spirit, if the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Him. Yet if Christ is in you, the body is indeed dead because of sin, but the spirit is alive because of a declaration of not guilty.

The mentally knock-kneed, knot-headed knuck-leheads who dearly do dote on dumbness *always* act like their dimwitted "father" by making up lies in order to *falsely* accuse others. Their reason for doing that, in most cases, is so that those people will feel guilty and stop believing and acting in accordance with the Truth they understand. The Truth in that regard is, rather than trying to ferret out (that's an idiom) the Truth because they sincerely want to know the Truth, the "children" of Satan will settle for anything they can use to *falsely* accuse those who disagree with the lies they firmly believe. You need to know that. It is going to come in mighty handy before the End.

(Romans 8:1–10) —my interim translation

Believers in the Early Church were *falsely* accused of practicing cannibalism—of killing and eating their own babies—by people who had never actually seen them do anything of the sort. And the amazing thing is, every dimwitted dullard in that day duly digested the dumb dogma those "descendants" of the Devil devised. So if you *think* you are going to escape that same sort of insane nonsense here at the End, you had better *think* again. Satan's "children" always act like their "father" the Liar—*always*. They are compelled to spread lies that have no basis in actual fact because that is who they are. So get used to it. The "children" of the Devil are going to demonstrate their paternity by doing exactly what their "father" wants them to do.

Editor: One person who recently requested our Free Offer wrote this:

"I would love a response to a question I have in my mind deriving from my reading of The AntiChrist booklet. When I read that Irenaeus was a disciple of Polycarp, who was discipled by none other than John the Revelator, I was greatly encouraged. Irenaeus said in 'Against Heresies' that the Antichrist will blaspheme God and all the saints of Heaven. But I don't understand how he can do this without losing credibility in the eyes of all of his followers. The writer mentions that the Antichrist will not just claim to be God, but specifically Yahweh, the Lord of the Jews, and the God responsible for the Bible. If the Antichrist claims to be Yahweh in front of the world, and then after winning the affections of the world, begins to heap blasphemies against Yahweh and all the saints of Heaven, won't people realize the complete confusion of his mind? Satan wants the throne of Heaven, and he wants to sit on God's throne, so why should he heap blasphemies against the One he claims to be, and the people he wants to bring to his side? Surely, Satan will refer to his own as Saints, for no one wants to be called a demon. Satan will win them with flattery and adulation. He will boost their egos and make them high in their own minds. So how will he win the world's trust by showing himself as a monster, and slandering the God whom he claims to be? Won't everyone just think he is out of his mind?"

Elijah: The short answer is, "No, they won't 'just think he is out of his mind,' because they will be just as far

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out of their minds." A summary of the long answer is just about as short, but it is a bit more difficult to understand. Nevertheless, here it is: "No, they won't 'just think he is out of his mind,' but that is only because our generation, including the person who asked the question, lacks the mind-set of Irenæus in regard to 'The Name' and the nature of God." Now let me explain that summary by going into a bit more detail.

As I have been explaining in my comments on "Against Heresies" in The Voice of Elijah® Update for the past several years now, Irenæus and all other legitimate Church leaders in his day understood that the Living God is the Living Word (logos) of God Who can only be found in the Truth of The Apostolic Teaching which is just a more complete version of *The Teaching of* Moses and The Teaching of the Prophets. But the person who asked this question still identifies God by the literal name "God" rather than by "The (parabolic) Name" of the Living Word of God that He actually is. Those of you who have been reading my commentary in The *Voice of Elijah® Update* already know that Irenæus goes on at some length explaining how Jesus Christ is "The Name" of God Who has never changed, so I don't need to explain those things again. Anyone who has a love of the Truth now knows where they can find it.

Satan is going to claim the *literal* name "God" by pretending to be Jesus Christ—the One Who actually is "The Name" of God. But Satan is going to blaspheme the Truth of The (restored) Apostolic Teaching, which is "The (parabolic) Name" of God, by insisting that those who believe the Truth of that Living Word are "children" of the Devil. And everyone who believes his nonsense is going to commit the unpardonable sin, thereby giving God good reason to bring this "Age" to a swift and decisive conclusion. (See "How Quickly They Do Blaspheme," The Voice of Elijah®, October 1992.)

Editor: Right after the July issue of The Voice of Elijah® was sent out we received a rather heated letter in the mail asking for a refund. Here is how this person requested his money back:

"Please CANCEL my subscription to The Voice of Elijah immediately. I should have read your articles a little more closely, but I've been too busy to take the time. I am shocked and appalled at the last paragraph on page 9 of this July issue I'm returning (as well as all the others). If I want a diet of arrogance and spiritual pride (you know, that thing which God HATES?) I would watch TBN—which I don't.

A real servant of God—teacher, pastor, evangelist—doesn't go around trying to convince people they're called of God; Jesus said by their fruit ye shall know them. They simply preach the Word. The Apostle Paul said in 2 Cor. 4:5, 'For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bondservants for Jesus' sake.'

And no, I do not choose to be your disciple, nor would I send my tithes to your organization. I honor God by bringing my tithes into his storehouse, the local church. Maybe you should read up on Malachi Chapter 3. Do you visit your sick contributors, preach their families' funerals, perform their children's weddings, minister to them one-on-one? Then how can you have the gall to pretend to be a substitute for the local church and REQUIRE that YOUR DISCIPLES send YOU their tithes and offerings?

The right and decent thing would be for you to refund my subscription—and I am asking for a full refund, as I'm returning everything you sent me in perfect condition; the condition of the books, that is, as the contents are far from perfect.

And you say that God called you to explain everything He wants all true believers to know ...? James 4:6 says, 'Wherefore he saith, "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."' You sir, need a double portion of humility! I agree with your last sentence on page 9—it does sound absolutely preposterous!"

The man immediately received his refund, but my question is this: What goes through your mind when you encounter comments like this?

Elijah: The first thing that goes through my mind when I read something like that is a mental check of myself to see if anything in the person's *accusations* are true. If they are, I take them to heart (that's an idiom) and resolve to change. In this case, the only charge the fellow makes is that I am arrogant and proud in claiming that God called me to do what I am doing. The

Truth is, I would be arrogant and proud if I did not tell you God called me and prepared me to do what I am doing. That is, I would be arrogant and proud if I let you assume I *figured out* the amazing things I have been explaining out of the Scriptures over the past eighteen years. The Truth is, I am facing exactly the same situation that Jesus faced when He tried to tell people the Truth He understood. This is "The Way" He describes the conundrum He faced:

"Which of you reproves Me concerning sin? If I speak the Truth, why don't you believe Me? The one who is from the {Living} God hears the statements of the {Living} God. This is the reason why you don't hear, because you aren't from the {Living} God!" The Jews responded and said to Him, "Are we not correctly saying that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?" Jesus responded, "I don't have a demon! But I am honoring My Father, and you are dishonoring Me! I am not seeking My Own glory! He is the One seeking and judging! Without doubt! Without doubt, I tell you! If anyone guards My Word, he will not see death in the {coming} Age!" The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham diedand the Prophets—yet You say, 'If anyone guards My Word, he will not see death in the {coming} Age.' You aren't greater than our father Abraham—who died! And the Prophets also died! Who are You making Yourself {out to be}?" Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. My Father is the One Who glorifies Me—the One of Whom you yourselves say, 'He is our God!' And you don't {even} know Him! Yet I comprehend Him! If I say that I don't comprehend Him, I will be a liar like you! But I do comprehend Him, and I guard His Word." (John 8:46–55) —my interim translation

After I have checked myself to see if a rebuke that I receive has any validity at all, the second thing that goes through my mind—after I have determined someone is *falsely accusing* me of something—is a list of the various lies the person is believing that would cause him to respond in such a hateful "way" toward the Truth of "*The Way*" that I stated. In this case, the lies that this person believes are fairly obvious, and his belief in them is just as deep-seated as my belief in the Truth of *The Teaching*. But I will gladly take the time to point out the lies for you so that others may be able to see the error of their own "way." The first lie I noticed is this:

I should have read your articles a little more closely, but I've been too busy to take the time.

That statement tells me this person must have already received a couple of issues of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter and did not bother to read them because he was "too busy." That is a lie. The Truth is, he would have read the newsletters as soon as they arrived if he had any interest in finding the Truth. Anyone who is still searching for the Truth *makes the time* to read anything and everything that might contain the Truth he is desperately seeking to find. Those who *think* they already know the Truth tell themselves they are "too busy" to keep looking. But take a closer look at how the good fellow says he reacted when he finally *took the time* to read the Truth I explained:

I am shocked and appalled at the last paragraph on page 9 of this July issue.

Let me show you what I wrote in the paragraph that "shocked and appalled" this good fellow:

In what I say publicly, I am going to provide more than enough information for True Believers to see that God called me to be a Teacher with the sole purpose of providing the information that True Believers will need to avoid the delusion of the Antichrist. If you decide that God did indeed call me, the only other decision you need to make is whether or not you are going to be one of my disciples. If you decide that you want to be my disciple, the only requirement I have established is that you first honor God by sending your tithes and contributions to The Voice of Elijah[®]. Only then can you honor my calling by listening to and learning what I have been called to teach. The Truth is, God called me to explain everything He wants all True Believers to know here at the End of the Age. That sounds absolutely preposterous, doesn't it? ("Transliteration Is Not Translation," The Voice of Elijah®, July 2008)

First let me explain a bit about the context in which that paragraph occurs. As the good fellow states, it is on page nine (9) of the July 2008 issue. So unless Satan took him by the hand and led him directly to that paragraph, he must have read all the way through nine (9) pages—that's nine (9) pages, you can count 'em—in which I lay out a *detailed* explanation of things

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that will absolutely convince anyone who is seeking the Truth that what I teach is true. But everything I explained on those nine pages (is it really 9 pages?) didn't even make a slight dent in this good fellow's "hard heart." But that one paragraph sure did. It hit him right where he lives; or should I say, "where he dies"? That's why he says this:

And no, I do not choose to be your disciple, nor would I send my tithes to your organization. I honor God by bringing my tithes into his storehouse, the local church. Maybe you should read up on Malachi Chapter 3. Do you visit your sick contributors, preach their families' funerals, perform their children's weddings, minister to them one-on-one? Then how can you have the gall to pretend to be a substitute for the local church and REQUIRE that YOUR DISCIPLES send YOU their tithes and offerings?

Now the Truth comes out as to why this good fellow was so "shocked and appalled" by what I wrote. He was offended that I would REQUIRE that the tithes and contributions of those who decide—of their own free will—to become MY DISCIPLES go to *The Voice of* Elijah®. But take note of the fact that I didn't say anything at all about HIS DISCIPLES sending their tithes and contributions to *The Voice of Elijah*®. Nevertheless, it "shocked and appalled" the good fellow that the tithes and contributions of those I teach would go anywhere other than a local church. The first question that comes to my mind is: Why should he care? But I already know the answer to that one. I know Satan absolutely hates the fact that the tithes and contributions of MY DISCIPLES are going to make it possible for me to reach those I have been called to teach. So it should come as no surprise that his "children" would hate it as well. I'll let you decide what that says about this good fellow.

Before I tell you why this good fellow doesn't have a leg to stand on, let me tell you why I wrote the paragraph that "shocked and appalled" him. I wrote it knowing full well that it would hit some folks—those who are just like this good fellow—squarely between the eyes. They would then reject everything I say, rather than taking bits and pieces of it and mixing those incoherent parts with all the ridiculous nonsense they already believe is true. I do that occasionally (okay, maybe more than just occasionally) because I am well aware there are "gatherers and collectors" out

there who are not looking for the Truth. They are just looking for tiny tidbits they can use to impress others in Sunday School class, or to "show what they know" when arguing about the Bible, or to bulk up next Sunday's sermon. But, you get the picture.

You see, this good fellow doesn't say it outright, but he is—unless I miss my guess—one of the "pulpit parrots" I mention every so often (okay, maybe more than just *every so often*). And he reacted in anger because he *thinks* all the things he mentions are what *God called him* to do. That's why he *thinks* everybody's tithes and contributions should only be brought into a local church like his own. So let's go through what he says point-by-point and I will show you the lies that he believes. We already know he took issue with what I said about tithes and contributions. So let's take a look at what he says next:

I honor God by bringing my tithes into his storehouse, the local church. Maybe you should read up on Malachi Chapter 3.

I will tell you forthrightly the good fellow is believing a lie in mistakenly assuming God's "storehouse" is always the local church. That is not always true. It never has been, and it never will be. God's "storehouse" is wherever True Believers think they are being taught the Truth. (Did you see teaching on the list of things he mentioned? No? I didn't think so.) But to show you why God expects a True Believer's tithes and contributions to go wherever he believes he is being taught the Truth, I have to do this good fellow one better and start with what the Prophet Malachi says in Chapter 1 rather than starting in Chapter 3, as the good fellow suggests. Before you can understand what I am going to tell you about the Book of Malachi, however, you need to know a few things in regard to what Malachi is *talking about*. So let me begin there.

In *The Mystery of Scripture, Volume 1*, I have already explained that Moses established the rituals of the sacrificial cult as *parabolic pantomimes* with the purpose of constantly, and *nonverbally*, bringing to mind things in *The Teaching of Moses* that the sons of Israel heard the priests explain *verbally*. I also explained that all the Levites became priests shortly before the sons of Israel entered the Promised Land. You need to know those two things before you can read the Book of Malachi *with understanding*. But you also need to be

aware of one specific *parabolic pantomime* that Moses established shortly after he *received The Teaching* at Mt. Sinai. So I am going to let the proverbial cat out of the bag (that's an idiom) so that the proverbial cat can have a brief look around while I tell you a few other things you need to know about that one specific *parabolic pantomime*. Moses says this about "*The Way*" God told him the priests were to be ordained to teach both *verbally* and *nonverbally* in the Tabernacle:

"And for the sons of Aaron you must make tunics; and you must also make sashes for them. And you must make headgear for them—for glory and for beauty. Then you must put them on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him. And you must anoint them, and fill their hand, and make them holy so that they can serve as priests to Me. And you must make linen breeches for them, to cover naked flesh; they must be from loins even to thighs. And they must be on Aaron and on his sons when they enter the tent of meeting, or when they approach the altar to minister in the Holy {place}—so that they do not bear iniquity and die. {It is} a statute of 'olam for him and for his seed after him. But this is the thing that you must do to them to make them holy to minister to Me as priests: Take one bull—a son of the herd—and two unblemished rams and unleavened bread and unleavened cakes mixed in oil and unleavened wafers anointed with oil. You must make them of fine wheat flour; and you must put them on one basket and you must bring them in the basket along with the bull and the two rams. But you must bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the tent of meeting, and you must wash them with water. Then you must take the garments, and you must clothe Aaron with the tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the breast-plate; and you must bind {them} to him with the ornamental band of the ephod. Then you must set the turban on his head, and you must put the crown of the Holy One on the turban. Then you must take the oil of the Anointed One, and you must pour it on his head and anoint him. And you must bring his sons and put tunics on them. Then you must gird them—Aaron and his sons—with sashes; and you must bind headgear to them. Then they will have a priesthood by a statute of 'olam. So you must fill the hand of Aaron and the hand of his sons. Then you must bring the bull before the tent of meeting; and Aaron and his sons must lay their hands on the head of the bull. Then you must slaughter the bull before His Majesty at the entrance of the tent of meeting. Then you must take some of the blood of the bull and you must put it on the horns of the altar with your finger; and you must pour out all of the blood at the base of the altar. Then you must take all of the fat that covers the inner parts, and the lobe on the liver, along with the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and you must make the altar smoke. But the flesh of the bull and his hide and his viscera you must burn in the fire outside the camp. It is a sin offering. And you must take the one ram, and Aaron and his sons must lay their hands on the head of the ram. Then you must slaughter the ram, and you must take his blood and sprinkle it around on the altar. Then you must cut up the ram into pieces; and you must wash his inner parts and his legs and put them on his pieces and on his head. Then you must make the altar smoke with the whole ram. It is a burnt offering—a soothing aroma to His Majesty. It is a fire offering to His Majesty. Then you must take the second ram, and Aaron and his sons must lay their hands on the head of the ram. Then you must slaughter the ram; and you must take some of his blood and put it on the lobe of Aaron's ear and on the lobe of his sons' ear—the right one—and on the thumb of their hand—the right one—and on the big toe of their foot—the right one. Then you must sprinkle the blood around on the altar. Then you must take some of the blood that is on the altar and some of the oil of the Anointed One; and you must sprinkle it on Aaron and on his garments, and on his sons and on his sons' garments with him. Then he and his garments—as well as his sons and his sons' garments with him—will be holy. Then you must take the fat and the fat tail from the ram, and the fat that covers the inner parts and the lobe on the liver, along with the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and the right thigh—because it is the ram of those who are complete—and one loaf of bread, and one cake of oil bread, and one wafer from the basket of the unleavened {bread} that is before His Majesty. Then you must set the whole {thing} on Aaron's palms and on the palms of his sons, and you must offer them as a tenuphah before His Majesty. Then you must take them from their hands, and you must make the altar smoke on top of the burnt offering for a soothing aroma before His Majesty. It is a fire offering to His Majesty. Then you must take the breast from the ram of those who are complete—which belongs to Aaron—and you must offer it as a tenuphah before His Majesty. Then it will be assigned to you. Then you must make the breast of the tenuphah holy, along with the thigh of the **terumah**, what was offered as a **tenuphah** and what was

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offered as a terumah from the ram of those who are complete—from what belongs to Aaron and from what belongs to his sons. Then it will become a statute of 'olam to Aaron and to his sons from the sons of Israel because it is a terumah. And there must be a terumah from the sons of Israel. From the sacrifices of their peace offerings, their terumah belongs to His Majesty. And the garments of the Holy One that belong to Aaron will belong to his sons after him—to be anointed in them and to have their hand filled in them. For seven days the priest who succeeds him from his sons must put them on when he enters the tent of meeting to minister in the Holy {place}. But you must take the ram of those who are complete and boil his flesh in a holy {place}. Then Aaron and his sons must eat the flesh of the ram and the bread that is in the basket at the entrance of the tent of meeting; and they must eat them that by which atonement was made to fill their hand, to make them holy. But a stranger must not eat {them} because they are holy. But if any of the flesh of those who are complete or any of the bread remains until morning, then you must burn the remainder in the fire. You must not eat {it} because it is holy. And thus you must do to Aaron and his sons in accordance with all that I have commanded you. You must fill their hand seven days." (Exodus 28:40–29:35) —my interim translation

There you have it. That's a rather intriguing parabolic pantomime, isn't it? It's going to remain that way for the time being because I'm not going to go into any great detail as to its meaning and significance here. Suffice it to say, the parabolic pantomime is explaining things you need to know about the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God Who became a man and was then created in the image and likeness of The Teaching after He died as a sacrifice for sin. The parabolic pantomime is describing all that—parabolically. But I'll explain more about those things as we progress in The Teaching.

For our purposes here, the basic things you need to remember about the passage are these: (1) The priests were anointed and ordained as priests while wearing special garments; (2) the ordination ceremony included three different types of *bread*, a sample of which was burned on the altar before the priests ate the rest; (3) the *viscera* of the bull—which was a sin offering—was *hauled off* and burned outside the camp; and (4) a part of one of the sacrifices was a *terumah*.

Malachi—Chapter 1

Having told you what you need to know about the consecration and ordination of the priests who ministered in the sanctuary, I will now show you what the Prophet Malachi wrote concerning the Levitical priests in his day. That is, he wrote concerning the priests of Israel who were supposed to be *handing down* The Teaching of Moses from one generation to the next:

The burden of the Word of His Majesty to Israel by the hand of Malachi: "I have loved you," says His Majesty. "But you say, 'How have you loved us?' Was Esau not Jacob's brother?" declares His Majesty. "But I loved Jacob and I hated Esau. And I made his mountains desolate, and his inheritance belongs to the jackals of the wilderness. When Edom says, 'We have been crushed, but we will return; we will rebuild the ruins,' this is what His Supreme Majesty will say, 'They will build, and I will demolish; and they will be called "a guilty territory" and "the people whom His Majesty has denounced"—until 'olam.' But your eyes will see, and you will say, 'His Majesty will become great—beyond the boundary of Israel!'"

(Malachi 1:1–5) —my interim translation

By this introduction, Malachi clearly indicates *the promise* that Isaac *handed down* to Jacob will always remain with *Corporate* Israel. But as I explained in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*, when Jesus Christ died, He was *Corporate* Israel. Therefore, Gentiles are now able to *inherit the promise* under the terms of His will. You need to know that; but you also need to keep in mind the simple fact that it is impossible for anyone to *inherit the promise* if someone does not *hand down the promise* to them. That is Malachi's concern.

The Levites—that is, the priests—were supposed to be *handing down the promise* by teaching *The Teaching of Moses*; but they were not doing what God required. Malachi is going to *talk about* that next. But to understand what he says, you need to know he is referring to the *parabolic pantomime* by which the priests were ordained to teach *The Teaching of Moses*. You also need to know he is speaking *parabolically* in terms of Jesus Christ as the *Living* Word of God—Who is not only *The Teaching of Moses*, but also "*The Name*" and "the Glory" of God. But he is indicting the priests because they have no interest in teaching the Truth of *The Teaching*:

"A son should glorify a father, and a slave his master. But if I am a Father, where is My Glory? And if I am Master, where is My fear?" says His Supreme Majesty to you the priests, those who despise My "Name." "But you say, 'How have we despised Your "Name"?' By offering defiled bread on My altar. But you say, 'How did we defile You?' When you said, 'The table of His Majesty is contemptible!' And when you offer a blind one for a communal sacrifice, there is no evil? And when you offer a lame one or a sick one, there is no evil? Offer {it} to your governor! Would he be pleased with you, or would he look on you favorably?" says His Supreme Majesty. "So now, would you by this {offering} from your hands—appease the faces of God so that He will show us favor? Will He look on any of you favorably?" says His Supreme Majesty. "Who, even among you, will shut the gates so that you not needlessly kindle a fire on My altar? I have no delight in you," says His Supreme Majesty. "And I will not accept a cereal offering from your hands. Because from the rising of the sun and even to its going down, My 'Name' is going to be great among the Gentiles. And in every magom, incense and a pure cereal offering is going to be offered for My 'Name'; because My 'Name' is going to be great among the Gentiles," says His Supreme Majesty. "But you are profaning Him when you say, 'The table of my Master is defiled!' and 'His "fruit"—His "bread"—is contemptible!' And you say, 'Look! It's boring!' And you sniff {contemptuously} at Him," says His Supreme Majesty. "Then you bring a stolen one and the lame one and the sick one! Then you bring the cereal offering. Will I accept it from your hand?" says His Majesty. "So a deceptive person is going to be cursed when he has a male in his flock and he vows {it}, but he sacrifices a blemished one to my Master, because I am a Great King," says His Supreme Majesty, "and My 'Name' is going to be feared among the Gentiles."

(Malachi 1:6–14) —my interim translation

Make a note of what Malachi says about the fact that God's "'Name' is going to be great among the Gentiles." He is referring to the Gentiles becoming "Children" of God, thereby increasing "The Name" of God—that is, the "People" who "carry The Name" of God. That happened after Jesus Christ became Corporate Israel and then died, leaving an oral testament that allowed Gentiles to inherit the promise and become members of His Body. [See "Did Jesus Leave a Will?" The Voice of Elijah®, July 1991.]

Malachi's point is, because the priests of Israel did not hand down The Teaching of Moses, God is going to open the promise up so that anyone, Jew and Gentile alike, may inherit what was promised—which is, as I have been explaining for a number of years now, nothing more or less than creation in the image and likeness of the Living Word of God. (See The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1.) Malachi goes on to reveal that is what God has in mind by what he says next. And what Malachi says is relatively easy to understand, provided you know The Teaching of Moses is also called "The Way" of the Lord.

Malachi—Chapter 2

"But now, this commandment is for you—the priests. If you do not listen, and if you do not fix {it} on {your} heart so as to give Glory to My 'Name,'" says His Supreme Majesty, "then I will send the curse among you, and I will curse your blessings. Yet I have already cursed it because none of you are fixing {it} on {your} heart. Look! I am going to rebuke the seed that you have, and I will spread viscera on your faces—the viscera of your 'feasts'—and you will be hauled off with it. Then you will know that I sent this commandment to you so that My covenant continues with Levi," says His Supreme Majesty. "My covenant of life and peace was with him; and I gave them to him—one who was fearing. And he feared Me, and he was astounded on account of My 'Name.' A Teaching of Truth was in his mouth, and error was not found on his lips. He 'walked' with Me in peace and honesty, and he turned many away from iniquity. Because the lips of a priest must guard knowledge, and they must seek Teaching from his mouth because he is a messenger of His Supreme Majesty. But you, you have turned aside from 'The Way'; you have caused many to stumble by The Teaching. You have broken the covenant of Levi," says His Supreme Majesty. "So I will also make you despised and humiliated before all the people, because you are not guarding My 'Way' but are showing favor in The Teaching."

(Malachi 2:1–9) —my interim translation

Malachi is clearly focused on the fact that the Levitical priests are not *handing down* The Teaching of Moses as God intended. But you need to make specific note of two things that Malachi says here. The first is this:

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"Look! I am going to rebuke the seed that you have, and I will spread viscera on your faces—the viscera of your 'feasts'—and you will be hauled off with it."
(Malachi 2:3) —my interim translation

Malachi is telling the Levites that the priesthood is going to be taken away from their "seed" and, rather than being ordained as priests, they are going to be taken outside the camp to be burned with the *viscera* of the sin offering they offered for their ordination. If you know your Bible, you already know the author of the Book of Hebrews explains what we need to know about God taking the priesthood away from the Levites. For those who aren't aware of what he wrote, here it is:

Therefore, if indeed completion was through the Levitical priesthood (for the people made law by it), why was there still need for yet another priest to arise "ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK," and it was not stated "according to the order of Aaron"? (1) For a changing of the priesthood also becomes a change of law! (2) For the One of whom these things are said shares another tribe, from which nobody has attended the altar. For it is obvious that our Lord {His Majesty} has arisen from Judah, a tribe to whom Moses spoke nothing concerning priests! (Hebrews 7:11–14) —my interim translation

Now that you know Malachi told the Levites that would happen, I must tell you there is an interesting twist to this part of *The Teaching*. Under the terms of the New Covenant, every True Believer is *parabolically* "engendered" as a new member of *Corporate* Israel—which is *parabolically* the Body of Jesus Christ. In this particular *parabolic image*, True Believers are *parabolically* "engendered" by the High Priest Jesus Christ Himself through their belief in the *Living* Word of God that He is. Consequently, each and every new True Believer becomes a *parabolic* member of the priestly family of Jesus Christ and—according to the *parabolic imagery* Malachi is going to use a bit later—just LIKE a Levite.

Before some numskull takes that *parabolic imagery* and runs with it, I must tell you that even under the Old Covenant not every member of the priestly family was allowed to minister in the sanctuary as a Teacher. One had to be specifically appointed to that task by the High Priest. That is what the Apostle Paul had in mind when he wrote this:

But even I myself have been persuaded concerning you, my brothers, that even you are full of goodness, having been filled with all knowledge, being able to admonish one another. But I have written to you rather boldly on some points so as to remind you again through "The Favor" which was given to me from the {Living} God so that I might be a minister of "The Anointing" of Jesus to the Gentiles, serving the Gospel of the {Living} God as a priest, so that the sacrificial offering of the Gentiles would be acceptable—made holy by a holy spirit. (Romans 15:14–16) —my interim translation

In that passage, Paul is referring to the calling he *received* through the revelation of *The Teaching of Moses* that Jesus Christ gave him to equip him as an Apostle. But as long as we are on the subject, you also might want to make a note of the fact that Paul was obviously not aware he shouldn't be doing what our good fellow condemned me for doing. You do remember what he said, don't you? He said:

A real servant of God—teacher, pastor, evangelist—doesn't go around trying to convince people they're called of God; Jesus said by their fruit ye shall know them. They simply preach the Word. The Apostle Paul said in 2 Cor. 4:5, "For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bondservants for Jesus' sake."

That certainly does sound real pious, doesn't it? What he is saying is, "Let's not tell anyone God called us; let's just let them *think* we *figured out* all these things on our own." The reason the good fellow believes what he wrote is because he has no idea what it is to actually be called by God. He just decided one day to "go into the ministry." Tell me now, am I just imagining things or did the Apostle Paul fail to get the memo our good fellow wrote to me? Here is what Paul said:

Paul, a slave of "The Anointing" of Jesus, called {as} an Apostle, set apart for the Gospel of God. (Romans 1:1) —my interim translation

But I say to you—the Gentiles—therefore, insofar as I am myself an Apostle of Gentiles, I glorify my ministry, if somehow I might make my "flesh" jealous and save some of them.

(Romans 11:13-14) —my interim traslation

Paul, called to be an Apostle of "The Anointing" of Jesus through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother. (1 Corinthians 1:1) —my interim translation

Am I not free? Am I not an Apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in His Majesty? If I am not an Apostle to others, I certainly am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in His Majesty.

(1 Corinthians 9:1–2) —my interim translation

Paul, an Apostle of "The Anointing" of Jesus through the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the ekklesia of the {Living} God in Corinth with all the holy ones who are in the whole of Achaia.

(2 Corinthians 1:1) —my interim translation

I have become foolish; {but} you yourselves forced me. For I ought to be commended by you, for I am not inferior to the most illustrious Apostles, even though I am nothing at all. The signs of the Apostles were accomplished among you with all patience—by signs and wonders and miracles.

(2 Corinthians 12:11–12) —my interim translation

Paul, an Apostle—not from men nor through men, but through Jesus "Anointed" and God the Father, the One Who raised Him from the dead—and all the brothers with me. To: the ekklesias of Galatia.

(Galatians 1:1–2) —my interim translation

Paul, an Apostle of "The Anointing" of Jesus through the will of God, to the Holy Ones who are in Ephesus and Believers in "The Anointing" of Jesus. (Ephesians 1:1) —my interim translation

Paul, an Apostle of "The Anointing" of Jesus through the will of God, and Timothy our brother. (Colossians 1:1) —my interim translation

Paul, an Apostle of "The Anointing" of Jesus in accordance with the command of God our Savior and "The Anointing" of Jesus—"The Hope" we have.
(1 Timothy 1:1) —my interim translation

For One is God, and One is Mediator between God and men—a Man, "The Anointing" of Jesus—the One Who gave Himself for all as a ransom—"The Testimony"—at the appropriate time. For Whom I myself was appointed a preacher, and an Apostle—I am speaking the Truth, I am not lying—a Teacher of Gentiles in belief and in Truth.

(1 Timothy 2:5–7) —my interim translation

Paul, an Apostle of "The Anointing" of Jesus through the will of God in accordance with the promise of life which is in "The Anointing" of Jesus.

(2 Timothy 1:1) —my interim translation

Therefore, don't be ashamed of "The Testimony" of our Lord, or of me His prisoner. Rather, suffer together with {me} for the Gospel in accordance with the power of God, the One Who saved us and invited us in a holy invitation, not in accordance with our works but in accordance with His Own purpose and favor—the one which was granted to us in "The Anointing" of Jesus before the times of the Ages, but which has now been made manifest through the manifestation of our Savior—"The Anointing" of Jesus—Who not only abolished "The Death" but also shed light on life and what is incapable of decomposition through the Gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and an Apostle and a Teacher.

(2 Timothy 1:8–11) —my interim translation

Paul, a slave of God, but an Apostle of Jesus "Anointed" with regard to "The Belief" of the Elect of God and "The Knowledge" of "The Truth" which is in accordance with godliness.

(Titus 1:1) —my interim translation

Now I could be wrong, although the evidence appears overwhelming; but it seems fairly obvious that Paul took every available opportunity to give credit where credit was due. That is, he let it be known that God had called him so that folks would not credit him with anything. I do exactly the same thing—for exactly the same reason. But I assume someone who has not been called would not know anything at all about that.

The Lord Himself deserves all the credit for what is accomplished in the lives of you True Believers through the things I teach. That is because I did not one day suddenly decide that I was going to "go into the ministry" and be a "minister," "pastor," "preacher" or any of the other 57 varieties of pulpit parrots. God called me to be a Teacher; and that is what I do. It is, as a matter of fact, *all that I do*.

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So, inasmuch as God called me to do what I am doing, I—like Paul—"glorify my ministry." And just as Paul did, I do it in such a way that it is going to get under the skin (that's an idiom) of all those preening pulpit parrots in our day who—like the pompous, pious Pharisees in Paul's day—have no idea they have lost "The Favor" of God. But I assume those pulpit parrots who have never been called, but think they have, will never understand or accept what I just told you; so let me get back to what I was telling you before I was so rudely interrupted by that tangent.

My point was, under the New Covenant, every True Believer is *parabolically* born again as a "priest"—that is, as Malachi puts it, they are *parabolically* the "sons of Levi." But just like under the Old Covenant, not every *parabolic* "Levite" under the New Covenant is appointed by the High Priest to minister in the sanctuary as one who is qualified to *hand down The Teaching*. The Apostle Paul knew that; just as Malachi did before him. But before we get into that rather intriguing part of what Malachi says, I need to show you the second thing you should make note of in what Malachi said:

"Because the lips of a priest must guard knowledge, and they must seek Teaching from his mouth because he is a messenger of His Supreme Majesty." (Malachi 2:7) —my interim translation

Now, isn't that interesting? The members of *Corporate* Israel were not only expected to "seek Teaching" from the Levitical priests—that is, those who had been appointed by the High Priest to minister as Teachers in the sanctuary—they were also expected to view each one of those priests who taught them as "a *messenger* of His Supreme Majesty." You need to keep in mind the "messenger" part of what he says if you expect to understand what he says later on.

After Malachi indicts the priests for not teaching the Truth of *The Teaching of Moses*—which has, incidentally, always been "*The Way*" one parabolically becomes a "Child" of God—he then goes back to talking about what God said about His "Name" being made "great among the Gentiles." To understand what Malachi says, however, one needs to know he is speaking in terms of parabolic imagery that is related to the sacred marriage ritual. I am not going to explain what he says; I am simply going to tell you he is talking about how the priests are contaminating God's "Name" rather than teaching it:

"Do all of us not have one Father? Has not one God created us? Why does a man deal treacherously against his brother so as to profane the covenant of our fathers? Judah dealt treacherously, and an abomination was committed in Israel and Jerusalem. Because Judah defiled the holiness of His Majesty when he loved—and became 'owner' of—a daughter of a foreign god. His Majesty will 'cut off from' the tents of Jacob anyone who awakens and responds to anyone who does it and brings a cereal offering to His Supreme Majesty. But this is a second thing you do: You cover the altar of His Majesty with tears—weeping and wailing—because there is no longer anyone accepting the cereal offering or taking a favor from your hand. But you say, 'Why?' Because His Majesty is 'The Witness' between You and 'The Woman' of Your youth against Whom You dealt treacherously. Yet She is Your companion and 'The Woman' of Your covenant. But one who has even a remnant of 'spirit' does not do {this}. So what {about} the one seeking the Seed of God? Even you must guard your spirit and not deal treacherously against 'The Woman' of Your youth. Because I hate the one who sends away," says His Majesty, the God of Israel, "so that violence covers his 'garments,'" says His Supreme Majesty. "So guard your spirit and don't deal treacherously. You have wearied His Majesty with your words. But you say, 'How have we wearied Him?' When you say, 'Everyone who does evil is good in the eyes of His Majesty, and He delights in them,' or 'Where is the God of "The Judgment"?'"

(Malachi 2:10–17) —my interim translation

Pay close attention to the *content* that Malachi says the Levitical priests are teaching. You might also want to compare that *content* to the *content* of the tripe that is currently being taught by the pulpit parrots in charge of the Church today. If you are a True Believer, you will most likely recognize the similarities between the two right off. But that is ancillary to the main point of what Malachi says to the priests. So let me get on with it.

Malachi — Chapter 3

Having already told the Levitical priests that their priesthood is going to be taken away from them because they failed to *hand down* The Teaching of Moses, Malachi then begins to explain how God is going to appoint a parabolic "priest" He can count on to teach

"The Way"—which is what Moses and the other Prophets of Israel call *The Teaching of Moses*. This *parabolic* "priest"—or "messenger"—is going to prepare all the other parabolic "priests" for their ordination at "sunrise" on the seventh *parabolic* "day" of Creation:

"Look! I am going to send My messenger, and he will prepare a 'Way' in front of Me. And suddenly, the Lord— Whom you are seeking—will come into His 'Temple.' But the messenger of the covenant—{to} whom you are a delight—look! He is going to come," says His Supreme Majesty. "But who is going to endure the day of his coming? And who is going to stand when he appears? Because he is like a smelter's fire and like laundrymen's lye. And he will sit as a smelter and one who purifies silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi. Then he will refine them like silver and like gold, so that they may be those who bring a cereal offering to His Majesty in a declaration of not guilty. Then the cereal offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to His Majesty—like the days of 'olam and the years of Qedem. Then I will draw near to you for judgment; and I will quickly become a witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against those who swear to a deception and against those who exploit the wage-earner, the widow, or the fatherless, and turn away a stranger, and do not fear Me," says His Supreme Majesty. "Because I am His Majesty; I have not changed! But you, sons of Jacob, are not complete!" (Malachi 3:1–6) —my interim translation

The most important thing you need to gain from that passage is this: Earlier, Malachi told the Levitical priests that God rejected the sacrifices they offered for their ordination because they had no interest in teaching The Teaching of Moses via parabolic pantomime. Now, he is talking about the ordination of parabolic priests a long time after the *literal* sons of Levi have lost the priesthood. However, he conceals the *meaning* of what he says by using parabolic imagery in which he uses the expression "sons of Levi" to refer to all True Believers those who have parabolically become priests under the terms of the New Covenant.

But get this: Malachi is also describing a time when one single, solitary "priest"—that is, a parabolic priest who teaches The Teaching of Moses as a "messenger" of the Lord—is going to prepare all the other parabolic "sons of Levi" for an ordination ceremony in which they all become qualified to parabolically enter the heavenly sanctuary and parabolically minister as "priests" in the presence of God.

So, now that I have told you what Malachi had in mind, let me show you what he says when he begins to speak directly to those parabolic "sons of Levi" who aspire to enter the heavenly sanctuary and minister there. Pay attention now, he just might be talking to

"Since the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes, and you have not guarded {them}. Return to Me and I will return to you," says His Supreme Majesty. "Yet you say, 'How can we return?' Should a man rob God? Because you are robbing Me! Yet you say, 'How have we robbed You?' The tithe and the terumah! You are cursed with a curse, yet you—the whole nation—are robbing Me! Bring all of the tithe into the granary so that there may be something consumable in My 'House.' And if you test Me now in this," says His Supreme Majesty, "I will open the windows of the Sea of Waters, and I will empty out a blessing for you until there is no more need. Then I will rebuke for you the one who 'eats,' so that he cannot destroy the 'fruit' of 'the ground.' And 'the vine' in 'the field' will not be 'barren,'" says His Supreme Majesty. "Then all of the Gentiles will bless you, because you will be a delightful land," says His Supreme Majesty. "Your words against Me have been powerful," says His Majesty. "Yet you say, 'What have we spoken against You?' You said, 'Transporting God is not worthwhile,' and 'What profit is {it} that we have done His guard duty, and that we have "walked" in gloom—away from the presence of His Majesty? So now, we are going to bless those who are arrogant. Those who do something to become guilty will not only be "built," they will also test God and get away {with it}!"" (Malachi 3:7–15) —my interim translation

I'm not going to go into detail, explaining every little thing that Malachi mentions in this passage. For example, I could spend a fairly good chunk of time just showing you all the parabolic imagery related to the Hebrew term *terumah*. For now, I will simply tell you that term could be used to refer to either a voluntary or a required "contribution." That is, it is a larger category which encompasses several different smaller categories. As you will soon see, even the mandatory tithe is called a "terumah." In this case, however, the "contribution" Malachi has in mind is entirely voluntary; and

October 2008 THE VOICE OF ELIIAH® the "tithe" is mentioned primarily because of something the Lord said earlier about Himself as King of Israel:

"So a deceptive person is going to be cursed when he has a male in his flock and he vows {it}, but he sacrifices a blemished one to my Master, because I am a Great King," says His Supreme Majesty, "and My 'Name' is going to be feared among the Gentiles."

(Malachi 1:14) —my interim translation

As "a Great King," Jesus Christ will most definitely require the mandatory payment of a "tithe." But as most "Christians" are well aware, Jesus Christ has not yet taken His seat on the throne of God as King of Israel. So this is where the legalistic question concerning whether "Christians" are required to pay a "tithe" gets really interesting. I've already given you my perspective on that one, so you can either take it or leave it. It makes no difference to me. (See "Questions & Answers," *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2006.) My only concern here has to do with where the "tithe" or "contribution" should go if one *chooses* to pay a "tithe" or make an additional "contribution."

If you carefully check the context in which Malachi mentions the tithe and contribution, you will quickly discover the *parabolic* "sons of Levi" he has in mind are still *parabolically* "transporting" the Tabernacle furniture and *parabolically* "guarding" the Tabernacle in the *parabolic* wilderness of Sinai. Consequently, it only makes sense that True Believers would apply the same *parabolic imagery* that Malachi had in mind to our current situation as the *parabolic* "sons of Levi." Only then would we be able to see where God expects True Believers to pay a tithe, or make an additional contribution. Here is what Moses says about the tithe:

Then His Majesty said to Aaron, "In their land, you must not inherit; and you must not have an allotment in their midst. I am your allotment and your inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel. But Look! To the sons of Levi I have given all the tithe in Israel for an inheritance as compensation for their transportation work, which they are doing in transporting the tent of meeting, so that the sons of Israel do not again come near the tent of meeting to bear sin—to die. And the Levite, he must do the transportation work of the tent of meeting, and they must bear their iniquity as a statute of 'olam throughout your

generations. But they must not inherit an inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel, because the tithe of the sons of Israel—which they offer to His Majesty as a **terumah**—*I have given to the Levites for an inheritance.* Therefore, I have said concerning them, 'They must not inherit an inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel." Then His Majesty spoke to Moses, saying, "But you must speak to the Levites, and you must say to them, 'When you take from the sons of Israel the tithe that I have given to you from them as your inheritance, then you must offer from it the terumah of His Majesty—a tithe from the tithe. And your terumah will be reckoned to you as grain from the threshing floor and as the fullness from the wine vat. So even you must offer the **terumah** of His Majesty from all your tithes that you take from the sons of Israel; and you must give from it the **terumah** of His Majesty to Aaron, the priest."

(Numbers 18:20–28) —my interim translation

Did you see the Levites were supposed to give their tithe—their *terumah*—to Aaron? Do you know why they were supposed to do that? That is, do you understand the *significance* of that part of the *parabolic pantomime*? It was because—as I explain in *The Mystery of Scripture, Volume 1*—Aaron was the only Teacher in Israel at that time. Remember the *parabolic pantomime*? Moses was the Prophet; Aaron was the Teacher. (See *The Mystery of Scripture, Volume 1*, pp. 169 ff.)

My point is, according to the *parabolic imagery* Malachi has in mind, the *parabolic* "sons of Levi" that he mentions are supposed to give their tithe and *terumah* to *the person* from whom they are *receiving The Teaching*. So I guess, if you *believe* you are a *parabolic* "son of Levi" and you *believe* I am the person teaching you the Truth, you should be sending your tithe and contributions to me. Good luck with that one. I work for what I get; and I will not accept payment from anyone for teaching what God called me to teach. That's why I require my disciples to send them to *The Voice of Elijah*. I am not a part of *The Voice of Elijah*. I never have been, and I never will be. If you are a True Believer, this is your ministry; I have my own.

Now that I have explained why the local church has no reasonable expectation of ever receiving the tithe and contributions of True Believers, I want to show you how Malachi describes the future that awaits those he *parabolically* calls "sons of Levi" here at the End:

Then those who fear His Majesty will speak—each to his neighbor—and His Majesty will pay attention and hear. And a scroll of remembrance will be written before Him for those who fear His Majesty and for those who think about His "Name." "And they will be Mine," says His Supreme Majesty, "on the 'Day' when I make a possession; and I will spare them just as a man spares his son who serves him. And you will again see {the difference} between one who is not guilty and one who is guilty between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him. Because Look! The 'Day' is coming, burning like a firepot; and all who are arrogant and all who are acting deceptively will be chaff. And the 'Day' that is coming will set them on fire," says His Supreme Majesty, "so that neither root nor branch will be left to them. But for you who fear My 'Name' a 'Sun' of a declaration of not guilty will arise, and healing is in Her 'wings.' And you will go out and jump around like calves from a stall. And you will tread on those who are guilty {like grapes} because they will be ashes under the soles of your feet in the 'Day' that I am making," says His Supreme Majesty. Remember The Teaching of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb—statutes and judgments for all Israel. Look! I am going to send Elijah the Prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful 'Day' of His Majesty. And he will restore the heart of the fathers to their sons and the heart of the sons to their fathers, lest I come and strike the Earth with a ban."

(Malachi 3:16–4:6) —my interim translation

So, now that you know what True Believers can reasonably expect as the *parabolic* "sons of Levi" who are going to minister in the heavenly sanctuary, let's get back to the question I was asked. Our good fellow *assumes* your tithe and contributions should only go to his local church or some other. Let's see if he provides any indication that he is *parabolically* one of the Levitical priests that Malachi assails for not teaching *The Teaching of Moses*. The good fellow says this:

Do you visit your sick contributors, preach their families' funerals, perform their children's weddings, minister to them one-on-one?

Let's think about this for a minute. Did the good fellow say anything about preaching the Gospel? No, I didn't see that one mentioned. Did he say anything about baptizing Believers? No, I didn't see that one

either. What about making disciples and teaching them the same Truth that Jesus taught His disciples? No, I really don't believe he mentioned it.

Now, doesn't that strike you as a bit odd? This good fellow expects folks to give *him* the Lord's tithes and contributions yet he doesn't seem to be about the Lord's business. I mean, the three things I mentioned are the only things the Lord told His Apostles they were supposed to be doing until He returned at the End of the Age. Here, you can read it for yourself:

And Jesus approached and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go! Make disciples of all the Gentiles: (1) baptizing them into 'The Name' of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (2) teaching them to guard all that I have commanded you. And Look! I am with you all the days until the End of the Age."

(Matthew 28:18–20) —my interim translation

Let me explain a few things you need to know about the list of activities this good fellow thinks a Christian minister should be doing. All this "holy matrimony" stuff that the Church is into nowadays? It was nothing but a legal contract in the time of Christ. The folks that Peter and Paul taught thought in terms of a "one-flesh" union put together by God rather than some legal contract put together by man. The one is binding, the other lets you cancel out whenever you want. So you can scratch that item off the list right quick. Same thing goes for preaching funerals. As far as I know, a funeral director can put together a fairly decent service for anyone who needs it. Trouble is, most dead folks are still walking around among us; and they have no idea what real life is. Visiting the sick? That's the responsibility of every True Believer. So if the good fellow has to do it all by himself, it must be because he has nary a True Believer in his entire congregation.

So finally we come to the good fellow's "minister to them one-on-one" claptrap. Those of you who are True Believers most likely got a good chuckle out of that one. You know full well a knowledge of the Truth I teach is all you could ever need or want. You certainly don't need me in your face imparting my great "wisdom" as to how you should act, what you should do, or how you should deal with life in general. But if I thought you needed me to tell you all that, it certainly would be pride and arrogance on my part.

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