



Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

Try to Put Out This Fire; You Just Stoke the Flames

We are obliged from time to time to recur to certain topics in order to affirm *truths* which are connected with them. We repeat then here, that as the Lord is by the apostle proclaimed as the awarder of both weal and woe, He must be either the Creator, or (as Marcion would be loth to admit) One like the Creator—"with whom it is a righteous thing to recompense tribulation to them who afflict us, and to ourselves, who are afflicted, rest, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed as coming from heaven with the angels of His might and in flaming fire."

The heretic, however, has erased *the flaming fire*, no doubt that he might extinguish all traces herein of our own God. But the folly of the obliteration is clearly seen. For as the apostle declares that the Lord will come "to take vengeance on them that know not God and that obey not the gospel, who," he says, "shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power"—it follows that, as He comes to inflict punishment, He must require "the flaming fire."

Thus on this consideration too we must, notwithstanding Marcion's opposition, conclude that Christ belongs to a God who kindles the flames (of vengeance), and therefore to the Creator, inasmuch as He takes vengeance on such as know not the Lord, that is, on the heathen. For he has mentioned separately "those who obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ," whether they be sinners among Christians or among Jews.

Now, to inflict punishment on the heathen, who very likely have never heard of the Gospel, is not the function of that God who is naturally unknown, and who is revealed nowhere else than in the Gospel, and therefore cannot be known by all men. The Creator, however, ought to be known even by (the light of) nature, for He may be understood from His works, and may thereby become the object of a more widely spread knowledge. To Him, therefore, does it appertain to punish such as know not God, for none ought to be ignorant of

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All correspondence
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Voice of Elijah, Inc.
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A Note From the Editor

This Issue of The Voice of Elijah® and Related Items

This issue is dedicated almost entirely to the “Questions & Answers” column. The questions that appear in the Q&A column are submitted by subscribers or those who have visited *The Voice of Elijah*® website. In the Q&A column, Larry Dee Harper responds to those questions so that all readers of *The Voice of Elijah*® can benefit from his response rather than just the individuals who submit them. If you have a question you would like answered, email it to: webmaster@voiceofelijah.org or mail it to *The Voice of Elijah*®, P.O. Box 2257, Rockwall, TX 75087-2257. Then look for it to be addressed in a future issue.

In this issue, Larry answers a question about conviction, a guilty conscience, and the new-birth experience on page 22. The question refers to three first-person accounts of “born-again” experiences found in back issues of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletters and *The Update*. If you are interested in reading those accounts, they are: Allen Friess, “Do All of God’s Children Know Who They Are?” *The Voice of Elijah*®, October 1995; Mike Clay, “Letter From the Editor,” *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update*, December 1993; Marcia Woody, “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!” *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 1997.

While on the subject of conversion accounts, two that should not be missed are: (1) Larry’s conversion experience, God’s call on his life, and all the years since that are detailed in his autobiography, *God Called; I Answered*—available on the Order Form and online at voiceofelijah.org, and (2) the Great Evangelist Charles Finney’s account of his conversion experience in “Charles Finney: My Conversion to Christ,” *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 1992. All back issues of this newsletter are available online at voiceofelijah.org and on the Order Form accompanying this issue. Back issues of *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update* are available to Monthly Contributors of *The Voice of Elijah*® only, on the Order Form mailed with *The Updates*.

On pages 20–22, Larry addresses questions that two other readers submitted about The Next Step program. Neither question asks about the process of admission directly, but Royce frequently fields questions from subscribers regarding the admissions process and what the program is. The Next Step materials have not been made available to *The Voice of Elijah*® for distribution, and it is not a Voice of Elijah program. It is a discipleship program provided by The Elijah Project to Monthly Contributors to *The Voice of Elijah*® who are admitted into the program. Participants receive monthly teaching via CD and DVD as long as they remain Monthly Contributors to *The Voice of Elijah*®.

Before a participant can begin receiving The Next Step materials, the following six (6) requirements must be met:

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1. submit an Admission Application Form and be approved by the Admissions Committee.
2. be a Monthly Contributor for at least six months.
3. acquire all back issues of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter and *The Voice of Elijah*® Update.
4. acquire all of the materials published by The Elijah Project.
5. communicate with the moderators and other Monthly Contributors by posting messages on The Elijah Project's online group site.
6. return a signed Non-disclosure Agreement.

Before receiving Next Step materials, one must read all *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletters and *The Voice of Elijah*® Updates through December 1994.

The Elijah Project Information

The Alpha Testers have been diligently kicking the tires of Harper's Standardized Study Bible App for about a year now. Each revision gets us closer to the finish line. We will announce a release date as soon as it is in final form. Visit the-elijah-project.com to see The Elijah Project's updated website. A "Blog" button has recently been added to the Home Page. We expect Larry to begin posting sometime this fall.

Interact with the following social media/web-sites where *The Voice of Elijah*® and The Elijah Project have a presence:

Amazon:

amazon.com/author/larrydharper

Please write a review on Amazon.com for any/all of Larry's books that you have read. Book reviews are an effective form of outreach to encourage others to read his articles in our publications.

Facebook:

facebook.com/VoiceofElijahInc

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facebook.com/ElijahProjectPublisher

facebook.com/HarpersStandardizedStudyBible

VOE's Facebook page focuses primarily on excerpts from Larry's books, back issues of *The Voice of Elijah*® and *The Voice of Elijah*® Update.

Larry's "personal" Facebook page includes posts from his publications and translation, and reviews of his books from Amazon.com and Goodreads.com.

The Elijah Project Facebook page focuses primarily on excerpts from Larry's books, and links to The Elijah Project News.

The HSSB Facebook page focuses primarily on Larry's translation (his explanation of passages from his translation that are published in *The Voice of Elijah*® and elsewhere, excerpts of Scripture from HSSB, and Larry's Twitter tweets).

Goodreads:

goodreads.com/LarryDeeHarper

This site is for book readers to post reviews of books they've read, indicate what books they are reading, and list the books they intend to read. All of Larry's books are listed on this site. The reviews of Larry's books that are posted on Goodreads.com are shared on Larry's Facebook page to encourage others to: (1) read his books, and (2) write reviews of his books for the benefit of others.

Pinterest:

pinterest.com/larrydeeharper

The Elijah Project publications are pinned on Pinterest.

Twitter:

twitter.com/ElijahProject

Larry tweets regarding his insights on Scripture passages in real time as he works translating and standardizing his translation.

Royce and I thank you for interacting with *The Voice of Elijah*® and The Elijah Project through social media. We do our best to keep you informed on these sites every day.

In Him,

Marcia Harper

Pretense Is What Pretenders Excel At

In the January 2017 issue of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter, I told you that the Apostle Paul makes a statement in the second chapter of 2 Corinthians that one can easily overlook if one doesn't know what he has in mind. But I also said that if one does know what he is *talking about*, it becomes a stark reminder of the pitched battle in which the Lord demands that each and every one of His Children not only participate but also come out triumphant. Therefore, I showed you what Paul says; and then I explained what he knows that you need to know if you intend to overcome the wiles of Satan here at the End of the Age.

In the April 2017 issue of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter, I first reviewed what I had told you in the January issue. Then I explained how the renewing of the mind that Paul mentions in Romans 12:2 fits together with the things I had already explained in those issues. But in both of those issues, I included the following statement:

Most folks who call themselves "Christians" today don't believe there is only one Truth to be found in the Hebrew Scriptures. Instead, they believe there is some sort of smorgasbord of "truths" from which one just picks and chooses whatever "truth" they find most acceptable. The Truth is, the Apostles fully understood the message of the Hebrew Scriptures and they made no bones about it. They also believed that anybody who believed something that contradicted the Truth they understood was not going to be saved. Paul states that emphatically in the first chapter of the Book of Galatians.

What Paul says in that passage should settle the issue for anyone with half a brain; but unfortunately, most "Christians" today are content to go on believing the

mishmash of contradictory beliefs they have heard in the distorted remnants of the Church established by the Apostles. It has never occurred to them that the New Testament clearly reveals the leaders of the Apostolic Church believed but one Truth, and they also believed the Truth that they possessed can be found in the Hebrew Scriptures.

After stating that, I gave you a summary of the message of the Old Testament:

1. Two "Adams" are mentioned in the Creation Account. The Apostle Paul *talks about* those two "Adams" in 1 Corinthians 15:45–49. Genesis 1 describes the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in the image and likeness of God on the sixth "day" of Creation; Genesis 2 describes the creation of our forefather on the third "day." I have already explained these things in the booklet titled *In the Image and Likeness of God*, so there is no need to explain them here.

2. When God banned Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, He gave them the promise that they could be created in the image and likeness of God if they would only believe the promise. He also expected them to *hand down the promise* from one generation to the next as an *inheritance* that each *heir of the promise* could bequeath to *the next heir of the promise* as an *oral blessing*. The Book of Genesis is an account of how the Patriarchs did that very thing. I have already explained these things in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*, so there is no need to explain them here.

3. The central purpose of the covenant God made with the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai was to unify the

promise *after Jacob divided it up when he blessed his sons and grandsons*. Since there was no longer just one *heir of the promise* as there had been up to that time, God used the Mosaic Covenant to create *Corporate Israel*, a *corporate* body that He claimed as His Firstborn Son. That *corporate* body functioned as a *mediator* to hold title to *the promise* until Jesus Christ became *Corporate Israel*, *the Heir of the promise*. I have also explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel* and *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*, so there is no need to explain them here.

4. *Under the terms of The Law of Moses, an individual member of Corporate Israel could be “cut off from” Corporate Israel.* Various parts of that law demanded that ultimate punishment. If the sons of Israel were aware that someone had violated one of those, they were expected to execute the individual and thereby erase his name from Israel. Even if they did not do that, God would “cut him off from” *Corporate Israel*. That is, He would erase the individual’s name from the census book of Israel that He maintained. For that reason God alone knew who had been “cut off from” *Corporate Israel*, and no one else had the right to say anyone was still a member of *Corporate Israel*. I have already explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel*, so there is no need to explain them here.

5. *God made two covenants with the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai.* The first covenant required the perfect obedience of the *corporate* body and did not provide a means of atonement. If one individual sinned, every member of the *corporate* body became guilty. The second covenant provided a means of atonement *for the individual*. If an individual sinned, his sin could be atoned for through a sacrificial ritual, but the *corporate* body still remained guilty. I have also explained these things in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*, so there is no need to explain them here.

6. *Because the sons of Israel failed to adhere to the requirements of both the first and second Mosaic Covenants, the Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel promised them God would offer a New Covenant to the individual members of Corporate Israel.* He did that through the ministry of John the Baptist. But the New Covenant that the Jews accepted at that time was just like the first Old Covenant their ancestors had accepted at Mount

Sinai—it provided no means of atonement. If a person sinned, he would immediately be “cut off from” *Corporate Israel*. So God “cut off from” *Corporate Israel* all the members of *Corporate Israel* other than Jesus Christ because they could not keep the terms of the New Covenant. I have also explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel*, so there is no need to explain them here.

7. *When Jesus Christ was baptized by John and accepted the terms of the New Covenant, He became Corporate Israel, the Heir of the promise.* Therefore, when He died, He atoned for the sins of *Corporate Israel* by suffering under the curses of the Mosaic Covenant. But because of His obedience to the terms of the New Covenant, God was obligated to *fulfill the promise* and resurrect Him so that He could *inherit what was promised* to Adam and Eve—creation in the image and likeness of God. I have also explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel* and in the pages of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter and *The Voice of Elijah*® Update over the past quarter of a century, so there is no need to explain them here.

8. *When Christ died, His death invoked the terms of the oral testament He had made prior to His death.* Under the terms of that *oral testament*, all anyone has to do to *inherit the promise* is believe it—and apologize to God for the sins they have committed. Those who do that will be declared not guilty by God; those who don’t, won’t. I have also explained these things in the pages of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter and *The Voice of Elijah*® Update over the past quarter of a century, so there is no need to explain them here.

I told you that, if you intend to triumph over the enemy of your soul, you need to believe the things I outlined in the eight paragraphs above; and you also need to know why you *chose* to believe them. That is because the Truth they provide is a refuge in which your soul can hide whenever you face a fierce onslaught of enemy forces. Without them, you will have nothing you can use to defend against the lies that Satan propagates for the sole purpose of destroying the souls of men. For that reason I plan to write a series of articles in which I provide a summary explanation of those eight parts of *The Teaching*. That will begin with the October 2017 issue. For the present, I need to answer questions that have accumulated. ■



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: *After reading a number of articles on our VOE website, this man sent in a rather long post, which will be shortened but still address his questions:*

"Naming your site The Voice of Elijah evokes miraculous expectations for the site content which turns out to be a satanic deception of those 'who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness' (2 Thessalonians 2:8–12).

It is an excellent point you make contrasting individual interpretation with the teaching handed down from the apostles. Obviously, this is also the Roman Catholic position, but not a wrong one even though the oral teaching handed down from the apostles are, for the most part, lost. However, the Church did not lose the entire message handed down from the apostles. What remains of their teaching, and admittedly a relative small portion since the vast majority of their teaching was oral, is the New Testament, and as you state, the writings of only some of the early church fathers. But, should we not assume that what we are left with is the result of divine superintendence and is, therefore, the revelation God intended for the Church? Or, do we say, what we have of what was revealed was without divine purpose?

Ever since the passing of the last apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ the Church has labored to retain or regain the meaning of the work and teachings of the Lord Jesus. It was not until A.D. 394 when the complete

canon of scripture was confirmed. The process of determining which texts to use begin with Origen. Today, it remains that the interpretations of the texts of this canon are in a state of continuous unveiling as scholars grapple over the truths and defend against error.... However, such scholarly endeavors have not prevented the corruption of the Christian faith and in many instances have challenged orthodoxy.

It remains the duty of the Church to understand what the apostles handed down. At this juncture, it seems the best way is by examining how they used the Old Testament in supporting the texts of the New Testament. This necessitates an extensive background in ancient Middle Eastern histories, cultures and religions, philosophies, and languages. You appear to have mastered the background better than most. At the very least, what you have learned is necessary to serve as a projects editor. However, here are some issues with your position, as I understand them, on the lost teachings handed down by the apostles from just a small sampling of your older articles.

The New Testament canon of scripture would have been determined by those who no longer knew the apostolic teachings. Therefore, the canonization of the New Testament texts might not actually represent the teachings handed down from the apostles? If the New Testament is the primary source of the teachings handed down from the apostles, what options are now available other than commentaries? ...

The Second Council of Constantinople (the Fifth Ecumenical Council) [in A.D. 553] ratified the nine points of anathema against Origen. Did this council understand the teaching handed down from the apostles?

I find it difficult to make the leap that the deceiver Satan is responsible for dispensationalism and that dispensationalists are those 'who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness' (2 Thessalonians 2:8–12)—even though I agree the doctrine is counter to the scriptures, and one has to be unfamiliar with the entirety of the Bible and be so presumptuous about the paradigm so as to follow it blindly. It does bewilder my understanding how so many laymen can be guided by the Holy Spirit and continue to be deluded.

Neither of us have much confidence in the laymen's or ministers' diligence for proper Bible study or for spiritual discernment. It is apparent you have more confidence in your discernment than I do in mine. You may have academic reason to be more confident. My observation is that all kinds of scholarship is severely distorted by the

human condition—of course, this includes biblical scholarship. Your claim of insight into the working of Satan is subjective knowledge and somewhat contaminates your scholarship as also having the possibility being subjective. However, I comprehend the man of lawlessness and the Satan warning are what you see as the prophetic ministry of The Voice of Elijah.

You state that what you write is only for those who recognize it as the Truth. This opens the door to subjective verification or rejection. The response to the gospel, on the other hand, is not a subjective belief but is founded upon the testimony of eye witnesses. It is as straight forward as believing or not believing the testimony.

Expressing disdain through sarcasm is a worldly attitude. Should I attribute such an attitude as a deception of Satan or, are we capable of that on our own? If guidance by the Holy Spirit is a spiritual reality, sarcasm and holding others in contempt do not have the Holy Spirit as a partner. Proclamation of the truth while leaving the convincing by the Holy Spirit is what your subjective verification alludes. Worldly contempt and sarcasm suggest anger—maybe from rejection?

My prayer is that the past fifteen years have included continual transformation, as Holy Spirit discipling has for me, and not just education. I have benefited from and appreciate the knowledge you have generously shared on your site. I will read more."

Elijah: That is a series of some of the most illogical arguments I have read in a very long time. Thanks for shortening it and sparing me. The entire critique is based on the ridiculous notion that everybody can just "be guided by the Holy Spirit" and they will be fine:

It does bewilder my understanding how so many laymen can be guided by the Holy Spirit and continue to be deluded.

That statement is firmly based on one of the most diabolical lies to ever rise up out of the Pits of Hell. If it were true, God would never have instituted the offices of the Apostle, Prophet, Teacher, and Evangelist in the Church. So much for the insane logic of those who are completely enamored by Satan's lies. Yet after making that goofy claim, he goes on to illogically refute his own belief in some *subjective* leading of the Holy Spirit by accusing me of holding the same belief:

You state that what you write is only for those who recognize it as the Truth. This opens the door to subjective verification or rejection. The response to the gospel, on the other hand, is not a subjective belief but is founded upon the testimony of eye witnesses. It is as straight forward as believing or not believing the testimony.

The mistaken assumptions in that statement are far too many to adequately address here, so I will mention only the two most obvious truths that he ignores:

1. Every statement that anyone makes must first be *interpreted* and *evaluated* as true or false by the *subject* who hears it. For that reason logic, objectivity, and a sincere desire to determine the Truth, are the hallmarks of anyone who wants to *accurately* understand anything—including the Scriptures. That is why I have repeatedly warned everyone that they must rigorously evaluate the things I teach and determine *for themselves* whether they *believe* they are true. If someone believes that what I teach is true, they may be a person God called me to teach. If they determine that what I teach is not logical, as this individual has, they are someone I have not been called to teach. So much for the silly assertion that belief is not a *subjective exercise of the will*. Stubborn individuals will reject anything that disagrees with what they already believe, which is what I *believe* this individual has done.

2. His reference to "eye witnesses" appears to be a reference to things the authors of the Gospels wrote about the Incarnation, ministry, and Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. That leads me to the conclusion that this individual is basing his hope of eternal salvation on the misguided belief that all anyone has to do is believe some arbitrary *content* that he calls "the gospel"—whatever *limited content* he *assumes* that container of information contains—and they will be guaranteed a spot in Heaven. That mistaken *assumption* should have been laid to rest long ago on the basis of various statements that Jesus made, not the least of which is this one:

²¹*"[Not] [everyone] [who] [says] 'Your Majesty!' [Your Majesty]!' [to Me] [will come in] [to] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [Heavens], [but] [the one who] [acts in accordance with] [The] [Will] [of] [My] [Father], [Who is] [in] [The] [Heavens].* ²²*[Many] [will say] [to Me] [on] [That] [Day], 'Your Majesty!' [Your Majesty]! [Did we [not] prophesy] [in] [Your] [Name] [and] [cast out] [Demons] [in] [Your] [Name] [and] [do] [a*

lot of] [Supernaturally Powerful Things] [in] [Your] [Name]?’ ²³[And] [then] [I will acknowledge the truth about] [them], [that] [‘I [never] knew] [you]. [YOU [WHO] [ARE COMMITTING] [THE] [LAWLESS DEED], DEPART] [FROM] [ME].’ ²⁴[Therefore], [anyone] [who] [hears] [These], [My] [Words], [and] [acts in accordance with] [them], [will be like] [a [sensible] Man] [who] [built] [his] [House] [on] [The] [Rock]. ²⁵[And] [The] [Rain] [came down], [and] [The] [Rivers] [came up], [and] [The] [Winds] [blew], [and] [they prostrated themselves] [in] [That] [House]. [And] [it did [not] fall], [for] [it had been founded] [on] [The] [Rock]. ²⁶[And] [anyone] [who] [hears] [These], [My] [Words], [and] [does [not] act in accordance with] [them], [will be like] [a [stupid] Man] [who] [built] [his] [House] [on] [The] [Sand]. ²⁷[And] [The] [Rain] [came down], [and] [The] [Rivers] [came up], [and] [The] [Winds] [blew], [and] [they stumbled] [in] [That] [House]. [And] [it fell], [and] [its] [Fall] [was] [tremendous].”
(Matthew 7:21–27) —my interim translation

In contrast to the subjective “leading of the Holy Spirit” in which this individual appears to have placed his eternal hope, the things that I teach as “the gospel” are based on a logical, completely coherent tracking of *the promise* from the very beginning of the Hebrew Scriptures—the first chapter of Genesis—to the very last chapter of the Book of Revelation. And the only people who will be interested in the things that I teach are those who *honestly* want to know the Truth. Therefore, in what he says about my claim, this individual has done nothing more than condemn himself—if God did indeed call me to teach what I teach:

You state that what you write is only for those who recognize it as the Truth. This opens the door to subjective verification or rejection. The response to the gospel, on the other hand, is not a subjective belief but is founded upon the testimony of eye witnesses. It is as straight forward as believing or not believing the testimony.

I need to swat down the following nonsensical notion with the most sarcasm I can muster:

Expressing disdain through sarcasm is a worldly attitude. Should I attribute such an attitude as a deception of Satan or, are we capable of that on our own? If guidance by the Holy Spirit is a spiritual reality, sarcasm and holding others in contempt do not have the Holy Spirit as a

partner. Proclamation of the truth while leaving the convincing by the Holy Spirit is what your subjective verification alludes. Worldly contempt and sarcasm suggest anger—maybe from rejection?

If that lie were true, Jesus would never have said what He said to the Pharisees when He spewed the sarcastic statements in the following passage:

¹[Then] [Jesus] [spoke] [to The] [Crowds] [and] [to His] [Disciples], ²[saying]: “[The] [Scribes] [and] [The] [Pharisees] [have sat down] [on] [The] [Seat] [of Moses]. ³[Therefore], [act in accordance with]—[and] [keep watch over] [everything]—[as much as] [it may be that] [they have told] [you]; [but] [do [not] act] [in accordance with] [their] [Works], [for] [they say {things}] [and] [do [not] act in accordance with {what they say}]. ⁴[And then] [they bind up] [hefty] [and] [difficult to carry] [Loads] [and] [place {them}] [on] [The] [Shoulders] [of] [Men], [but] [they] [are [not] willing] [to move] [them] [with their] [Finger]. ⁵[But] [they do] [all] [their] [Works] [in order] [to] [make sure [Men] get a good look at {them}], [for] [they make [their] [Phylacteries*] wide] [and] [exalt] [The] [Hems {of their overgarments}]. ⁶[But] [they are fond of] [The] [First Place] [at] [The] [Dinner Meals] [and] [The] [First Seats] [in] [The] [Synagogues] ⁷[and] [The] [Greetings] [in] [The] [Public Squares] [and] [to be called] ‘[Rabbi]’ [by] [Men]. ⁸[But] [you] [should [not] be called] ‘[Rabbi].’ [For] [your] [Teacher] [is] [One], [so] [you] [are] [all] [Brothers]. ⁹[And] [you should [not] call {anyone}] [your] [Father] [on] [The] [Earth], [for] [One] [is] [your] [Father]—[The [heavenly] One]. ¹⁰[You should [not even] be called] ‘[Leaders],’ [because] [your] [Leader] [is] [One]—[The] [Anointed One]. ¹¹[So] [the] [most important] [of you] [will be] [your] [Servant]. ¹²[And then] [whoever] [elevates] [himself] [will be humbled], [and] [whoever] [humbles] [himself] [will be elevated]. ¹³[But] [Woe] [to you], [Scribes] [and] [Pharisees]—[Hypocrites]! [Because] [you are shutting] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [Heavens] [in front] [of] [Men]. [For] [you] [do [not] come in], [neither] [do you let] [those who] [are coming in], [come in]. ¹⁴[Missing in earliest manuscripts]

¹⁵[Woe] [to you], [Scribes] [and] [Pharisees]—[Hypocrites]! [Because] [you travel around] [The] [Sea] [and] [the] [dried-up {area}] [to make] [one] [Proselyte]; [and] [when] [he becomes {one}], [you

make [him] [twice as much [a Son] [of {the} Trash Pit] as] [you].

¹⁶[Woe] [to you], [blind] [Guides], [who] [say]: 'Whoever [it might be who] [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Sanctuary], [it is] [nothing]. [But] [whoever] [it might be who] [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Gold] [of The] [Sanctuary], [he is obligated].' ¹⁷[Stupid] [and] [blind]! [For] [which one] [is] [more important], [The] [Gold]? [Or] [The] [Sanctuary] [that] [made] [The] [Gold] holy? ¹⁸[And], 'Whoever [it might be who] [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Sacrificial Altar], [it is] [nothing]; [but] [whoever] [it might be who] [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Offering] [that is] [on top] [of it]—[he is obligated].' ¹⁹[Blind]! [For] [which one is] [more important], [The] [Offering]? [Or] [The] [Sacrificial Altar] [that] [makes] [The] [Offering] holy? ²⁰[Therefore], (1) [the one who] [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Sacrificial Altar], [swears an oath] [by] [it] [and] [by] [everything] [that is] [on top] [of it]; ²¹[and] (2) [the one who] [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Sanctuary], [swears an oath] [by] [it] [and] [by] [the One Who] [dwells in] [it]; ²²[and] (3) [the one who] [swears an oath] [by] [Heaven], [swears an oath] [by] [The] [Throne] [of The] [{Living} God], [and] [by] [the One Who] [is sitting] [on top] [of it].

²³[Woe] [to you], [Scribes] [and] [Pharisees]—[Hypocrites]! [Because] [you give a tenth] [of The] [Mint] [and] [The] [Dill*] [and] [The] [Cummin*]; [then] [you let go of] [the [heftier] {parts}] [of The] [Law]—[Sentencing] [and] [Mercy] [and] [Belief in God's Promise]. [But] {you} [should have] [done] [These Things] [and] [not] [let go of] [Those Things]. ²⁴[Blind] [Guides], [who] [filter out*] [The] [Gnat*], [yet] [swallow up] [The] [Camel]!

²⁵[Woe] [to you], [Scribes] [and] [Pharisees]—[Hypocrites]! [Because] [you cleanse] [the thing that is] [on the outside] [of The] [Cup] [and] [The] [Dish*], [but] [on the inside] [they are full] [of] [Confiscation] [and] [a Lack of Self-control]. ²⁶[Blind] [Pharisee]! [First] [cleanse] [The] [Inside] [of The] [Cup], [so that] [The] [Outside] [of it] [may also] [become] [clean].

²⁷[Woe] [to you], [Scribes] [and] [Pharisees]—[Hypocrites]—[because] [you are like*] [white-washed] [Sepulchers] [that], [on the one hand], [appear to be] [beautiful] [on the outside]; [but on the other hand], [are full] [of {the} Bones] [of Those Who Are Dead] [and] [all] [Uncleanness] [on the inside]. ²⁸[So] [also] [you], [on the one hand], [appear] [on the outside] [to [Men] to be] [Those Who Are Blameless]; [but on

the other hand], [you are] [full] [of Hypocrisy] [and] [Lawlessness] [on the inside].

²⁹[Woe] [to you], [Scribes] [and] [Pharisees]—[Hypocrites]—[because] [you build] [The] [Sepulchers] [of The] [Prophets] [and] [put together] [The] [Tombs] [of The] [Ones Who Were Blameless], ³⁰[and] [you say], 'If [we had been {alive}] [in] [The] [Days] [of] [our] [Fathers], [we [would] [not] have been] [Partakers] [with them] [in] [The] [Blood] [of The] [Prophets].' ³¹[So then] [you provide testimony against] [yourselves]—[that] [you are] [Sons] [of those who] [murdered] [The] [Prophets]. ³²[And] [you] [have completely filled up] [The] [Measure] [of] [your] [Fathers]. ³³[Snakes]! [Descendants] [of Vipers]! [How] [can you flee] [from] [The] [Sentence] [of The] [Trash Pit]?"

(Matthew 23:1–33) —my interim translation

Anyone with even half a brain should be able to see that the words of Jesus are absolutely dripping with sarcasm, but those who believe Satan's lies can't see the Truth in that regard. And even if they could, they wouldn't admit it. The Truth is, they are the spiritual descendants of the Pharisees, the obstinate ophidian offspring of the ancient serpent we call Satan. His "seed" can't see the Truth, even when it is staring them in the face; and they don't care to. The Apostle Paul stated that plainly in this passage:

¹[For] [This Reason], [just as] [we have been shown mercy], [we [who have] [This] [Service] do [not] get discouraged]. ²[But] [we have renounced*] [our] [shameful] [Secrets]—[{we} who are [not] walking] [in] [Dishonesty] [nor] [counterfeiting*] [The] [Word] [of The] [{Living} God], [but] [commending] [ourselves] [to] [every] [Man's] [Conscience] [in the sight of] [The] [{Living} God] [by our] [Disclosure] [of The] [Truth]. ³[So] [even] [if] [The] [Good News of the Fulfillment of the Promise] [we have] [is] [covered], [it is] [covered] [in] [those who] [are being done away with]—⁴[those [in] whom] [The] [God] [of] [This] [Current Age] [has blinded] [The] [Thoughts] [of] [Those Who Do Not Believe God's Promise] [so] [that] [{they} can [not] distinctly see*] [our] [Illumination] [of The] [Good News of the Fulfillment of the Promise] [of The] [Glory] [of The] [Anointed One], [Who] [is] [{the} Image] [of The] [{Living} God]. ⁵[For] [we do [not] preach] [ourselves] [but] [His Majesty], [Jesus], [The Anointed One], [and

then] [ourselves] [as [your] Slaves] [for] [Jesus].
⁶[Because] [The] [{Living} God], [Who] [said], “[A
 Light] [will shine] [out] [of Darkness],” {is} [the One
 Who] [has shone] [in] [our] [Hearts] [with] [an
 Illumination] [of The] [Knowledge of the Truth]
 [regarding The] [Glory] [of The] [{Living} God] [on]
 [{the} Face] [of Jesus], [The Anointed One].

⁷[But] [we have] [This] [Treasure] [in] [Containers]
 [made of clay] [so that] [The [extraordinary] Thing]
 [about our] [Supernatural Power] [is] [The] [{Living}
 God’s] [and] [not] [from] [us].

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

The keywords in that passage are *illumination*, *light*, and *glory*. If you don’t know how those three words relate to one another, you are going to miss the point of what Paul said, so let me explain it for you. The Glory of God is “The Light” that He is, and “The Light” of God’s Glory provides the *illumination* that one needs to understand the Truth. Moreover, God’s Glory is what you find explained in *The Teaching of Moses* because those things reveal Who the Living God is. That is why Jesus responded “The Way” He did when some Greeks innocently asked to “see” Him:

²⁰[But] [some] [of] [those who] [were going up]
 [so that] [they could bow down] [during] [The] [Feast]
 [were] [Greeks]. ²¹[Therefore], [These Individuals]
 [approached] [Philip], [who was] [from] [Bethsaida]
 [of] [Galilee], [and] [were asking] [him], [saying],
 “[Master], [we want] [to see] [Jesus]!” ²²[Philip] [comes
 back] [and] [tells] [Andrew]; [Andrew] [and] [Philip]
 [come back] [and] [tell] [Jesus]. ²³[So] [Jesus] [responds]
 [to them], [saying]: “[The] [Hour] [has come] [so that]
 [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [may be glorified]!
²⁴[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [if] [The]
 [Grain] [of The] [Wheat] [that has fallen] [onto]
 [The] [Earth] [does not] [die], [He] [is going to continue
 on] [alone]; [but] [if] [He dies], [He is going to bear] [a lot
 of] [Fruit]. ²⁵[The one who] [is fond of] [his] [Soul] [is
 going to do away with] [it], [and] [the one who] [hates]
 [his] [Soul] [in] [This] [World] [will guard] [it] [for] [Life]
 [eternal]. ²⁶[If] [anyone] [is going to serve] [Me], [he must
 follow] [Me]; [then] [wherever] [I] [Am], [The] [Servant]
 [that] [I have] [will be] [there] [also]. [If] [someone] [serves]
 [Me], [My] [Father] [will honor] [him]. ²⁷[Now] [My]
 [Soul] [has become disturbed], [so] [what] [should I
 say]? [‘Father], [save] [Me] [from] [This] [Hour]?’ [But]

[I have come] [to] [This] [Hour] [for] [This Reason]!
²⁸[Father], [glorify] [Your] [Name].” [Therefore], [a
 Voice] [came] [out] [of] [Heaven], “[I have [both] glori-
 fied {My name}], [and] [I will glorify {My name}]
 [again].” ²⁹[Therefore], [The] [Crowd] [that] [was standing
 around] [and] [heard {what was said}] [was saying] [there
 had been] [Rolling Thunder]. [Others] [were saying], “[A
 Messenger] [spoke] [to Him].” ³⁰[Jesus] [responded] [and]
 [said]: “[This] [Voice] [did not] come [for] [Me], [but]
 [for] [you]. ³¹[{The} Sentencing] [of] [This] [World] [is
 going to be] [now]; [The] [Ruler] [of] [This] [World] [will
 [now] be thrown] [out]. ³²[Also, [if] [I am elevated] [from]
 [The] [Earth], I] [will drag] [everyone] [to] [Myself].”
³³[But] [He was saying] [This], [indicating] [what kind of]
 [Death] [He was going] [to die]. ³⁴[Therefore], [The]
 [Crowd] [responded] [to Him]: “[We] [have heard] [from]
 [The] [Law] [that] [The] [Anointed One] [is going to con-
 tinue on] [into] [The] [Age to Come]. [So] [how] [can] [You]
 say] [that] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [has] [to be elevat-
 ed]? [Who] [is] [This Individual], [The] [Son] [of The]
 [Man]’?” ³⁵[Therefore], [Jesus] [told] [them]:
 “[The] [Light] [is going to be] [among] [you] [a [short]
 Span of Time] [still]. [As long as] [you have] [The]
 [Light], [walk] [so that] [Darkness] [can not] grasp
 [you]. [The one who] [is walking around] [in] [The]
 [Darkness] [is not] [even] aware of] [where] [he is
 going]. ³⁶[As long as] [you have] [The] [Light], [believe
 God’s promise] [about] [The] [Light] [so that] [you
 become] [Sons] [of Light].”

[Jesus] [spoke] [These Things] [and], [after going
 away], [was hidden] [from] [them]. ³⁷[But], [although
 [He] had done] [so many] [Signs] [in front] [of them],
 [they did not] believe God’s **promise** [about] [Him],
³⁸[so that] [The] [Word] [of Isaiah] [The] [Prophet]
 [would be fulfilled], [who] [said]:

“[YOUR MAJESTY],

[WHO] [HAS BELIEVED] [THE] [NEWS] [WE HAVE]?

[AND] [TO] [WHOM] HAS [THE] [ARM]

[OF HIS MAJESTY] BEEN REVEALED?”

³⁹[For] [This Reason] [they could] [not] [believe
 God’s **promise**], [because] [Isaiah] [said] [again], ⁴⁰“[HE
 BLINDED] [THEIR] [EYES] [AND] [TURNED] [THEIR] [HEART]
 TO STONE], [SO THAT] [THEY WOULD] [NOT] SEE [WITH
 THEIR] [EYES] [AND] [UNDERSTAND] [WITH THEIR] [HEART]
 [AND] [TURN AROUND] [AND] [I WOULD HEAL] [THEM].”
⁴¹[Isaiah] [said] [These Things] [because] [he saw]

[His] [Glory] [and] [talked] [about] [Him].
⁴²[Nevertheless] [however], [a Lot] [of] [even] [The]
 [Rulers] [believed God's promise] [about] [Him]; [but]
 [because of] [The] [Pharisees], [they were not]
 acknowledging {it} [so that] [they would not] be
 expelled from the synagogue, ⁴³[for] [they loved]
 [The] [Glory] [of] [Men] [more than]—[a lot more
 than*]—[The] [Glory] [of The] [{Living} God].
 (John 12:20–43)—my interim translation

That passage won't make a whole lot of sense to anyone who does not know *we are what we believe*. But even knowing that, you still need to know Jesus Christ became Corporate Israel, the "Carrier" of "The Name" of God when all the Jews were "cut off from" Corporate Israel. Put that together with the fact that one can only see "The Light" that emanates from the Glory of God if they look at it through the lens of *The Teaching*, and the passage makes sense. Jesus was *talking about* His dead body being *physically* transformed into the image and likeness of the Glory of the Spirit that God is. That *physical* transformation occurred when He was resurrected in the image and likeness of the Spirit of God Himself. Paul explains that *physical* transformation this way:

¹²[So then], [if] [it is preached] [that] [The Anointed One] [has arisen] [from] [Those Who Are Dead], [on what basis] [do some] [among] [you] say [that] [there is] [no] [Resurrection] [of Those Who Are Dead]? ¹³[So then], [if] [there is] [not] [a Resurrection] [of Those Who Are Dead], [neither] [has] [The Anointed One] arisen. ¹⁴[So then], [if] [The Anointed One] [has not] arisen, [then] [both] [our] [Preaching] {is} [in vain], [and] [your] [Belief in God's **Promise**] {is} [in vain]. ¹⁵[And then] [we are also] found to be [False Witnesses] [of The] [{Living} God], [because] [we have provided testimony] [about] [The] [{Living} God], [that] [He raised] [The] [Anointed One]—[Whom], [if indeed] [He did not] raise, [then] [Those Who Are Dead] [are not] going to arise. ¹⁶[For] [if] [Those Who Are Dead] [are not] going to arise, [neither] [has] [The Anointed One] arisen. ¹⁷[So then], [if] [The Anointed One] [has not] arisen, [your] [Belief in God's **Promise**] {is} [futile]; [you are] [still] [in] [your] [Sins]. ¹⁸[So then] [those who] [have fallen fast asleep] [in] [The Anointed One] [have also] been done away with. ¹⁹[If] [we are] [those who have hope] [in] [The Anointed One] [only] [in] [This] [Life], [we are] [{the} most wretched] [of all] [Men].

²⁰[But] [now] [The Anointed One] [has arisen] [from] [Those Who Are Dead]—[a First Fruit] [of those who] [have fallen fast asleep]. ²¹[For], [since] [Death] {was} [via] [a Man], [Resurrection] [of Those Who Are Dead] [also] {will be} [via] [a Man]. ²²[For], [indeed, just as] [all] [die] [in] [The] [Adam], [so] [also] [all] [will be given life] [in] [The] [Anointed One]. ²³[But] [each one] [in] [his] [own] [Place in Line*]: (1) [The Anointed One] {is} [a First Fruit]; (2) [then] [those who] [belong to The] [Anointed One] [at] [His] [Coming]; ²⁴(3) [then] [The] [Consummation], [when] [He hands over] [The] [Kingdom] [to The] [{Living} God] [and] [Father]—[when] [He has abrogated] [every] [Ruler] [and] [every] [Authority] [and] [Supernatural Power]. ²⁵[For] [He] [has] [to be king] [up to the time] [when] [He has put all] [His] [Enemies] down [under] [His] [Feet]. ²⁶[The last] [Enemy]—[Death]—[is going to be abrogated]. ²⁷[For] [HE HAS MADE] [EVERYTHING] SUBMIT [UNDER] [HIS] [FEET]. [But] [when] [He said] [that] "[everything]" [has been made to submit], [it is obvious] [that] {"everything" is} [outside] [of the One Who] [made] [Every Last Thing] submit [to Him]. ²⁸[But] [when] [Every Last Thing] [has been made to submit] [to Him], [then] [The] [Son] [Himself] [will also] be submitted [to the One Who] [made] [Every Last Thing] submit [to Him], [so that] [The] [{Living} God] [is] [Every Last Thing] [in] [everything].

²⁹[Otherwise], [what] [will] [those who] [are baptized] [for the sake] [of The] [Dead] do [if] [Those Who Are Dead] [are not] going to arise [at all]? [Why] [are they even] baptized [for] [their] sake? ³⁰[And] [why] [are we] in danger [every] [Hour]? ³¹[Brothers], [your own] [Boasting] {is} [most definitely*] [the one that] [I] {also} have [in] [The Anointed One], [Jesus], [our] [Master]: "[I die] [each and every] [Day]." ³²[If]—[in terms of] [a Human]—[I fought with wild beasts*] [in] [Ephesus], [what is] [The] [Benefit] [for me]? [If] [Those Who Are Dead] [are not] going to arise, "[LET'S EAT] [AND] [DRINK], [FOR] [TOMORROW] [WE DIE]." ³³[Do not] be led astray: "[Awful] [Associates*] [are going to beguile] [really good] [Character*]." ³⁴[Sober up*] [as one should], [and] [do not] sin; [for] [some] [have] [an Ignorance] [of God]. [I am speaking] [to you] [about] [a Disgrace].

³⁵[But] [someone] [will say], "[How] [could] [The] [Dead] arise?" [And then] "[In what kind of] [Body] [are they going to come]?" ³⁶[Fool]! [What] [You] [sow] [is not] going to be given life [if] [it does not] die! ³⁷[And] [whatever] [You sow], [you do not] sow [The] [Body] [that] [will come to be], [but] [a] [naked] Grain, [whether]

[it obtains {the body}] [of Wheat] [or] [of one] [of The] [Rest of {the seeds}]. ³⁸[And then] [The] [{Living} God] [gives] [it] [a Body] [just as] [He wants], [and] [to each] [of The] [Seeds] [its own] [Body]. ³⁹[All] [Flesh] {is} [not] [The] [same] [Flesh]; [but] [on the one hand], {there is} [one {flesh}] [of Men], [but on the other hand], [another] [Flesh] [of Animals], [but on the other hand], [another] [Flesh] [of winged {creatures}*], [but on the other hand], [another {flesh}] [of Fish]. ⁴⁰{There are} [also] [Bodies] [in Heaven] [and] [Bodies] [on Earth]. [But] [on the one hand], [The] [Glory] [of the {bodies}] [in Heaven] {is} [different than {the glory of other bodies in Heaven}]; [but on the other hand], {their glory is} [different than] [the {glory}] [of the {bodies}] [on Earth]. ⁴¹{There is} [one] [Glory] [of Sun], [and] [another] [Glory] [of Moon], [and] [another] [Glory] [of Stars], [for] [{one} Star] [matters more than] [{another} Star] [in] [Glory].

⁴²[So] [also] [The] [Resurrection] [of The] [Dead]: (1) [It is sown] [with] [a Perishable Body]; [it arises] [with] [an Imperishable Body]; ⁴³(2) [it is sown] [with] [Dishonor]; [it arises] [with] [Glory]; (3) [it is sown] [with] [Infirmary]; [it arises] [with] [Supernatural Power]; ⁴⁴(4) [it is sown] [a {soul-ish} Body]; [it arises] [a {spiritual} Body]. [If] [there is] [a {soul-ish} Body], [there is] [also] [a spiritual {body}]. ⁴⁵[It has] [also] [been written] [this way]: “[The] [first] [Man]—[ADAM]—[WAS TURNED] [INTO] [A [LIVING] SOUL]”; [The] [last] [Adam], [into] [a Spirit] [that gives life]. ⁴⁶[But] [the] [spiritual {Man}] {is} [not] [first], [but] [the] [soul-ish {man}], [then] [the] [spiritual {Man}]. ⁴⁷[The] [first] [Man] {is} [out] [of Earth], [made of dirt]; [The] [second] [Man] {is} [out] [of Heaven]. ⁴⁸[The {man}] [made of dirt] {is} [of such a sort that] [those who are] [made of dirt] {are} [also] [like this one], [and] [the {Man}] [in Heaven] {is} [of such a sort that] [those who are] [in Heaven] {are} [also] [like this One]. ⁴⁹[And] [just as] [we have worn] [The] [Image] [of the {man}] [made of dirt], [we will] [also] [wear] [The] [Image] [of the {Man}] [in Heaven].

⁵⁰[Now] [I am declaring] [This], [Brothers], [because] [Flesh] [and] [Blood] [can] [not] [inherit] [God’s] [Kingdom]; [neither] [does] [The] [Perishable Body] [inherit] [The] [Imperishable Body]. ⁵¹[Guess what!] [I am going to tell] [you] [a Mystery]: [We will] [not] [all] [be fast asleep], [but] [we will] [all] [be changed], ⁵²[in] [an Instant*], [in] [a Blink*] [of an Eye], [at] [The] [last] [Trumpet]. [For] [He will sound a trumpet], [and] [The] [Dead] [will arise] [imperishable], [and] [we] [will be changed]. ⁵³[For] [This]

[Perishable Thing] [has] [to slip on] [an Imperishable Body], [and] [this] [Mortal Body] {has to} [slip on] [Immortality]. ⁵⁴[But] [when] [This] [Perishable Thing] [has slipped on] [an Imperishable Body], [and] [This] [Mortal Body] [has slipped on] [Immortality], [then] [The] [Word] [that] [has been written down] [will occur]:

“[DEATH] [HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP] [IN] [VICTORY].

⁵⁵[O DEATH], [WHERE IS] [YOUR] [VICTORY]?

[O DEATH], [WHERE IS] [YOUR] [STINGER]?”

(1 Corinthians 15:12–55) —my interim translation

The Truth that most “Christians” will never be able to accept—for the simple reason that they have been blinded by Satan’s lie—is the one that Paul states this way:

⁴²[So] [also] [The] [Resurrection] [of The] [Dead]: (1) [It is sown] [with] [a Perishable Body]; [it arises] [with] [an Imperishable Body]; ⁴³(2) [it is sown] [with] [Dishonor]; [it arises] [with] [Glory]; (3) [it is sown] [with] [Infirmary]; [it arises] [with] [Supernatural Power]; ⁴⁴(4) [it is sown] [a {soul-ish} Body]; [it arises] [a {spiritual} Body]. [If] [there is] [a {soul-ish} Body], [there is] [also] [a spiritual {body}]. ⁴⁵[It has] [also] [been written] [this way]: “[The] [first] [Man]—[ADAM]—[WAS TURNED] [INTO] [A [LIVING] SOUL]”; [The] [last] [Adam], [into] [a Spirit] [that gives life]. ⁴⁶[But] [the] [spiritual {Man}] {is} [not] [first], [but] [the] [soul-ish {man}], [then] [the] [spiritual {Man}]. ⁴⁷[The] [first] [Man] {is} [out] [of Earth], [made of dirt]; [The] [second] [Man] {is} [out] [of Heaven]. ⁴⁸[The {man}] [made of dirt] {is} [of such a sort that] [those who are] [made of dirt] {are} [also] [like this one], [and] [the {Man}] [in Heaven] {is} [of such a sort that] [those who are] [in Heaven] {are} [also] [like this One]. ⁴⁹[And] [just as] [we have worn] [The] [Image] [of the {man}] [made of dirt], [we will] [also] [wear] [The] [Image] [of the {Man}] [in Heaven].

(1 Corinthians 15:42–49) —my interim translation

My point is, the first Adam—our forefather—was not created in the image and likeness of God, Jesus Christ was. (See the booklet *In the Image and Likeness of God*.) And those who believe even that wee bit of Truth will be transformed into the image and likeness of God’s Spirit through their belief in that Truth. That is what Paul had in mind in the following passage, where

he is *talking about* the *mental* transformation that occurs when someone believes the Truth. That transformation is possible only through an *accurate* understanding of the true message of the Hebrew Scriptures as opposed to the legalistic “do this, don’t do that” interpretation that the Jews—and most Christians—believe:

⁷[But] [if] [The] [Serving] [of] [Death] [in] [Something That Had Been Written]—[that had been engraved*] [on Stones]—[came] [with] [Glory], [so] [The] [Sons] [of Israel] [could] [not] [stare] [at] [The] [Face] [of Moses] [because of] [The] [Glory] [of] [his] [Face], [which {glory}] [is going to be abrogated], ⁸[how] [could] [The] [Serving] [of The] [Spirit] [not] be [with] [even more] [Glory]? ⁹[For] [if] {there was} [Glory] [in The] [Serving] [of The] [Death Sentence], [The] [Serving] [of The] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [is going to exceed {that glory}] [with a lot] [more] [Glory]. ¹⁰[For] [even] [the {face} that] [had been glorified] [on] [This] [Part {of Israel}] [had] [not] {actually} been glorified [on account] [of The] [extraordinary] [Glory {of God}]. ¹¹[For] [if] [the {face} that] [is going to be abrogated] {was} [with] [Glory], [the {face} that] [is going to remain] {is} [with] [a lot] [more] [Glory]. ¹²[Therefore], [we] [who have] [a Hope] [like this] use [a lot of] [Candor], ¹³[and] {are} [not] [at all like] [Moses]; [he used to put] [a Covering] down [over] [his] [Face] [so that] [The] [Sons] [of Israel] [could] [not] [stare] [at] [The] [Consummation] [of the {face} that] [is going to be abrogated]. ¹⁴[But] [their] [Thoughts] [were turned to stone], [for] [up to the time] [of] [Day] [Today], [at] [The] [Reading] [of The] [old] [Testament] [The] [same] [Covering]—[which has] [not] [been uncovered]—[remains], [because] [it is] [abrogated] [in] [The Anointed One]. ¹⁵[But] [up to] [Today], [whenever] [it might be that] [Moses] [is read], [a Covering] [lies] [over] [their] [Hearts]; ¹⁶[but then] [whenever] [it may be that] [one turns back] [to] [His Majesty], [The] [Covering] [is removed]. ¹⁷[Now] [His Majesty] [is] [The] [Spirit], [so] [Freedom] {is} [wherever] [The] [Spirit] [of His Majesty] {is}. ¹⁸[But] [we] [who are looking at a reflection of] [The] [Glory] [of His Majesty] [in a mirror*] [with a Face] [that has been uncovered] [are] [all] [being transformed into] [The] [same] [Image] [from] {one} [Glory] [into] {another} [Glory], [even as] [a Spirit] [from] [His Majesty].

(2 Corinthians 3:7–18) —my interim translation

That is by no means the only passage where Paul talks about the *mental* transformation that God demands

from every True Believer. He says this about that in the Book of Romans:

¹[Therefore], [I implore] [you], [Brothers], [via] [The] [Compassion] [of The] [{Living} God], [to present] [your] [Bodies] [as a] [living], [holy] Sacrifice, [well-pleasing] [to The] [{Living} God]—[your] [logical] [Priestly Service]. ²[And] [do] [not] be shaped [by] [This] [Current Age], [but] [be transformed] [by The] [Renewing] [of your] [Mind], [so] [that] [you] [approve of] [what] [The] [Will] [of The] [{Living} God] {is}—[which is] [good] [and] [well-pleasing] [and] [complete].

³[For] [I tell] [everyone] [who] [is] [among] [you]—[via] [The] [Favor] [that] [was given] [to me]—[to] [not] have a more high-minded mind-set* [than] [{the} mind-set] [that] [one should] have, [but] [to have a mind-set] [so as] [to have good common sense]—[to each one] [as much as] [The] [{Living} God] [has divided out] [a Measure] [of Belief in God's **Promise**].

(Romans 12:1–3) —my interim translation

Here is another place where Paul talks about the same *mental* transformation that God requires of every True Believer:

⁹[For] [This Reason] [we] [have] [also], [since] [whatever] [Day] [we heard about] {your belief in God's **promise**}, [not] stopped [praying] [for] [you] [and] [requesting] [that] [you would be completely filled with] [The] [Full Knowledge of the Truth] [regarding] [His] [Will] [with] [all] [Wisdom] [and] [spiritual] [Insight], ¹⁰[so that] {you} may walk [worthy] [of] [His Majesty]: (1) [with] [every] [Desire to Please {Him}*], (2) [while bearing fruit] [in] [every] [good] [Work], [and] (3) [being made to grow] [into The] [Full Knowledge of the Truth] [regarding The] [{Living} God]; ¹¹(4) [being made able] {to grow}: (a) [by] [all] [Supernatural Power] [in accordance with] [The] [Power] [of] [His] [Glory], (b) [with] [all] [Perseverance] [and] [Patience], (c) [with] [Joy] ¹²(5) [giving thanks] [to The] [Father]: (a) [Who], [through] [The] [Light], [made] [you] [worthy of consideration] [for] [your] [Part] [of The] [**Inheritance**] [of The] [Holy Ones]; ¹³(b) [Who] [delivered] [us] [from] [The] [Authority] [of The] [Nether Darkness] [and] [displaced] {us} [into] [The] [Kingdom] [of] [His] [Son's] [Love]: ¹⁴(1) [in] [Whom] [we have] [our] [Emancipation], [The] [Forgiveness] [of our] [Sins]; ¹⁵(2) [Who] [is] [an

Image [of *The*] [*{Living}* God]—[*Who is*] [*invisible*]—[*{the}* Firstborn] [of *[all]* Creation].

(Colossians 1:9–15) —my interim translation

The point of this diatribe is, the *Living* God is *invisible*. And He is *invisible* because He is, just like us, *what He believes*. But unlike us, *what He believes* is *what He knows* with absolute certainty. It is also the Spirit that He is. That being the case, “*The only Way*” for anyone to be transformed into the image and likeness of the Spirit of the *invisible* God is to know the same things that He knows. So guess what? What God knows is what you find in an *accurate* understanding of the message of the Scriptures. If you didn’t already know that, that just reveals how far short of the mark you are going to fall on Judgment Day. That is because you have *chosen* to believe God does not expect you to grow in your understanding of the Truth until you come to a full knowledge of the same things that Jesus Christ understood. Unfortunately (for you), the Apostle Paul said that is the very thing God expects of you; and he said it a long, long time ago:

¹[Therefore], [if] [you have been raised up together with] [The] [Anointed One], [seek] [the things that are] [above], [where] [The] [Anointed One] [is] [sitting] [at] [The] [*{Living}* God’s] [Right Hand]. ²[Have your mind set on] [the things that are] [above], [not] [on the things that are] [on] [The] [Earth]. ³[For] [you have died], [and] [The] [Life] [you have] [has been hidden] [in] [The] [*{Living}* God], [along with] [The] [Anointed One].

⁴[When] [The] [Anointed One]—[The] [Life] [you have]—[is made visible], [then] [you] [will also] be made visible [in] [Glory]—[together with] [Him]. ⁵[Therefore], [deadened] [your] [Members] [that are] [on] [The] [Earth]: [Sexual Promiscuity], [Uncleanness]—[an Urge], [an awful] Selfish Desire—[even] [your] [Selfishness], [which] [is] [Idolatry]. ⁶[Because of] [which {things}] [The] [Anger] [of The] [*{Living}* God] [is going to come] [on] [The] [Sons] [of] [Apathy], ⁷[among] [whom] [at one time] [you] [also] [walked]—[when] [you were living] [for] [These Things].

⁸[But] [now] [Every Last One of] [you] [must also] set aside [from] [your] [Mouth]: [Anger], [Rage], [Awfulness], [False Religious Claim], [Shameful Speech*]. ⁹[Do [not] lie] [to] [one another], [after completely stripping off] [The] [old] [Man] [along with] [his] [Activities] ¹⁰[and] [*slipping on*] [*the*] [*young*] [*{man}*],

[*the one Who*] [*is being renewed*] [to] [*a Full Knowledge of the Truth*] [*corresponding to*] [*{the}* *Image*] [*of the One Who*] [*created*] [*Him*]....

(Colossians 3:1–10) —my interim translation

I make no bones about it, God called me to do what I am doing, and part of what He called me to do is ridicule those who *think they know* just because they are rapidly following the *oral tradition* of a madding crowd that has just a smattering of knowledge about one thing or another—most of which has nothing to do with *The Teaching* that the Early Church lost within a century after the Apostles died. Consequently, they will have a difficult time accepting the fact that God Himself called me to poke fun at them by pointing out the fundamental lack of logic in their beliefs.

No less a person than Jesus Christ Himself ridiculed the self-righteous buffoons in His day who had no idea they had long since lost the Truth of *The Teaching of Moses* and were facing Someone Who was none other than God Himself. But when Jesus ridiculed those who ignorantly *assumed* they knew the Truth just because so many others believed the same thing, He was just following in the footsteps of a long line of the Prophets of Israel who had done precisely the same thing to the religious leaders of their day. I happen to be especially fond of “*The Way*” Isaiah described the religious leaders of the Northern Kingdom when he said this:

⁶[You will be levied] [by] [His] [Supreme] Majesty] [With Thunder] [and Shaking] [and a [loud] Sound], [A Medicane] [and a Cyclone]

[and {the} Flame] [{of} a [consuming] Fire]!

⁷[Then [The Multitude] [{of} all] [The Gentiles] Will be] [like a Dream], [a Vision] [{of} Night]— [Those who wage war] [against] [The Lioness of God], [Even all] [who wage war against her] [and Her Fortress], [Even the ones who constrain] [Her].

⁸[Then it will be] [just like] [The One Who Is Hungry] [dreaming]:

[And look!] [He is eating]!

[Then he wakes up], [and [his Soul] is empty]!

[Or just like] [The One Who Is Thirsty]

[dreaming]:

[Look!] [He is drinking]!

[Then he wakes up], [and look!]

[He is weary], [and his Soul] [is rushing back and forth]!

[So will be] [The Multitude] [{of} all] [The Gentiles],
 [The ones who wage war] [against] [Mount] [Zion]!
⁹[Wait around] [and express bewilderment]!
 [Blind yourselves] [and be blind]!
 [Get drunk], [but not] [on] [Wine];
 [Move to and fro], [but not] [{because of} Liquor];
¹⁰[Because] [His Majesty] [has poured out a libation]
 [on you]—
 [A Spirit] [{of} Deep Sleep]—
 [And He has tightly shut] [your Eyes].
 [He has completely covered {the meaning of}]
 [The Prophets] [and your Heads], [The Seers].

¹¹[So [The [entire] Vision] has become] [for you] [like
 {the} Words of] [The [sealed up] Scroll] [that] [they give]
 [to one who knows {how to read}] [a Scroll], [saying],
 “[Read] [this], [please]!” [But he will say], “[I am [not]
 able] [because] [it] [is sealed up].” ¹²[Then [The Scroll]
 will be given] [to] [one who] [does [not] know {how to
 read}] [a Scroll], [saying], “[Read] [this], [please]!” [But
 he will say], “[I do [not] know {how to read}] [a Scroll].”
¹³[But [My Master] has said]:

“[For the simple reason] [that] [This] [People]
 [has come close] [with his Mouth],
 [And they have glorified Me] [with his Lips],
 [But his Heart] [has kept far away] [from Me],
 [And [their fearing] [Me] has become]
 [A Commandment of] [Men] [that has been learned],
¹⁴[Therefore], [Look! I am] [going to continue]
 [To cause [This] [People] [total] incomprehension],
 [and Something Incomprehensible].
 [So [The Wisdom of] [his Wise Men] will go to Hell].
 [And {the} Understanding of] [his understanding ones]
 [will hide itself].”
¹⁵[Woe to] [the ones who make {understanding} deep],
 [To hide] [a Plan] [from His Majesty],
 [So [The Things they Have Done] will be]
 [in a Dark Place];
 [So they can say], “[Who] [sees us]?”
 or “[Who] [knows us]?”
¹⁶[You are turning {it} around]!
 [If] [the One Who is forming] [is considered to be]
 [like The Clay],
 [Then] [What He Makes] [could say]
 [to the One Who made him],
 “[He did [not] make me]!”
 [And a Thing Formed] [could say]

[to {the} One Who formed him],
 “[He can [not] provide understanding]!”
 (Isaiah 29:6–16) —my interim translation

Isaiah is *talking about* the seven seals he and the other Prophets placed on the Hebrew Scriptures. The folks he was ridiculing—like the reader who wrote the question you asked me to respond to—had absolutely no knowledge at all of the God Who *chose* to reveal Himself to those who believe *the promise* that is explained in the pages of those Scriptures. Those numbskulls have no knowledge of the Truth because they have no interest in the Truth. Consequently, here at the End of the Age it has turned out to be exactly the same way that it was at the First Advent of Christ—those “scholars” who *think they know* don’t have a clue as to what the Prophets wrote about our generation. Consequently, they wouldn’t believe what God is going to do even if someone explained it to them—which they won’t:

^{16b}“[Listen], [Israelite] [Men], [and] [those who] [are
 afraid of] [The] [{Living} God]! ¹⁷[The] [{Living} God]
 [of] [This] [People] [Israel] [chose] [our] [Fathers], [and]
 [He elevated] [His] [People] [during] [their] [Earthly
 Sojourn] [in] [{the} Land] [of Egypt], [and] [He led [them]
 out] [of] [her] [with] [a [lofty] Arm]. ¹⁸[Then] [He endured
 [their] behavior*] [in] [The] [Desert] [for about] [a [forty-
 year] Span of Time]; ¹⁹[and], [after taking down] [seven]
 [Nations] [in] [{the} Land] [of Canaan], [He distributed
 [their] [Land] as an inheritance*]—²⁰[{a span of} about]
 [four hundred] [and] [fifty] [Years]. [And] [after] [These
 Things], [he gave] [Judges] [until] [Samuel] [The]
 [Prophet]. ²¹[And there] [they requested] [a King], [so]
 [The] [{Living} God] [gave] [them] [Saul], [Son] [of
 Kish*], [a Man] [from] [Benjamin’s] [Tribe], [for forty]
 [Years]. ²²[Then], [after displacing] [him], [He raised up]
 [David] [as] [a King] [for them], [to whom] [He [also]
 said], [when providing testimony], “[I FOUND] [DAVID]
 [THE {son}] [OF] [JESSE], [A MAN] [IN AGREEMENT WITH]
 [MY] [HEART], [who] [will act in accordance with] [My]
 [whole] [Will].” ²³[From] [The] [Seed] [of This Individual],
 [in accordance with] [a **Promise**], [The] [{Living} God]
 [brought [Jesus], [a Savior] [for] [Israel], here], ²⁴[after
 [John]—[ahead] [of] [His] [Entrance]—preached [a
 Baptism] [of an Apology] beforehand to*] [all] [The]
 [People] [of Israel]. ²⁵[But then], [when] [John] [was fully
 completing] [his] [Race], [he was saying]: “[I] [am] [not]

[what] [you conjecture] [me] [to be]! [But] [guess what!] [One is going to come] [after] [me] [of Whom] [I am] [not] [worthy] [to undo] [The] [Sandals] [of His] [Feet].'

²⁶[Men], [Brothers], [Sons] [of] [Abraham's] Kindred [and] [those] [among] [you] who [are afraid of] [The] [{Living} God], [The] [Word] [of] [This] [Salvation] [has been sent out] [to us]. ²⁷[For] [those who] [dwell] [in] [Jerusalem] [and] [their] [Rulers], [who did not understand] [This Individual] [and] [The] [Voices] [of The] [Prophets] [who] [are being read] [each and] [every] [Sabbath], [fulfilled {them}] [by judging {Him}]. ²⁸[Not [even] [finding] any] [Charge] [{worthy} of Death], [they requested of] [Pilate] [that [He] be put away]. ²⁹[And then], [as soon as] [they completed] [everything] [that] [had been written] [about] [Him], [after taking {Him} down] [from] [The] [Tree], [they put {Him} down] [in] [a Tomb]. ³⁰[But] [The] [{Living} God] [raised] [from] [Those Who Are Dead] [Him], ³¹[Who] [was seen] [over] [several more] [Days] [by those who] [had come up with] [Him] [to] [Jerusalem] [from] [Galilee]—[those who] [are] [now] [His] [Witnesses] [to] [The] [People]. ³²[So] [we] [are proclaiming to] [you] as the good news of **the fulfillment of the promise**—[The] [Promise] [that was made] [to] [our] [Fathers]—³³[because] [The] [{Living} God] [has fulfilled*] [This {promise}] [for us], [their] [Children], [after raising up] [Jesus] [as] [it had [also] been written] [in] [The] [Psalm]—[The] [Second One]:

'[You] [ARE] [My] [SON].
[I] [ENGENDERED] [You] [TODAY].'

³⁴[So], [because] [He raised up] [from] [Those Who Are Dead] [Him] [Who is [no longer] going] [to return] [to] [Decomposition], [He spoke] [like this], [that] 'I WILL GIVE] [YOU] [THE THINGS] [DEVOTED TO] [DAVID], [which are] [believable].' ³⁵[Because] [He [also] says] [in] [another {psalm}], '[YOU WILL [NOT] MAKE] [YOUR] [DEVOUT ONE] [SEE] [DECOMPOSITION].'³⁶[For] [on the one hand], [after assisting] [in The] [Decision] [of The] [{Living} God], [David] [fell fast asleep] [and] [was added] [to] [his] [Fathers] [in his own] [Generation], [and] [he saw] [Decomposition]. ³⁷[But on the other hand], [the One that] [The] [{Living} God] [raised up] [did [not] see] [Decomposition]. ³⁸[Therefore], [let it be] [known] [to you], [Men], [Brothers], [that] [Forgiveness] [of Sins] [is being proclaimed] [to you] [for] [This Reason]: [So that {you} may [also] be acquitted] [of] [everything] [in] [{the} Law] [of Moses] [that] [you could [not] do].

³⁹[Anyone] [who] [believes God's promise] [is going to be acquitted] [by] [This Individual]. ⁴⁰[Therefore], [look out, so that] [what] [has been stated] [in] [The] [Prophets] [does [not] come upon {you}]:

⁴¹'[You] [WHO DESPISE OTHERS*], [TAKE A LOOK] [AND] [BE AMAZED] [AND] [DISAPPEAR]! [BECAUSE] [I] [AM GOING TO DO] [A WORK] [IN] [YOUR] [DAYS], [A WORK] [THAT] [YOU WOULD] [DEFINITELY NOT] BELIEVE], [EVEN IF] [SOMEONE] [DESCRIBED {it} TO YOU] AT LENGTH AND IN DETAIL.'"
(Acts 13:16b–41) —my interim translation

You had best take a very close look at the passage in the Prophets that Paul quoted in that passage. He was obviously describing a time yet future to them, and warning them that they should be careful that the events the Prophet described did not overtake them. Here is my translation of what the Prophet said:

¹[The Oracle] [that] [The Prophet] [Habakkuk] [beheld].

²[How long] [must I cry for help], [Your Majesty], [And You will [not] hear]? [I cry out] [to You], "[Malice]!" [But You will [not] save].

³"[Why] [would You show Me] [Contention] [And [make Me look at] Misery]? [Devastation] [and Malice]

{are} [right out in front of Me], [So there is] [a Legal Case], [and Dispute] [carries on].

⁴[Therefore] [{the} Teaching] [is numb], [So [a [perpetual] Decision Based on the Truth] can [not] come out],

[Because] [One Who Is Guilty] [surrounds] [The One Who Is Not Guilty].

[Therefore] [a Decision Based on the Truth] [comes out] [bent out of shape].

⁵[Look] [at {the} Gentiles]!

[Then look at {your situation}]

[and express [total] bewilderment]!

[Because] [I am going to do] [a Deed] [in your Days]—[{That} You will [not] believe] [when] [it is recounted].

⁶[Because] [guess what! I am]

[going to raise up] [The Chaldeans], [The [bitter] [and quickly moving] Nation]

[The one that is going to move]
 [through Vast Expanses of] [The Earth]
 [To take possession] [Residences] {that are} [not] [his].
⁷[He is] [absolutely terrifying] [and fearsome];
 [His Judgment]—[and his Grandeur]—
 [comes] [from himself].
⁸[His Horses] [will be swifter] [than Leopards]
 [And sharper] [than Wolves] [{at} Evening].
 [But His Horsemen] [will jump around {things}],
 [And His Horsemen] [will come]
 [from a long ways away];
 [They will fly] [like a Griffon-Vulture]
 [moving quickly] [to consume].
⁹[All of him] [will come] [with Malice].
 [The Totality of] [their Faces] {will be} [eastward].
 [He will round up] [Captives] [like Sand].
¹⁰[And he] [will poke fun] [at Kings],
 [And Authorities] {will be}
 [a Laughing Matter] [to him].
 [He] [will laugh] [at every] [Fortress],
 [Then pile up] [Dirt] [and capture it].
¹¹[At that time], [a Spirit] [will change direction]
 [and cross over];
 [And [the one whose] [Power] {is} [his God]
 will be held guilty].”
 (Habakkuk 1:1–11) —my interim translation

To understand what Habakkuk is talking about, you need to know something I explained more than twenty-five years ago. In the very first issue of this newsletter, I said the Prophets used the King of Babylon as a *parabolic image* of the Antichrist. (See *The Voice of Elijah*®, October 1990.) At that time, I also told you Saddam Hussein was just a *parabolic harbinger* of the appearance of Satan, the real King of Babylon, in the person of the Antichrist. Then I pointed to Isaiah 14 as a passage that *parabolically* describes what lies in store for Satan after he is cast out of Heaven and shows up here on Earth in the person of the Antichrist:

¹[When] [His Majesty] [has compassion on] [Jacob],
 [and [once again] chooses] [Israel], [and gives them rest]
 [on] [their Ground], [The Temporary Resident] [will join
 himself] [to them]; [and he will partake] [with] [{the}
 House of] [Jacob]. ²[Peoples] [will take them] [and bring
 them] [to] [their Place]. [The House of] [Israel] [will
 inherit them]—[on] [The Ground of] [His Majesty]—[as
 Male Slaves] [and Female Slaves]. [They will be]

[Captors] [to their Captors] [and exercise authority] [over
 those who press them hard]! ³[Then it will be] [in {the}
 Day] [when [His Majesty] gives [You] rest] [from Your
 Pain] [and from Your Agitation] [and from] [The [hard]
 Transportation Work] [that] [has been done] [by You],
⁴[that You will take up] [this] [Parable] [against] [The
 King] [of Babylon] [and say]:

“[How] [does [one who presses hard] keep Sabbath]?
 [A Blusterer*] [is going to keep Sabbath]!

⁵[His Majesty] [has broken]
 [{the} Twig] [of those who are guilty]—
 [{The} Branch] [of those who have authority]!

⁶[Viciously striking] [Peoples]
 [with an Unbounded Rage]—
 [An Attack] [without any] [Turning Aside]!

[Exercising authority over] [Gentiles] [in Anger]—
 [A Pursuit*] [without] [holding {anything} back]!
⁷[The [whole] Earth] [is resting]—[is calm].

[They have broken out with] [a Joyful Shout]!

⁸[Even] [Cypress Trees]—[{the} Cedars of]
 [Lebanon]—[rejoice] [over You]:

‘[Since] [You have lain down],
 [The One Who cuts off] [has [not] come up]
 [against us]!’

⁹[The Sea of El] [below] [is disturbed] [for You]—
 [so as to meet {You}] [when You enter],
 [Waking up] [Rephaim] [for You]—
 [all] [{the} Billy Goats of] [Earth].

[Raising [all] [{the} Kings of] [Gentiles] up]
 [from their Thrones].

¹⁰[All of them] [will respond] [and say] [to You]:
 ‘[Even] [You] [are in torment] [like us]!
 [You are comparable] [to us]!’

¹¹[Your Loftiness]—[{the} Ruckus of] [Your Lutes]—
 [Has been brought down to] [The Sea of El]!
 [A Maggot] [has been spread out as a bed] [under You]!
 [Even Your Cover] {is} [a Worm]!’

¹²[How] [could You fall] [out of The Sea of Waters],
 [O Morning Star], [Son] [of Dawn]?
 [You have been severed] [to {the} Earth],
 [One who has been mowed down]
 [because of] [Gentiles]!

¹³[But You]! [You said] [in Your Heart]:
 ‘[I will climb up to] [The Sea of Waters]!
 [I will raise] [my Throne]
 [above] [The Stars of] [God],
 [And I will sit down] [on {the} Mountain]

[of The Appointed Time]—
 [In the Foothills of] [Zaphon].
¹⁴[I will climb up] [over]
 [{the} High Places of] [a Thunderhead].
 [I will be like] [Elyon]!
¹⁵[But] [You will be brought down] [to] [The Sea of El]!
 [To] [{the} Foothills of] [a Pit]!
¹⁶[Those who look] [at You] [will peer] [at You]!
 [They will try to understand]:
 '[Is this] [The Man] [who disturbed] [The Earth]?
 [Who made] [Kingdoms] quake?'
¹⁷[Who made] [The World] [like a Wilderness],
 [And broke down] [his Cities]?
 [Who would [not] free] [his Prisoners] [to {go} Home]?'
¹⁸[All] [{the} Kings of] [Gentiles]—
 [All of them]—[have lain down] [in Glory]!
 [Each One] [in his House]!
¹⁹[But You]! [You have been tossed] [out of Your Tomb]
 [Like a Scion] [that is abominable],
 [A Garment] [of those who have been killed]—
 [Of those who have been run through with*] [a Sword]!
 [Of those who are going down] [to] [{the} Stones of] [a Pit]
 [Like a Dead Body] [that is being trampled]!
²⁰[You will [not] be united] [with them] [in Burial],
 [Because] [You destroyed] [Your Country]!
 [You killed] [Your People]!
 [{The} Seed] [of those who do bad things]
 [will [not] be invited] [to a Burning Eternity]!
²¹[They will prepare] [for his Sons]
 [a Place for Slaughtering*]
 [In accordance with {the} Reprehensible Activity]
 [of their Fathers]!
 [They will [never] rise up]
 [and take possession of] [{the} Earth]
 [And fill [{the} Surface of] [The World] with] [Cities].

²²[But I will rise up] [against them],” [declares] [His
 [Supreme] Majesty]. “[And I will cut off] [Name],
 [Remnant], [Offspring], [and Posterity] [from Babylon]!”
 [declares] [His Majesty]. ²³“[And I will turn her] [into
 {the} Possession] [of a Porcupine] [and [watery]
 Wetlands]. [Then I will mop her*] [with a Mop*] [that
 will wipe {her} out],” [declares] [His [Supreme] Majesty].
 (Isaiah 14:1–23) —my interim translation

Get used to it; the Prophets of Israel *parabolically*
 depicted the Antichrist as the King of Babylon. The
 reality that stands behind that *parabolic image* is

the same one that stands behind the *parabolic image* in
 which the Earth is *parabolically* depicted in the Book of
 Revelation as “The Harlot” woman, Babylon the Great.
 The Truth is, the Earth is already Satan’s kingdom, a
 kingdom that he rules with an iron fist. Nothing hap-
 pens here on Earth that Satan does not control in one
 way or another. Hence the *parabolic image*.

Having reminded you of what I told you so long
 ago, I am now telling you that Habakkuk—who is
 thought to have prophesied around 610–600 B.C.—
 used the events leading up to the Babylonian Captivity
 in 587/586 B.C. as a *parabolic image* to describe what it is
 going to be LIKE at the End of the Age. *Believe it if you
 care to; disbelieve it if you dare to.* I don’t care much one
 way or the other, I’m just doing what God called me to
 do—warn True Believers that Satan’s lies have already
 lulled the majority of born-again Believers into compla-
 cency. They are thinking they are going to be raptured
 before the Antichrist appears, when the Truth is they
 have already been taken in by a tremendous delusion.

Paul knew Habakkuk was describing the appear-
 ance of the Antichrist, so he warned the Jews to be
 careful lest the events that Habakkuk describes catch
 them unawares. I am telling you precisely the same
 thing. The events described in the following passage
 are just around the corner; and when they arrive, only
 a select few are going to be protected from the brutality
 Satan inflicts on the minds of men:

¹[Then] [The] [fifth] [Messenger] [sounded a
 trumpet], [and] [I saw] [a Star] [that had fallen] [to] [The]
 [Earth] [out] [of] [Heaven], [and] [The] [Key] [to
 The] [Cistern] [of The] [Abyss] [was given] [to him]. ²[So]
 [he opened] [The] [Cistern] [of The] [Abyss], [and] [Smoke]
 [like] [{the} Smoke] [of a [large] Furnace] [came up] [out]
 [of The] [Cistern]; [and] [The] [Sun]—[and] [The] [Air]—
 [was darkened] [because] [of The] [Smoke] [of The]
 [Cistern]. ³[Then] [Locusts] [came out] [of] [The] [Smoke]
 [into] [The] [Earth], [and] [an Authority] [was given] [to
 them], [like] [The] [Scorpions] [of The] [Earth] [have] [an
 Authority]. ⁴[And] [they] [were told] [that] [they could
 [not] harm {anything}]—[The] [Grass] [of The] [Earth]
 [or] [anything] [green] [or] [any] [Tree]—[except] [The]
 [Men] [who] [do [not] have] [The] [Seal] [of
 The] [{Living} God] [on] [their] [Foreheads]. ⁵[And] [{the
 authority} was given] [to them] [so that] [they could [not]
 kill] [them], [but] [so that] [they would be tormented] [five]
 [Months], [and] [their] [Torment] {is going to be} [like]

[{the} Torment] [of a Scorpion] [when] [it strikes] [a Man]. ⁶[And] [Men] [will seek] [Death] [in] [Those] [Days], [and] [they will definitely not] find [it], [and] [they will desire] [to die], [and] [Death] [is going to flee] [from] [them].

⁷[And] [The] [Likenesses] [of The] [Locusts] {were} [just like] [Horses] [prepared] [for] [War], [and] [on] [their] [Heads] {were} [like] [Crowns] [just like] [Gold], [and] [their] [Faces] {were} [like] [Men's] [Faces]. ⁸[And] [they had] [Hair] [like] [Women's] [Hair], [and] [their] [Teeth] [were] [like] [Lions' {teeth}]. ⁹[And] [they had] [Breastplates] [like] [Breastplates] [of iron], [and] [The] [Sound] [of] [their] [Wings] {was} [like] [{the} Sound] [of Chariots]—[of a Lot] [of Horses] [running] [into] [War]. ¹⁰[And] [they have] [Tails] [and] [Stingers] [just like] [Scorpions], [and] [their] [Authority] [to harm] [Men] [for five] [Months] {is} [in] [their] [Tails]. ¹¹[They have] [a King] [over] [them]—[The] [Messenger] [of The] [Abyss]. [In Hebrew] [he has] [{the} Name] **[Abaddon*]**, [and] [in] [The] [Greek Language*] [he has] [{the} Name] **[Apollyon*]**.

(Revelation 9:1–11) —my interim translation

That is a *parabolic* description of the “horses” the “Chaldean” “horsemen” that Habakkuk mentions are going to be “riding” when they arrive here on Earth. Trust me, the “horsemen” sitting on those diabolical “horses” are going to commit more atrocities than the “horses” they are riding. Do I expect the pulpit parrots and pompous pedantic penguins in control of the Church today to believe that? No way. They are going to do exactly what the Apostle Peter said they would:

¹[Beloved Brothers], [I am [already] writing] [This] [second] [Letter] [to you], [by] [which] [I am {trying to} wake up] [your] [unalloyed] [Understanding {of the truth}] [with] [a Reminder] ²[to recall]: (1) [The] [Comments] [that were made beforehand] [by] [The] [holy] [Prophets]; [and] (2) [The] [Commandment] [of your] [Master] [and] [Savior], [via your] [Apostles], ³[knowing] [This] [first of all], [That] **[in] [The] [last] [Days] [Mockers] [will come] [with] [Mockery*]—[those who are walking] [in accordance with] [their] [own] [Selfish Desires]** ⁴[and] [saying]: “Where [is] [The] [Promise] [of] [His] [Coming]? [For] [ever since] [The] [Fathers] [fell fast asleep]—[since] [The] [Beginning] [of Creation]—[everything] [continues to be] [the same].” ⁵[For] [wanting] [This] [to be {true}],

[it has escaped] [their] notice] [that] [{the} Heavens] [were] [from long ago] [and] [{the} Earth] [stood up together with {them}] [out] [of Water] [and] [through] [Water] [by The] [Word] [of The] [{Living} God], ⁶[by] [which] [The] [World] [then], [which was flooded by*] [Water], [was done away with]. ⁷[But] [now] [The] [Heavens] [and] [The] [Earth], [which have been stored up] [by The] [same] [Word], [are] [being kept] [for a Fire] [on] [{the} Day] [of {the} Sentencing] [and] [Destruction] [of] [depraved] [Men].

(2 Peter 3:1–7) —my interim translation

Fools assume the rainbow that appears in the sky after it rains *means* the Lord *promised* Noah He would never wipe out an entire civilization “*The Way*” He did way back then. They should check their inbox; they have another think coming. The Flood that Noah faced pales in comparison to the nuclear holocaust that Satan has planned for this generation. Planet Earth—“*The Harlot*,” Babylon the Great—is going to burn just as Zephaniah (and John the Revelator) said she would. So you can believe it now and get prepared for that towering inferno, or you can regret it later on. Your *choice*. I don’t care much one way or the other. I’m just doing what God called me to do. *Believe it if you care to:*

¹⁴[{The} [great] Day] [of His Majesty] {is} [near], [Near], [and moving] [very] quickly; [The Sound] [of {the} Day] [of His Majesty] {is} [bitter]! [A **Gibbor**] [will sound a war-cry] [there]. ¹⁵[That] [Day] {is} [A Day] [of Unbounded Rage], [A Day] [of Distress] [and a Reason for Anxiety], [A Day] [of a Devastating Storm] [and Total Devastation], [A Day] [of Darkness] [and Nether Gloom], [A Day] [of Cloud] [and Dense Fog], ¹⁶[A Day] [of Trumpet] [and **Teruah**] [Against] [The [enclosed] Cities] [And against] [The [high] Corners]. ¹⁷[Then I will be hostile] [to Adam]; [And they will walk] [like those who are blind], [Because] [they sinned] [against His Majesty]; [So their Blood] [will be poured out] [like Dust] [And their Bowels] [like Dung]. ¹⁸[Neither] [their Silver] [nor] [their Gold] [Will be able] [to snatch them away] [On {the} Day] [of {the} Unbounded Rage] [of His Majesty],

[When [The [entire] Earth] [will be consumed]
by {the} Fire] [of His Jealousy];
[Because] [He will make] [a Complete End]—
[One that is [definitely] frightening]—
[Of all] [the Inhabitants of] [The Earth].
(Zephaniah 1:14–18) —my interim translation

This is “The Way” John describes the circumstances leading up to the nuclear holocaust the Antichrist is going to intentionally precipitate:

¹[Then] [one] [of] [The] [seven] [Messengers] [who] [have] [The] [seven] [Bowls] [came] [and] [spoke] [with] [me], [saying]: “[Come here]! [I will show] [You] [The] [Judgment] [of The] [Prostitute]—[The] [Great One], [the one who] [is sitting] [on] [many] [Waters]—²[with] [whom] [The] [Kings] [of The] [Earth] [were sexually promiscuous], [and] [those who] [dwell on] [The] [Earth] [became intoxicated] [by] [The] [Wine] [of] [her] [Sexual Promiscuity].” ³[Then] [He carried] [me] [away] [in] [{the} Spirit] [into] [a Desert]; [and] [I saw] [a Woman] [sitting] [on] [a scarlet] [Beast] [with Names] [that are full] [of False Religious Claims], [{a beast} that has] [seven] [Heads] [and] [ten] [Horns]. ⁴[And] [The] [Woman] [was] [wrapped in] [purple] [and] [scarlet], [and] [gilded with] [Gold] [and] [valuable] [Stones] [and] [Pearls], [holding] [a Cup] [made of gold] [in] [her] [Hand]—[one that is full] [of Abominations] [and] [The] [Unclean Things] [of] [her] [Sexual Promiscuity], ⁵[and] [on] [her] [Forehead], [a Name] [that had been written], [a Mystery]: “[BABYLON] [THE] [GREAT], [THE] [MOTHER] [OF THE] [PROSTITUTES] [AND] [ABOMINATIONS] [OF THE] [EARTH].” ⁶[So] [I saw] [The] [Woman]—[who was intoxicated] [by] [The] [Blood] [of The] [Holy Ones] [and] [by] [The] [Blood] [of The] [Witnesses] [of Jesus]—[and] [I was amazed] [after seeing] [her]—[a [tremendously] Amazing Thing]. ⁷[Then] [The] [Messenger] [said] [to me]: “[Why] [are you amazed]? [I] [will tell] [You] [The] [Mystery] [of The] [Woman] [and] [The] [Beast] [that] [is carrying] [her]—[the one that] [has] [The] [seven] [Heads] [and] [The] [ten] [Horns].

⁸[The] [Beast] [that] [You saw] [was], [and] [is] [not], [and] [is going] [to come up] [out] [of The] [Abyss] [and] [go on] [to] [Destruction]. [Yet] [those who] [dwell] [on] [The] [Earth], [those whose] [Name] [has] [not] [been written] [on] [The] [Scroll] [of] [Life] [from] [{the} Establishment] [of The World], [will be amazed] [when {they} see] [that] [The] [Beast] [was] [and] [is] [not] [and]

[will be here]. ⁹[Here] {is} [The] [Mind] [that] [has] [Wisdom]: [The] [seven] [Heads] [are] [seven] [Mountains] [where]—[on] [which]—[The] [Woman] [is sitting]. ¹⁰[They are] [also] [seven] [Kings]: [The] [Five] [have fallen], [The] [One] [is], [The] [Other] [has] [not yet] [come]; [and] [when] [he comes], [he] [has] [to continue on] [just a little while]. ¹¹[And] [The] [Beast] [that] [was] [and] [is] [not] [is] [himself] [also] [an Eighth], [yet] [he is] [one] [of The] [Seven], [and] [is going on] [to] [Destruction]. ¹²[And] [The] [ten] [Horns] [that] [You saw] [are] [ten] [Kings] [who] [have] [not yet] [received] [a Kingdom], [but] [they are going to receive] [an Authority] [as] [Kings] [with] [The] [Beast] [for] [one] [Hour]. ¹³[These Individuals] [have] [one] [Opinion] [and] [are going to give] [their] [Supernatural Power] [and] [Authority] [to The] [Beast]. ¹⁴[These Individuals] [will wage war] [with] [The] [Little Lamb]; [and] [The] [Little Lamb] [will triumph over] [them], [because] [He is] [Master] [of Masters] [and] [King] [of Kings]; [and] [those who are] [with] [Him] {are} [invited] [and] [chosen] [and] [trustworthy].”

¹⁵[Then] [he tells] [me]: “[The] [Waters] [that] [You saw]—[where] [The] [Prostitute] [is sitting]—[are] [Peoples] [and] [Crowds] [and] [Nations] [and] [Tongues]. ¹⁶[And] [The] [ten] [Horns] [and] [The] [Beast] [that] [You saw]? [These Individuals] [will hate] [The] [Prostitute]; [so] [they will make] [her] [deserted] [and] [naked], [and] [eat] [her] [Flesh] [and] [burn] [her] [up] [in] [a Fire]. ¹⁷[For] [The] [{Living} God] [has put] [it] [in] [their] [Hearts] [to act in accordance with] [His] [Opinion]—[even] [to act in accordance with] [one] [Opinion]—[and] [to give] [their] [Kingdom] [to The] [Beast] [up to the time when] [The] [Words] [of The] [{Living} God] [are completed]. ¹⁸[And] [The] [Woman] [that] [You saw] [is] [The] [City]—[The] [Great One] [that] [has] [a Kingdom] [over] [The] [Kings] [of The] [Earth].”
(Revelation 17:1–18) —my interim translation

If you have any interest at all in the Truth, you might want to compare what is plainly stated about the Living God in that passage with the ever-loving, namby-pamby god of unconditional grace that the pulpit parrots preach from their pulpits every Sunday. Their “god” is nothing more than a fiction promoted by Satan. It is also a central part of the delusion that God Himself has made sure this generation believes. I didn’t say that; the Apostle Paul did—when he talked about the appearance of the Antichrist in this passage:

¹[So], [Brothers], [we are asking [you] {to do something}] [for the sake of] [The] [Coming] [of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One], [and] [our] [Assembling] [to] [Him], ²[so] [that] [you] [would] [not] be shaken [quickly] [out] [of your] [Mind], [or] [be alarmed]—[not even] [by] [a Spirit] [or] [by] [a Word] [or] [by] [a Letter] [as if it were {written}] [by] [us]—[as] [though] [it is currently] [The] [Day] [of] [His Majesty]. ³[Do] [not] let [anyone] dupe [you] [in] [any] [Way] at all, [that] [it may] [not] be that [The] [Apostasy] [must come] [first] [and] [The] [Man] [of The] [Lawless One]—[The] [Son] [of his] [Destruction]—[must be revealed], ⁴[the one who] [is opposed to], [and] [exalts himself] [over], [everything] [that is called] [a God] [or] [Object of Worship], [with the result that] [he] [sits down] [in] [The] [Sanctuary] [of The] [{Living} God], [presenting himself] as convincing evidence [that] [he is] [God]. ⁵[Do you] [not] remember [that] [I was telling] [you] [These Things] [while {I} was] [still] [with] [you]? ⁶[So] [you are aware of] [what] [is holding {him} fast] [now], [so] [that] [he] [can be revealed] [in] [his] [own] [Time]. ⁷[For] [The] [Mystery] [of The] [Lawless One] [is] [already] working in {them}—[the one who] [is] [only] holding {them} fast [at this time] [until] [he comes] [out] [of] {their} Midst]. ⁸[And] [then] [The] [One Who Is Lawless] [will be revealed]: (1) [the one whom] [His Majesty], [Jesus], [will put away] [by The] [Spirit] [of] [His] [Mouth] [and] [abrogate] [by The] [Appearance] [of] [His] [Coming]; ⁹(2) [the one whose] [Arrival] [is] [in accordance with] [Satan's] [Energy], [with] [all] [Supernatural Power] [and] [Signs] [and] [Wonders]—[Lies]—¹⁰[and] [with] [all] [{the} Deceitfulness] [of Immorality] [for those who] [are going to be done away with] [because] [they did] [not] accept [The] [Love] [of The] [Truth] [so] [that] [they] [could be saved]. ¹¹[So] [for] [This Reason] [The] [{Living} God] [will send] [them] [a] [deceptive] [Energy] [so] [that] [they] [believe] [his] [Lie], ¹²[so that] [all] [who] [did] [not] believe [The] [Truth] [but] [were delighted with] [his] [Immorality] [can be judged].

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

I will conclude this sarcastic soapbox session with a brief response to the following quote from the letter you received:

"Naming your site The Voice of Elijah evokes miraculous expectations for the site content which turns out to be

satanic deception of those 'who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness' 2 Thessalonians 2:8–12)."

Just keep thinking those happy thoughts. Reality will finally dawn on you when you see the Son of the Man riding on those nuclear clouds of glory.

Editor: *Another man who has been reading some of your material sent this note to you:*

"I just want to thank you for your wonderful insight into the scriptures. I have never really been moved or even trusted organized religion, and one of the reasons for my lack of interest is that I've always believed most, if not all, church leaders don't have a real clue as to what the Bible is saying or, for that matter, don't trust their interpretation. Deep down inside I've always believed the institutions are missing something. I've read your Mystery of Scripture, Vol. 1 as well as Not All Israel Is Israel with much interest. God bless you for your teachings. Are there any other books which are available now as part of the resurrection theology series? If so, which ones?

Now on to my question: I've encountered several interpretations for Genesis 6:2–6 which mentions that 'the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair & took to wife such as them as they chose.' Then there is the mentioning of the Giants that walked among the earth. Some evangelicals use this wording to suggest that the sons of God (fallen angels) took as wives the daughters of men producing this bastardized hybrid of Giants which was one of the reasons God had to destroy the earth with the flood. Some of these groups base that finding on a verse in Job, in which there is a mention of the sons of God who sang for joy, as proof that angels had sexual relations with humans since sons of God could mean no other such person(s). There is another school of thought which states that the sons of God were from the righteous line of Seth & that line took as wives the daughters of men which would be Cain's line (who produced polygamists & murderers) which furthered the evil of mankind. Books now are everywhere on the market with this hot topic about fallen angels having intercourse with human women. I tend to believe the second school of thought, but I'm still not sure?

In Irenæus' book Against Heresies Vol. 5, Chapter 29, paragraph 2, he mentions the commixture of wickedness which took place previous to the deluge due to the apostasy of the angels. What was the apostasy of the angels? Was it

what the first school of thought believes about fallen angels having sex with human women? Or was it something else?"

Elijah: The short answer is, it's "the first school of thought." And if you think the messengers have stopped engaging in those shenanigans, you might want to think again. Their perversion is, in fact, the very reason Moses instituted the laws regarding sexual promiscuity. Acts 15:29 tells us the Apostles decided those laws still applied to the Gentiles. So any woman who has a one-night stand is leaving herself wide open to domination by Satan. The Apostle Paul is referring to the fact that messengers were still coming over into this realm when he says this:

²[Now] [I commend] [you] [because] [you recall] [and] [hold fast] [everything] [I have]—[The] [Oral Traditions]—[just as] [I handed {them} over] [to you]. ³[But] [I want] [you] [to be aware] [that] [The] [Head] [of every] [Man] [is] [The] [Anointed One], [and then] [The] [Man] {is} [Head] [of a Woman], [and then] [The] [{Living} God] {is} [Head] [of The] [Anointed One]. ⁴[Every] [Man] [who prays] [or] [prophesies] [when {he} has {something}] [on] {his} [Head] [embarrasses] [his] [Head]. ⁵[Yet] [every] [Woman] [who prays] [or] [prophesies] [with her] [Head] [uncovered] [embarrasses] [her] [Head], [for] [she is] [one] [and] [the] [same] [with the one who] [has been shaved]. ⁶[For] [if] [a Woman] [does not] [cover herself up], [she must also] [shear herself]. [But] [if] {it is} [shameful] [that] [a Woman] [shears herself] [or] [is shaved], [she must cover herself up]. ⁷[For] [a Man] [who is] [God's] [Image] [and] [Glory] [does not], [in fact], [have an obligation] [that] [his] [Head] [be covered up]; [but] [The] [Woman] [is] [a Man's] [Glory]. ⁸[For] [a Man] [is] [not] [part] [of a Woman], [but] [a Woman] {is} [part] [of a Man]. ⁹[For] [a Man] [was not] [even] [created] [for] [The] [Woman], [but] [a Woman] [for] [The] [Man]. ¹⁰[For] [That Reason] [The] [Woman] [has an obligation] [to have] [a {sign of} Authority] [on] [her] [Head]—[because of] [The] [Messengers].

(1 Corinthians 11:2–10) —my interim translation

In another passage that is definitely focused on God's hatred of sexual promiscuity, Jude refers to the messengers who came over from their realm into this realm for the purpose of having sexual intercourse with women:

³[Beloved Brothers], [while acting in accordance with] [all] [Concern For {you}] [to write] [to you] [about] [our] [common] [Salvation], [I had] [a Pressing Need] [to write] [to you] [imploing {you}] [to seriously fight for*] [The] [Belief in God's **Promise**] [that was handed over] [to The] [Holy Ones] [{only} one time]. ⁴[For] [some] [Men] [have also slipped in*]—[those] [who have] [long since] [been written down earlier] [for] [This] [Judgment], [depraved {individuals}] [who are taking] [The] [Favor] [of] [our] [God] [back] [into] [Licentiousness] [and] [denying] [our] [only] [Slave Owner] [and] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One]. ⁵[But] [I am determined] [to remind] [you]—[you] [who are aware of] [All {these} Things]—[that] [after] [His Majesty] [saved] [a People] [out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt] [one time], [The] [Second Time] [He did away with] [those who] [did not] [believe God's promise]. ⁶[And even] [Messengers] [who] [did not] [keep watch over] [their] [Area of Rule] [themselves] [but] [left] [their] [own] [Housing] [He has kept] [in everlasting] [Bonds] [under] [Nether Gloom] [for] [Sentencing] [on {that} most important] [Day]. ⁷[Like] [Sodom] [and] [Gomorra] [and] [The] [Cities] [around] [them] [that indulged in sexual promiscuity*] [and] [went] [after] [another] [Flesh] [in the same way], [just like] [These {Messengers}]—[who are being held under*] [a Penalty] [of an {eternal} Fire]—[they lie before {us}] [as an Example*].

(Jude 1:3–7) —my interim translation

Finally, the Apostle Peter also alludes to the fact that the messengers came from their realm into this realm for sex. In a passage that closely follows what Jude wrote—leading to the belief that Jude may have rewritten what Peter wrote so as to clarify what Peter had in mind—Peter links the sexual perversion of the messengers with that of Sodom and Gomorra as the reason for the Flood:

¹[But] [there were] [also] [False Prophets] [among] [The] [People], [as] [also] [there will be] [False Teachers*] [among] [you], [who] [will surreptitiously introduce*] [Sects] [of Destruction] [and] [deny] [The] [Slave Owner] [Who bought] [them], [bringing upon] [themselves] [an imminent] [Destruction]. ²[And] [Many] [will take off after {them}] [in] [their] [Licentiousness], [because of] [whom] [The] [Way] [of The] [Truth] [will have false religious claims made about it]; ³[and] [in] [Selfishness] [they will trade on] [you] [with fabricated*] [Words], [for

whom] [The] [Judgment] [from long ago] [is [not] idle*], [and] [their] [Destruction] [is [not] nodding off].

⁴[For] [if] [The] [Living] God: (1) [did [not] spare] [Messengers] [who sinned], [but] [after imprisoning {them} in Tartarus*] [with Cords*] [of Nether Gloom], [He handed [those who are being kept] over] [for] [Sentencing]; ⁵[and] (2) [did [not] spare] [The [ancient] World] [but] [guarded] [an Eighth], [Noah], [a Preacher] [of a Declaration of Not Guilty], [after bringing [a Flood] upon] [The World] [of {the} depraved]; ⁶[and] (3) [condemned] [{the} Cities] [of Sodom] [and] [Gomorra] [when {he} burned {them} to ashes*] [in an Overthrowing] [that was put down as] [a Perfect Example] [of those who are going to be] [depraved]; ⁷[and] (4) [delivered] [blameless] [Lot], [who was being harassed] [by] [The] [Behavior] [of those who were] [morally corrupted] [by] [Licentiousness]—⁸[for] [The] [One Who Was Blameless], [by Seeing*] [and] [Hearing {them}] [while dwelling*] [among] [them] [Day] [after] [Day], [was tormenting] [{his} blameless Soul] [by {their} lawless] Works—⁹[His Majesty] [knows how] [to deliver] [a godly {person}] [from] [a Test], [yet] [keep] [Those Who Are Guilty]—[those who are being detained]—[for] [{the} Day] [of Sentencing], ¹⁰[but] [in particular] [those who] [walk on] [after] [Flesh] [with] [a Selfish Desire] [for Defiling {themselves}*], [and] [those who despise] [Lordship]. [Stubborn] [Risk Takers*] [do [not] tremble] [when making false religious claims about] [Glory] ¹¹[wherever] [Messengers], [who are] [more tremendous] [in Might] [and] [Supernatural Power], [do [not] bring] [a [False Religious Claims] Sentence] [against] [them] [before] [His Majesty].

(2 Peter 2:1–11) —my interim translation

There is actually a whole lot more to the story of the messengers “taking” women to “build a house,” “raise up a seed,” and “make a name” for themselves at the time of the Flood. Those dullards actually thought they could beat God at His Own game and *fulfill the promise* by doing what He did with Mary. In that, they were doing the same thing that mankind *thought* they could do at the Tower of Babel and what the sacred prostitutes of the Canaanites were trying to do each and every day. So now here we are at the End of the Age, and simpletons are once again *thinking* they can *fulfill the promise* by just believing the lie that the Antichrist is Jesus Christ, *the Heir of the promise*. But guess what? It ain’t gonna work this time either.

Editor: *We have had an inquiry from someone who requested information about The Next Step program. He wrote this:*

“Could you tell me what your next step program is? It is mentioned in the newsletters but does not explain what it is or how to be a part of it. I am interested in it. Hopefully it is the next step in my belief process and will help me to grow even more.”

Elijah: The Next Step is just a way for me to provide information to people who are interested in learning what I am learning as soon as I learn it, but before I am ready to present it to the general public. My purpose in putting together materials for The Next Step participants is to help me organize my thoughts regarding the things I am learning so that I can put them into a final form for distribution. For that reason I require every Next Step participant to sign a Non-disclosure Agreement by which they agree not to discuss the things they are learning with anyone outside their immediate family, so everyone must submit an application for admission to the program. An Admissions Committee evaluates every application to try to determine whether or not the applicant’s motives in joining the program are honest.

The value of the information I provide The Next Step participants consists in the fact that it will most likely not be available to the general public for several more years. For example, in 1994 I briefly explained the things I wrote about in the January and April 2017 issues of this newsletter. So some of the participants in The Next Step have known about those things for over twenty years. But a lot of the other things I explained in those early years take up where the booklet titled *In the Image and Likeness of God* leaves off.

I am currently explaining things in The Next Step that I tentatively plan to put into the book titled *Prophecy and the Parables of Jesus*. I say “tentatively” only because I have not yet fully figured out how to approach that topic; not to mention the fact that I do not yet have all the raw data I need to complete it.

Editor: *One of our readers received the questionnaire an applicant for The Next Step program must fill out and submit for consideration for acceptance into that program. He sent an inquiry on a subject that came to his mind while filling it out. He wrote:*

"I'm a little confused in regards to the intent of the extensive questionnaire in order to enter The Next Step program. Is it to try to weed out Pretenders, so called? I say 'so called' because though the categories of True Believer and Pretender are surely legitimate, how that plays out in real time application is totally beyond me. I'm barely a two year old Christian, delivered out from deep within the pit so I'm sure it's probably my immaturity in these matters.

What keeps coming to mind is the fact that Peter betrayed his Lord three times when put to the test. Strictly speaking by denying Christ before men, Jesus would then deny Peter before the Father. Peter is a Pretender, right? Case closed. All the other disciples denied Jesus as well. Judas is pegged as the betrayer of Jesus, but did not all the 12 disciples betray Jesus in truth and in fact? But that's not how things played out as we know. So, circling back around to my question, how can we be in a position of saying with any kind of certainty, 'Hey, that guy there, he is a Pretender.'"

Elijah: That is a legitimate question, but in asking it the reader has revealed his mind-set is based on more than one false assumption. His first mistaken assumption is regarding the purpose of the application for admission to The Next Step. That application has nothing to do with weeding out Pretenders. Neither does it have anything to do with determining whether or not someone has been born again. Its basic purpose is to determine whether or not someone is being honest in their reason for applying for admission to The Next Step program. That is, I just want to know who the person is before allowing him or her access to raw data I am planning to put in future publications.

Let me explain a bit more about why I require an application for admission to The Next Step. When I started that program more than twenty years ago, the only requirements were a signed Non-disclosure Agreement and a monthly contribution to *The Voice of Elijah*® of \$200 or more per month. I soon discovered people were more than willing to do those two things, so before very long quite a few people were receiving the information I provided.

A decade or so later, I discovered one of the participants was using the things he learned from me in his own "ministry." Not only was that activity contrary to the Non-disclosure Agreement he had signed, it was also contrary to a statement I have frequently made

that I am not giving anyone the authority I have to teach what I teach. His actions told me he did not believe God had called me to prepare True Believers for the appearance of the Antichrist; his only concern was to use what I teach to impress others. That is the reason why I instituted the requirement that everyone submit an application for admission into the program. I want to know who they are and what their motives are. Nonetheless, I have turned the responsibility for approving each application over to an Admissions Committee who approves or rejects each one.

Are some applicants for admission turned down? Yes, they are. But the basis on which they are turned down has nothing to do with them being a Pretender or not being born again. There are, I am sure, many in The Next Step who are Pretenders, and just as many who have not been born again. But it is not my responsibility to ensure that those people are confronted with the nature of their situation. My only concern is that I provide all of the participants who are born-again with the information they need to come to a full knowledge of the Truth God has revealed in the Scriptures. Their concern should be to make sure they are honest with God so that the information they receive can actually transform them into the very image and likeness of God Himself.

The second mistaken assumption the reader has made relates to his belief that Peter denied Christ when he *denied that he knew Christ*. Peter did not deny Christ in the way that Jesus *meant* when He said the following:

²⁴"[A Disciple] [is] [not] [greater than] [his] [Teacher], [neither] {is} [a Slave] [greater than] [his] [Owner]. ²⁵{It is} [enough] [for The] [Disciple] [that] [he has become] [like] [his] [Teacher], [and] [The] [Slave] [like] [his] [Owner]. [If] [they call] [The] [Owner of the House] [Beelzebul], [how much] [more] [The] [Members of] [His] House?"

²⁶[Therefore], [do [not] be afraid of] [them], [for] [there is] [nothing] [that has been covered] [that] [will [not] be revealed], [and] [hidden] [that] [will [not] be made known]. ²⁷[Whatever] [I tell] [you] [in] [The] [Darkness], [speak] [in] [The] [Light]; [and] [whatever] [you hear] [in] [your] [Ear], [preach] [on top] [of their] [Domiciles]. ²⁸[And] [do [not] be afraid] [of] [the things that] [kill] [The] [Body] [but] [can] [not] [kill] [The] [Soul]; [but] [instead], [be afraid of] [the One

Who] [can] [do away with] [both] [Body] [and] [Soul] [in] [The Trash Pit]. ²⁹[Are [two] [Sparrows] [not] sold for] [a 4-cent piece]? [And] [not] [one] [of] [them] [will fall] [onto] [The] [Earth] [without] [your] [Father]. ³⁰[But] [even] [all] [The] [Hairs] [of] [your] [Head] [are] [numbered]. ³¹[Therefore], [do [not] be afraid]; [you] [matter more than] [many] [Sparrows].

³²[Therefore], [anyone] [who] [acknowledges the truth] [with regard to] [Me] [in front] [of] [Men], [I also] [will acknowledge the truth] [with regard to] [him] [in front] [of] [My] [Father], [Who is] [in] [The] [Heavens]. ³³[But] [whoever] [it might be who] [denies] [Me] [in front] [of] [Men], [I also] [will deny] [him] [in front] [of] [My] [Father], [Who is] [in] [The] [Heavens].

³⁴[You should [not] presume] [that] [I came] [to cast] [Peace] [onto] [The] [Earth]. [I did [not] come] [to cast] [Peace], [but] [a Sword]. ³⁵[For] [I came] [TO MAKE [A MAN] DISAGREE*] [WITH] [HIS] [FATHER], [AND] [A DAUGHTER] [WITH] [HER] [MOTHER], [AND] [A BRIDE] [WITH] [HER] [MOTHER-IN-LAW]. ³⁶[Even] [THE] [MEMBERS OF [HIS] HOUSE] {will be} [THE] [MAN'S] [ENEMIES].

³⁷[The one who] [is more fond of] [Father] [or] [Mother] [than] [Me] [is] [not] [worthy] [of Me], [and] [the one who] [is more fond of] [Son] [or] [Daughter] [than] [Me] [is] [not] [worthy] [of Me]. ³⁸[And] [whoever] [does [not] take up] [his] [Cross] [and] [follow] [after] [Me] [is] [not] [worthy] [of Me]. ³⁹[The one who] [has found] [his] [Soul] [will do away with] [it], [and] [the one who] [has done away with] [his] [Soul] [on account] [of Me] [will find] [it]. ⁴⁰[The one who] [accepts] [you] [accepts] [Me], [and] [the one who] [accepts] [Me] [accepts] [the One Who] [sent] [Me]. ⁴¹[The one who] [accepts] [a Prophet] [in] [a Prophet's] [Name] [will receive] [a Prophet's] [Wage], [and] [the one who] [accepts] [One Who Is Blameless] [in] [{the} Name] [of One Who Is Blameless] [will receive] [{the} Wage] [of One Who Is Blameless]. ⁴²[And] [whoever] [it might be who] [gives a drink—[only] [a [cold] Cup—to] [one] [of] [These] [Little Ones] [in] [a Disciple's] [Name], [without doubt] [I tell] [you], [he will [definitely not] lose] [his] [Wage].”

(Matthew 10:24–42) —my interim translation

If you take a close look at that passage in its entirety, you should be able to see that Jesus is talking about the Truth that a disciple has been taught and believed. Those are the things that set one member of a

family against another, especially when one believes *The Teaching* and another wants nothing to do with it. Some of those who firmly believe the things I teach have already experienced that totally uncalled for animosity first-hand, and many more will experience the same thing before the End of the Age. But my point is, “denying Christ” has nothing to do with Peter *denying that he knew Christ*, it has everything to do with someone hearing and believing the Truth of the *Living Word* that Jesus Christ is and later *denying that the Truth is true*. BIG DIFFERENCE.

The third mistaken assumption the reader has made relates to anyone having the ability to identify Pretenders. It seems to me his assumption that the purpose of *The Next Step* application is to identify Pretenders has led him to the correct conclusion in that regard: It is sometimes all but impossible for anyone to say for certain that someone is or is not a Pretender. But your reader is mistaken in assuming *The Next Step* may be a Christian group that claims to still have the authority to exclude Pretenders. Anyone who has read the booklet *7 Simple Steps to Salvation* should already know that I assert that authority was lost right along with *The Apostolic Teaching*.

Editor: One of our subscribers has voiced his concern about his conversion. He wrote:

“For several years I have obtained newsletters past & present & have read with great interest about the various new-birth experiences from Marcia Woody, Allen Friess, Mike Clay etc. Several years ago I had what I thought was a new-birth experience, but after much reflection, as well as reading about other legitimate new-birth experiences, I came to the conclusion that that event was not a new-birth experience. Even though I did feel something & remember what the pastor’s message was about (unlike Allen Friess), I didn’t experience the type of peace Mike Clay experienced or the renewal that Marcia Woody had experienced. Or the wondrous & special energy the Holy Spirit forms the ear to hear & the mind to understand, as John Calvin describes.

My only concern is two-fold. First, if conviction by the Holy Spirit is necessary towards any regeneration how can anyone discern conviction of the Holy Spirit vs. a guilty conscience? I understand the process of the conviction of the Holy Spirit, but what actually is it; i.e., a voice, a feeling, a thought, etc.? Some individuals experience

heavy conviction for hours??? What does that mean? And secondly, when my false experience occurred I was in my mid-late 40's. Charles Finney didn't have much hope for people beyond 40 to be regenerated. I'll be 54 this winter & can't help but wonder; have I, as the idiom suggests, 'missed the boat'?"

Elijah: Jesus describes the work of the Holy Spirit in the "hearts" (minds) of men when He says this:

¹"[I have spoken] [These Things] [to you] [so that] [you would [not] be offended]. ²[They will make] [you] [one who has been expelled from the synagogue], [but] [an Hour] [is going to come] [so that] [anyone] [who] [has killed] [you] [would assume] [{he} is bringing and presenting] [a Priestly Service] [to The] [{Living} God]. ³[And] [they will do] [These Things] [because] [they have] [not] [known] [The] [Father] [or] [Me]. ⁴[But] [I have spoken] [These Things] [to you] [so that] [when] [their] [Hour] [comes], [you would remember] [that] [I] [told] [you] [about them]. [But] [I did [not] tell] [you] [These Things] [from] [The Beginning], [because] [I was] [with] [you]. ⁵[But] [now] [I am going] [to] [the One Who] [sent] [Me], [and] [none] [of] [you] [is asking] [Me], '[Where] [are You going]?' ⁶[But] [because] [I have spoken] [These Things] [to you], [Anguish] [has completely filled] [your] [Heart]. ⁷[But] [I] [am telling] [you] [The] [Truth]: [It is advantageous] [to you] [that] [I] [go]. [For] [if] [I did [not] go away], [The] [Advocate] [would [not] come] [to] [you]; [but] [if] [I go], [I will send] [Him] [to] [you]. ⁸[And] [after coming], [That Individual] [will expose and rebuke] [The] [World] [about] [Sin] [and] [about] [a Declaration of Not Guilty] [and] [about] [Sentencing]. ⁹[On the one hand], [about] [Sin], [because] [they do [not] believe God's promise] [about] [Me]; ¹⁰[but on the other hand], [about] [a Declaration of Not Guilty], [because] [I am going] [to] [The] [Father] [and] [you are [no longer] going to observe] [Me]; ¹¹[but on the other hand], [about] [Sentencing] [because] [The] [Ruler] [of] [This] [World] [has been judged].

¹²[I [still] have] [Many Things] [to tell] [you], [but] [you can] [not] [bear {them}] [at this time]. ¹³[But] [when] [That Individual]—[The] [Spirit] [of] [The] [Truth]—[comes], [He will guide] [you] [in] [The] [whole] [Truth]. [For] [He will [not] speak] [of] [Himself], [but] [as much as] [He hears], [He will speak]; [and] [He will divulge] [to you] [the things that]

[are going to come]. ¹⁴[That Individual] [will glorify] [Me], [because] [He will take] [some] [of what is] [Mine] [and] [divulge {it}] [to you]. ¹⁵[Everything]—[as much as] [The] [Father] [has]—[is] [Mine], [for] [This Reason] [I said] [that] '[He is going to take] [some] [of what is] [Mine] [and] [divulge {it}] [to you].'"

(John 16:1–15) —my interim translation

The three things that Jesus said the Holy Spirit seeks to accomplish in a person's life are these:

Make sure they know they have SINNED.

Make sure they know that, because they are guilty, they are just awaiting SENTENCING.

Make sure they know God will grant them A DECLARATION OF NOT GUILTY if they apologize and believe the Truth He has revealed in the Scriptures.

Now we come to the knotty little issue of how the Holy Spirit approaches a person. This is where the mistaken assumption that the Holy Spirit is a "spirit" in the sense of Halloween and haunted houses leads to absolute nonsense. That view of the Holy Spirit is a lie of Satan that is intended to completely obscure the Truth the Early Church understood. The Truth is, the Holy Spirit is a "spirit" in the sense that the Greeks thought of *pneuma*. As I explained to the participants of The Next Step some twenty years ago, the Greeks believed *pneuma* came through the five senses: seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, and smelling.

In accord with the agreement that God made with the people of Israel at Mount Sinai, the Holy Spirit does not speak directly to anyone who has not been born again; he uses a person who functions as His "mouth" to deliver His "Spirit" to us. Hence the Church offices of the Apostle, Prophet, Teacher, and Evangelist. The men who occupy those offices deliver a message that contains the *pneuma* necessary for others to know what the Holy Spirit has to say to them.

If a person hears the Truth of the Gospel, apologizes to the Lord, and believes the *Pneuma* of Truth that the Holy Spirit is, that *Pneuma* comes to life within him and the person is born again. That's when the role of the Holy Spirit takes on an absolutely essential role in the person. Jesus is describing that role when He says this:

¹²"[I [still] have] [Many Things] [to tell] [you], [but] [you can] [not] [bear {them}] [at this time]. ¹³[But] [when] [That Individual]—[The] [Spirit] [of The] [Truth]—[comes], [He will guide] [you] [in] [The] [whole] [Truth]. [For] [He will [not] speak] [of] [Himself], [but] [as much as] [He hears], [He will speak]; [and] [He will divulge] [to you] [the things that] [are going to come]."
(John 16:12–13) —my interim translation

The point of what Jesus said is this: The role of the Holy Spirit in the "heart" (mind) of the True Believer is to hear the Truth and bring what he has been taught back to his mind. Since the Holy Spirit is the Truth that Jesus Christ is, He constantly drives the True Believer to desire more of the Truth so that he can grow into the image and likeness of God in the "inner man" that the Holy Spirit is. That is what Paul is *talking about* in this passage:

¹⁴[For [this] Reason] [I bend] [my] [Knees] [to] [The] [Father]—¹⁵[from] [Whom] [every] [Lineage] [in] [{the} Heavens] [and] [on] [Earth] [is going to be given a name]: ¹⁶(1) [so that] [He would grant] [you] [to become strong] [in] [The] [Man] [inside {you}]: (a) [via] [His] [Spirit], (b) [in accordance with] [The] [Wealth] [of The] [Glory] [of [His] Supernatural Power]; ¹⁷(2) [so that] [The] [Anointed One] would—[via] [your] [Belief in God's Promise]—[dwell] [in] [The] [Hearts] [of you] [who have been rooted] [and] [founded] [by] [Love]; ¹⁸(3) [so that] [you would be more able*] [to grasp]—[along with] [all] [The] [Holy Ones]—[what is] [its] [Breadth] [and] [Length] [and] [Height] [and] [Depth]; ¹⁹[and also] (4) [so that {you} would know] [The] [extraordinary] [Love] [of The] [Knowledge of the Truth] [regarding The] [Anointed One], (5) [so that] [you would be filled up] [to] [all] [The] [Fullness] [of The] [{Living} God].
(Ephesians 3:14–19) —my interim translation

Now that I have explained the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of the True Believer, let me explain how He works to accomplish His goal. When a person hears the Truth of the Gospel, the Holy Spirit speaks to his "heart" and tries to convince him that God is going to destroy him if he does not apologize. At that point, the person to whom the Spirit is "talking" has a *choice*. He can either listen to the Spirit and believe that what

he hears is true, or he can reject it. If the person listens to the Spirit, he will feel an overwhelming *conviction* that what he has heard is true. That person is then able to *honestly* apologize to God. But without the *conviction* of the Holy Spirit, it is impossible for anyone to offer an *honest* apology because the person will continue to believe that his sins are not all that bad. That is a lie.

You see, Judgment Day is not about determining a person's guilt or innocence, it's about determining the severity of their *sentence*. That is because we are already guilty. This life is nothing more than a prison in which we are being held until the time comes for our *sentencing*. The Truth is, none of us would even be here if we were not guilty; so the only question that remains to be answered is, who is going to be acquitted on the basis of an *honest* apology, belief in God's *promise*, and their acquiescence to the Holy Spirit working in their lives. The Apostle Paul puts it this way:

⁹[What] [therefore]? [Are we better than {they}*]? [Undoubtedly] [not]! [For] [we made the charge earlier*] [that [both] [Jews] [and] [Greeks] are] [all] [under] [Sin], ¹⁰[just as] [it has been written] [that]:

"[THERE IS] [NOT] [ONE WHO IS BLAMELESS],
[NOT EVEN] [ONE].

¹¹[THERE IS] [NOT] [ANYONE WHO] [COMPREHENDS];
[THERE IS] [NOT] [ANYONE WHO]
[SEEKS] [THE] [{Living} GOD].

¹²[EVERYONE] [TURNED ASIDE] [AT THE SAME TIME];
[THEY WERE MADE USELESS*];
[THERE IS] [NOT] [ANYONE WHO]
[ACTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH] [BENEVOLENCE];
[THERE IS] [NOT] [EVEN] [ONE]."

¹³"[THEIR] [THROAT*] {is} [A SEPULCHER]
[THAT HAS BEEN OPENED];
[THEY KEEP ON BEGUILING*] [WITH THEIR] [TONGUES]."
"[{The} VENOM] [OF COBRAS*]
{is} [UNDER] [THEIR] [LIPS],"

¹⁴"[WHOSE] [MOUTH] [IS FULL] [OF REVENGE*]
[AND] [BITTERNESS]";

¹⁵"[THEIR] [FEET] {are} [KEEN] [TO POUR OUT] [BLOOD].

¹⁶[BROKENNESS*] [AND] [MISERY]
{are} [IN] [THEIR] [WAYS],

¹⁷[AND] [THEY HAVE] [NOT] [KNOWN]
[{the} WAY] [OF PEACE]."

¹⁸"[THERE IS] [NO] [FEAR] [OF GOD]
[IN FULL VIEW] [OF] [THEIR] [EYES]."

¹⁹[But] [we are aware] [that] [as much as] [The] [Law] [says], [it speaks] [to those who are] [within] [The] [Law], [so that] [every] [Mouth] [would be shut] [and] [The] [whole] [World] [would be] [subject to prosecution*] [by The] [{Living} God]; ²⁰[because] [not] [all] [Flesh] [will be acquitted] [in] [His] sight [on the basis] [of Works] [of Law]; [for] [Full Knowledge of the Truth] [regarding Sin] {is} [via] [Law]. ²¹[But] [now] [apart from] [Law], [God's] [Declaration of Not Guilty]—[which has testimony provided] [by] [The] [Law] [and] [The] [Prophets]—[has been made well-known], ²²[even] [God's] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [via] [Belief in God's Promise] [regarding Jesus], [The Anointed One], [for] [all] [those who] [believe God's promise]—(1) [for] [there is] [no] [Difference Between {them}], ²³(2) [for] [all] [have sinned] [and] [come up short] [of The] [Glory] [of The] [{Living} God]—²⁴[those who are acquitted] [by] [His] [Favor] [as a bequest]: (1) [via] [The] [Emancipation] [that is] [in] [The Anointed One], [Jesus], ²⁵[(the One Whom) [The] [{Living} God] [intended to be] [a Mercy Seat]); (2) [via] [our] [Belief in God's Promise] [with regard to] [His] [Blood] [as] [Evidence] [of] [His] [Declaration of Not Guilty]; (3) [via] [His] [Letting Go*] [of The] [Sinful Acts] [that occurred earlier*] ²⁶[in] [The] [Forbearance] [of The] [{Living} God], [for] [Evidence] [of] [His] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [at] [The] [present] [Time], [so] [that] [He] [would be] [blameless] [and] [One Who acquits] [the one who {is blameless}] [on the basis] [of Belief in God's Promise] [regarding Jesus].

²⁷[Therefore], [where] {is} [our] [Boasting]? [It has been locked out]. [Via] [what kind] [of Law]? [Via The {Law}] [of Works]? [Absolutely not]! [But] [via] [a Law] [regarding Belief in God's Promise]. ²⁸[For] [we reckon] [that [a Man] is going to be acquitted] [by Belief in God's Promise]—[apart from] [Works] [of Law].
(Romans 3:9–28) —my interim translation

The focus of the Holy Spirit when He speaks to someone who has actually heard the Truth is to *convince* them to do the right thing. The right thing to do when one hears the Gospel is look at himself and admit that he is a despicable person. Lacking that, he cannot *honestly* apologize to God. But even after a person *honestly* apologizes, the Holy Spirit continues working to *convince* him he should always do the right thing. To do that, the Holy Spirit appeals to two distinctly different things. The first is *The Law of Moses*.

As I explained in *The Way, The Truth, The Life* more than twenty-five years ago, *The Law of Moses* defines sin. Therefore, it is only logical that the Holy Spirit would appeal to it to *convince* the True Believer that some things are the right thing for him or her to do. But what about all those things that are not mentioned in *The Law of Moses*? That's where the individual's conscience comes in. The role of our conscience is to tell us what is right and wrong *for us* to do. But our conscience only gives us a *subjective* opinion of what is right and wrong for us, not for others. That is because what is right for one may be wrong for another. That is what Paul is *talking about* in this passage:

¹[So then] [accept] [the one who] [is weak] [in his] [Belief in God's Promise]—[with] [no] [Ability to Make Distinctions Between] {the truth and} [Speculations]. ²[One] [believes] [that {he} may eat] [everything]; [another], [one who is weak], [eats] [Cultivated Plants]. ³[The one who] [eats {everything}] [must] [not] view [the one who] [does] [not] eat {everything} with contempt, [but then] [the one who] [does] [not] eat {everything} [must] [not] judge [the one who] [eats {everything}], [for] [The] [{Living} God] [has accepted] [him]. ⁴[Who] [are] [You], [the one who] [judges] [a House Slave] [of another]? [He stands] [or] [falls] [to his] [own] [Master], [so] [he will be made to stand], [for] [His Majesty] [is powerful enough] [to make] [him] stand. ⁵[For] [one] [decides] [{one} Day] {is} [before] [{another} Day], [but another] [decides] [every] [Day] {is the same}. [Each one] [must be completely convinced] [in] [his] [own] [Mind]. ⁶[The one who] [has his mind set on] [The] [Day {of the Lord}], [has his mind set on] [His Majesty]; [and] [the one who] [eats {everything}], [eats {everything}] [for His Majesty], [for] [he gives thanks] [to The] [{Living} God]; [and] [the one who] [does] [not] eat {everything}, [does] [not] eat {everything} [for His Majesty], [and] [he gives thanks] [to The] [{Living} God]. ⁷[For] [none] [of us] [lives] [for himself], [and] [none] [dies] [for himself]; ⁸[for] [whether] [it may be that] [we live], [we live] [for our] [Master]; [or whether] [it may be that] [we die], [we die] [for our] [Master]. [Therefore], [whether] [it may be that] [we live] [or whether] [it may be that] [we die], [we are] [our] [Master's {slaves}]. ⁹[For] [The Anointed One] [died] [and] [lived] [for] [This Reason]: [so that] [He would be the slave master] [of] [both] Those Who Are Dead [and] [those who are living].

(Romans 14:1–9) —my interim translation

The *subjective* function of our conscience is the reason why we have no right to judge the actions of others. It is also the reason why Paul continues with a warning to those who engage in such nonsense:

¹⁰[But] [You], [why] [do You judge] [Your] [Brother]? [Or] [You], [why] [do You also] view [Your] [Brother] with contempt? [For] [we will all] stand [before The] [Step] [of The] [{Living} God]. ¹¹[For] [it has been written]:

"{As} [I] [LIVE]," [SAYS] [HIS MAJESTY],
 "[THE FACT IS THAT] [EVERY] [KNEE] [WILL BEND] [TO ME],
 [AND] [EVERY] [TONGUE] [WILL ADMIT THE TRUTH
 CONCERNING] [THE] [{Living} GOD]."

¹²[So then], [therefore], [every one] [of us] [will give] [an Account] [with regard to] [himself] [to The] [{Living} God].

¹³[Therefore], [we should [no longer] judge] [one another], [but] [decide to do] [this] [instead]: [to] [not] [put down] [Something That Causes Stumbling] [or] [a Deadfall Trap] [for your] [Brother]. ¹⁴[I am aware]—[and] [I have been convinced] [by] [His Majesty], [Jesus]—[that] [nothing] {is} [common] [of] [itself]—[except] [to the one who] [reckons] [that [something] is] [common], [{it is} common] [to That Individual]. ¹⁵[For] [if] [Your] [Brother] [is in anguish] [because of] [{Your} Food], [You are [no longer] walking] [in accordance with] [Love]. [Do [not]—[by Your] [Food]—do away with] [That Individual] [for [whose] sake] [The Anointed One] [died].
 (Romans 14:10–15) —my interim translation

The point is, the right thing for you to do is a *subjective* decision you must make *for yourself* on a case-by-case basis. And the Holy Spirit is going to *convict* you when you do the wrong thing simply because your conscience told you the right thing *for you* to do. That is what James *meant* when he said this:

¹¹[Do [not] disparage] [one another], [Brothers]. [The one who] [disparages] [a Brother] [or] [judges] [his] [Brother] [disparages] [Law] [and] [judges] [Law]. [But] [if] [You judge] [Law], [You are] [not] [a Doer] [of Law], [but] [a Judge]. ¹²[There is] [one] [Lawgiver*] [and] [Judge]—[the One Who] [can] [save {You}] [and] [do away with {You}], [but] [who] [are] [You]—[the one who] [judges] [Your] [Neighbor]?

¹³[You go on ahead] [now], [you who] [are saying], "[Today] [or] [Tomorrow] [we will go] [to] [but this one] [City], [and] [we will spend time] [there] [for an Annual Religious Cycle], [and] [we will trade], [and] [we will gain]," ¹⁴[you [who] are] [not] cognizant of] [what] [The] "Tomorrow" [The] [Life] [you have] {will be}, [for] [you are] [a Haze] [that] [appears] [for] [Just a Little While] [and] [then] [disappears]. ¹⁵[Instead], [you] [should say]: "[If] [His Majesty] [wants], [we will [both] live] [and] [do] [This] [or] [That]." ¹⁶[But] [now], [in] [your] [Pretentiousness], [you are boasting]. [All] [Boasting] [like this] [is] [nasty]. ¹⁷[Therefore], [to one who knows how] [to do] [What Is Exceptionally Good] [and] [does [not] do {it}], [to him] [it is] [Sin].
 (James 4:11–17) —my interim translation

Now that I've laid out the essentials for you, I must tell you I don't believe age has anything to do with whether or not someone can be born again. Stubbornness does. Older people tend to be more set in their "ways"—that is, in their beliefs. But anyone can be born again if they respond to the *conviction* of the Holy Spirit with an *honest* apology to God. All it takes is a willingness to admit who you are and respond *honestly* to an amazing God Who will readily forgive everything you have done if you simply believe the Truth He has revealed in the Scriptures.

Editor: *One of our readers asks why you think Hell is everlasting punishment for eternity? This man asks you to "please show this in scripture." He thinks that parabolically speaking, hellfire is not burning for eternity, it is being eternally burnt up.*

Elijah: I encountered a discussion of this belief more than fifty years ago, and I think the discussion of it is just as goofy today as it was back then. It is one of those issues that need not be proven, because it makes no difference one way or the other in the long run. If you fail to take advantage of *the promise* of God, you are the loser either way. The Truth is, Jesus plainly said we should all fear the angry, jealous God of Israel Who has prepared a place for those who hate the Truth of the *Living Word* of God that He is:

"[And] [do [not] be afraid] [of] [the things that] [kill] [The] [Body] [but] [can] [not] [kill] [The] [Soul]; [but] [instead], [be afraid of] [the One Who] [can] [do away with]

[both] [Body] [and] [Soul] [in] [The Trash Pit]."
(Matthew 10:28) —my interim translation

If it provides even a modicum of comfort to someone to think that Hell is not going to be a place of eternal suffering for those who reject the Truth regarding *the promise* of God, more power to him. All I can say is, the thought of Hell terrifies me. But this passage indicates it is going to be a place of eternal burning:

⁴⁷"[So] [if] [Your] [Eye] [offends] [You], [take [it] out]. [It is] [far better] [for You] [to come in] [to] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God] [with one eye] [than] [to be thrown] [into] [The] [Trash Pit] [having] [two] [Eyes], ⁴⁸[where] [THEIR] [WORM*] [DOES [NOT] COME TO AN END], [AND] [THE] [FIRE] [IS [NOT] EXTINGUISHED]."
(Mark 9:47–48) —my interim translation

Editor: *One of our readers wants to know when you expect to publish the second volume of The Mystery of Scripture. He also said, "I'm very interested in your work but find it difficult to keep track of what you're doing. I've written two letters, sent by USPS, but received no response."*

I apologize for the lack of response on my part. Under the terms of the agreement I have with *The Voice of Elijah*®, they do not pass along any communication from readers except the questions I respond to in this column, and I have not been responding as frequently as I have in the past. I apologize for that as well. I've been working on my translation of the New Testament seventy to eighty hours a week for the past seven years. That doesn't leave a whole lot of time for other things. When I am finally able to send that off to the printer, I plan to focus on catching up on the backlog of things I owe The Next Step participants. At the top of that list is a recording of the HSSB New Testament (with commentary).

The best way to keep track of what I am doing is to follow me on Twitter (@ElijahProject) and Facebook (Facebook.com/LarryDeeHarper), read this newsletter, and sign up for the EP Newsletter on The Elijah Project website (www.the-elijah-project.com).

Editor: *Another question deals with the prophecy in Genesis 1:26–27. A new subscriber who has "been lapping up the teaching" sent us a question to pass on to you:*

"According to Mr. Harper part of that four part prophecy/promise is an ability to reproduce (Inheritance Means Somebody Died, bottom of pg. 2, right column). On the surface of it, there appears to be a contradiction with Matt. 22:30. I have long wondered about the statement made by Jesus in Matt. 22:30 that 'in the resurrection they will neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like the angels in heaven.' If Jesus' statement means that people don't reproduce, there is a conflict. But in the English translation it appears the wording might leave wiggle room for one to imagine sex or reproduction without marriage. I have been reluctant to even entertain the idea that might really be the truth, but now I can see no other way to reconcile these two points."

Elijah: The difficulty we all face when we go searching for the Truth is the one in which we can't see beyond our own mistaken presuppositions and assumptions. Such is the case here. This is the first passage to which the reader refers:

²⁶[Then [God] said], "[Let Us make] [an Adam] [in Our Image], [in accordance with Our Likeness], [so that they may exercise authority] [over {the} Fish of] [The Sea] [and over {the} Flyer] [{of} The Sea of Waters] [and over {the} Beast] [and over all] [The Earth] [and over all] [The Crawling Thing] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth]."²⁷[And [God] will create] [The Adam] [in His Image]. [In the Image] [{of} God] [He will create] [Him]; [Male] [and Female] [He will create] [them]. ²⁸[Then [God] will bless] [them]; [and [God] will say] [to them], "[Bear fruit] [and become many], [and fill] [The Earth] [and subjugate her]; [and exercise authority] [over The Fish of] [The Sea] [and over The Flyer] [{of} The Sea of Waters] [and over every] [living {soul}] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth]."
(Genesis 1:26–28) —my interim translation

The following passage is the one that the reader assumes that prophecy contradicts:

²³[On] [That] [Day] [Sadducees]—[those who say] [that there is] [no] [Resurrection]—[approached] [Him] [and] [asked [Him] a question] ²⁴[saying]: "[Teacher], [Moses] [said], '[If] [SOMEONE] [WHO DOES [NOT] HAVE] [CHILDREN] [DIES], [HIS] [BROTHER] [WILL, AS NEXT OF KIN, MARRY*] [HIS] [WOMAN], [AND] [RAISE UP] [A SEED] [FOR] [HIS] [BROTHER].'²⁵[So] [seven] [Brothers] [were] [with] [us], [and] [after [The] [First] married], [he came to an end];

[and], [not] [having] [a Seed], [he left] [his] [Woman] [to his] [Brother]. ²⁶[Likewise] [also] [The] [Second], [and] [The] [Third], [up to] [The] [Seventh]. ²⁷[Then] [later] [The] [Woman] [all {of them} had] [died]. ²⁸[Therefore], [of the] [seven], [whose] [Woman] [will she be] [in] [The] [Resurrection], [for] [all {of them}] [had] [her]?"

²⁹[So] [in response], [Jesus] [told] [them]: "[Not] [aware of] [The] [Scriptures] [or] [The] [Supernatural Power] [of The] [{Living} God], [you are being led astray]. ³⁰[For] [in] [The] [Resurrection], [they [neither] marry] [nor] [are given in marriage]; [but] [they are] [like] [Messengers] [in] [Heaven]. ³¹[But] [about] [The] [Resurrection] [of The] [Dead], [have you [not] read] [the] [statement that was made] [to you] [by] [The] [{Living} God], [which says], ³²[I] [AM] [THE] [{Living} GOD] [OF ABRAHAM] [AND] [THE] [{Living} GOD] [OF ISAAC] [AND] [THE] [{Living} GOD] [OF JACOB]?" [He is] [not] [The] [God] [of Those Who Are Dead] [but] [of those who are alive]."

(Matthew 22:23–32) —my interim translation

That passage states nothing more than the fact that those who *inherit what was promised* do not marry; it says nothing at all about reproduction. Therefore, one need only consider the *content of the promise* that is described in Genesis 1:26–27 to see the Truth. *The promise* of God is that the "male and female" Believers who believe *the promise* will be created in the very image and likeness of God Himself. That is, they will become His Children. So the question I ask your reader is this: Are you insisting that God is married? If not, based on your mistaken presupposition, He could not possibly reproduce and have Children.

Editor: A woman wrote telling us she was impressed with some of your teachings, but then she said she noticed you believe we go to either Heaven or Hell at some point. She has several questions she has asked in order to clarify your beliefs for her. She wrote:

"The scriptures clearly tell us that the Kingdom of Yahweh our Elohim (god) comes to earth ('the kingdoms of man have become the kingdom of Yahweh!'). Also, the idea of 'Hell,' of literal punishment comes from Greek mythology, and the Roman church! All of the daughter churches that branched off of her (the Roman church) adopted this belief! Hell (translated from the word SHEOL) simply means the GRAVE!!! That's why in

Revelation death and hell (the grave) are thrown into the (figurative) lake of fire. In other words, there will then be NO MORE DEATH AND THE GRAVE!!! The scriptures use fire to symbolize destruction. It would not make sense if death and hell (as a place of burning) were thrown into a literal lake of fire! What good would it do to throw fire into fire...and you can't actually throw a state of being such as death, into a fire or anything else!

I am also not sure from some of your writings, whether you believe that Yashua (jesus—a pagan Greek inspired name) and Yahweh (god—a pagan title) are separate and distinct beings? It sounds like you may believe, as some do that he is the son, and yet that he is also the father? I can't tell from your literature whether you believe that the father is greater than the "Word" that became flesh, or whether you believe that they are somehow one and the same? Yes they are one in the sense of having the same goals and ideologies ... just as a husband and wife are one (supposed to be anyway!). Based upon scriptures, I absolutely believe that Yashua (jesus) is not also Yahweh (god) the father!!! I hope you will please clarify for me what you believe on these 3 issues I have mentioned, and also which scriptures you use to back it up what you believe. I would appreciate it! Thank you!"

Elijah: God did not call me to teach anyone who has already *chosen* to believe something other than what I have been called to teach. This woman has already *decided* what she believes; therefore, I have nothing more to say to her. In that, I am merely following the admonition of the Apostle Paul:

^{2b}[Teach] [These Things] [and] [encourage {those who believe them}]. ³[If] [anyone] [teaches something different] [and] [does [not] approach {you}] [with] [The] sound] [Words] [of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One], [and] [a Teaching] [that is] [in accordance with] [Godliness], ⁴[he is enshrouded in a fog], [one who is [not] cognizant of {anything}], [but] [one who has a disease*] [with regard to] [Discussions] [and] [Arguments about the Meaning of Words*], [from] [which] [come] [Envy], [Conflict], [False Religious Claims], [nasty] [Conjectures*], ⁵[Useless Studies*] [of Men] [whose [Mind] has become unfit for use] [and] [who have been deprived] [of The] [Truth], [{men} who presume] [Godliness] [is] [a Means of Gain].

(1 Timothy 6:2b–5) —my interim translation ■

Continued from front cover

Him. In the (apostle's) phrase, "From the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power," he uses the words of Isaiah who for the express reason makes the self-same Lord "arise to shake terribly the earth."

Well, but who is "the man of sin, the son of perdition," who must first be revealed before the Lord comes; "who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; who is to sit in the temple of God, and boast himself as being God?" According indeed to our view, he is Antichrist; as it is taught us in both the ancient and the new prophecies, and especially by the Apostle John, who says that "already many false prophets are gone out into the world," the fore-runners of Antichrist, who deny that Christ is come in the flesh, and do not acknowledge Jesus (to be the Christ), meaning in God the Creator.

According, however, to Marcion's view, it is really hard to know whether He might not be (after all) the Creator's Christ; because according to him He is not yet come. But whichever of the two it is, I want to know why he comes "in all power, and with lying signs and wonders?" "Because," he says, "they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved; for which cause God shall send them an instinct of delusion (to believe a lie), that they all might be judged who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

If therefore he be Antichrist, (as we hold), and comes according to the Creator's purpose, it must be God the Creator who sends him to fasten in their error those who did not believe the truth, that they might be saved; His likewise must be the truth and the salvation, who avenges (the contempt of) them by sending error as their substitute.

Tertullian, "Tertullian Against Marcion," Book 6, Chap. xvi, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1885), Vol. 3, pp. 463-464.

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