

“Born of the Spirit: The Offspring and Heirs of God” by Brad Edwards

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Born of the Spirit

(The Offspring and Heirs of God)

John 3:5

Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

This quote from Jesus may be the most enlightening passage in Christianity from the most enlightened teacher in the world! And yet, it also seems to be one of the most misunderstood among those who read it. In this particular encounter, Jesus is speaking to Nicodemus about entering into God's Kingdom, but this religious leader just couldn't fathom the spiritual depth of the Rabbi's words. Imagine that! This apparent "man of God" from a group that is called the "chosen of God" didn't know how to enter the Kingdom of God! I am not surprised, but Jesus seemed to be a little bewildered concerning his lack of spiritual understanding. Do you understand what Jesus is saying? Do you understand that flesh gives birth to flesh, but spirit gives birth to spirit? While Jesus taught that being born of the spirit is a prerequisite to entering God's Kingdom, he also said that we must be born of water. So what does it mean to be "born of water?" And more importantly, what does it mean to be "born of the spirit?"

Nicodemus and many still today are confused about how we enter God's Kingdom. Let us keep in mind that God's Kingdom is not the one of flesh. So everyone must be born as SPIRIT here on earth before entering God's Kingdom in heaven. This is a conundrum for the natural man who perceives himself as flesh and the Kingdom as an actual city with streets paved with gold. Heaven isn't a place above the clouds with pearly gates; **heaven is a higher state (closer to God) in consciousness and spirit.** The only way to reach heaven (and God for that matter) is by being SPIRIT. Only by being spirit will we be able to fly as angels fly. Jewish leaders then and certainly some of our Christian clergy today have missed the spiritual meaning of Jesus' teachings. But this is nothing new because traditional Christian doctrines are riddled with error. You see, there are many proclaiming to be "born again" Christians, but I don't think they really know what this divine birth entails.

Depending on which “born again Christian” you ask this commonly used phrase means something a little different, but then again, isn’t this always the case? If Peter and Paul couldn’t agree about circumcision, what makes us think we can agree on what being born of spirit means? Now, some may use the phrase “born of the spirit” to describe the time after a religious ceremony (baptism, confirmation, etc.) while others may have had an actual spiritual experience that dramatically changed their life. They say this new lifestyle and dedication means they are “born again.” Perhaps God helped them overcome alcoholism or set them free from some other problem. While there is no doubt that these moments can change us, we do not suddenly BECOME spirit as the causation or result of this. Rather, these moments are times of spiritual growth when we notice the power God working in our spirit. Even after the resurrection when Jesus was said to have “breathed” on the disciples, this event didn’t change them into spirit. While it certainly helped to strengthen them, they were still very natural men. Then later at Pentecost the Holy Spirit filled them again, but this was another experience, not an actual birth of their spirit. We should understand that spirit can never die, so the question really is can spirit ever be born? From a certain perspective, the answer is yes.

Let me ask you this. Do you believe that you are spirit or flesh? Some might say they are both. Jesus taught that whoever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whoever is born of the spirit is spirit. Does this mean we are TWO people? Again, from a certain perspective, the answer is yes. What we should first realize is that everything has been “born of” or “come from” God, who is SPIRIT. Who could deny that all that is real has come from God? So then **the reality and the life of all things is spirit.** Without spirit from God there is nothing- no earth, no sun, no man and no manifestation of any kind. God is all in all, but we cannot fully realized this YET. This is the key! So the truth is **we have always been and always will be spirit!** Understand that long before our body came into existence in this world our spirit was alive in God. So the purpose of this article is to show that there isn’t a single moment we become spirit in this world, but instead, each of us is spirit that is maturing to the level high enough to know God and enter the Kingdom of God. So when Jesus says we must be born of the spirit, I believe he is saying we must come to REALIZE that we are indeed spirit. This revelation of who we truly are certainly can change how we live and think. Surprisingly, many Christians still do not fully accept that they are indeed spirit from God. They may call Him their “Father,” but they still live and think as flesh.

Nicodemus and other religious minds like him thoroughly know their doctrines, but have trouble thinking outside their ideological boxes. Most of humanity is programmed by the world with a particular philosophy, religion or culture then typically stay within those worldly bounds. When they are given a higher spiritual truth that they believe contradicts their ideology it is usually rejected. This is certainly apparent regarding the truth that we are spirit and not flesh. Jesus was trying to explain that there are two different ways we can be “born” and then “live” in this world. We can be born and live as flesh, or we can be born and live as spirit. One birth leads to death and the other way leads us to life. One birth places us in the family of Satan, the other in the family of God. Even so, each of us must experience BOTH kinds of births, natural and then spiritual, to prepare us before entering the Kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 15:44

It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural

body, there is also a spiritual body.

⁴⁵ So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a **life-giving spirit**.

⁴⁶ The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.
⁴⁷ The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.

⁴⁹ And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, **so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven**.

Yes, God's Seed is in you and all. This Seed will bear the likeness of Christ Jesus. So there is a reason why Jesus taught that being born of water and then of spirit are the prerequisites to enter the Kingdom of God. As Paul explains in 1 Corinthians, we (spirit) have come into this world- to be born in a natural way, and then in a spiritual way. It should be obvious that being born of flesh and spirit are two completely different births. In one sense of the word, everyone born as a human into this world has been born of "water," which is to say the flesh. This is a natural birth resulting from our natural parents union, which happens with no effort on our part. Because our natural world shadows a higher spiritual world, this lower world can teach us about the higher life in God's Kingdom. A baby comes into this world by the will of its parents, so those born of the spirit come to life by the will of God.

John 1:12

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, **but born of God**.

We are all children of God, but most haven't been living like it! For those ready to live according to the spirit and not the flesh, you are given the right to be called "children of God." God chose you before you chose Him. God gave you His life before you give Him yours. God is in control of your salvation. So as Jesus taught, the wind blows as it wills, so it is with everyone born of the spirit. We should think of being born of the spirit as a rather free-flowing process that is the inevitable result of our divine nature maturing. Like infants coming from our mother's womb into the world, we have no awareness of being born. If Spirit begets spirit and we are from God, then we too are spirit! So then being "born of the spirit" isn't something we must strive to do, but rather a truth we must REALIZE. Truly after tasting death over and over again, we will eventually come to our spiritual senses! It will happen to all! In the same way, birds must eventually realize that they can fly. They break free from a shell and come into this world as flightless creatures. Once they mature they do not strive to fly, but just need a little practice! Flying comes to them naturally because this is who they are. Who are you? Who is your Father? What is your true nature? You know the answers to these questions, but you may be afraid to jump out of the nest, right? Know this- spirit never dies. You are and always will be spirit from God. You are alive in Christ and need only to come to this realization. Accepting this truth will, from that moment on, change the way you live in this world.

Even today many that call themselves "born again" live as creatures of flesh instead of spirit born of God. Much of their time and effort are spent attending to the needs of the their carnal self. While it is true that at this moment, we (spirit) are living IN

bodies of flesh, our minds must come to realize that it is our spirit giving us life. If our body stops breathing, we do not die. Many live with the fear of death because their mind is married to their body. Let your mind commune with your spirit and you will know the truth and will not fear death. Death loses its sting when we realize we are spirit. What shall you fear if you are spirit? Well, most children fear an angry Father, and we should too! We are spirit from God, yet Christianity traditionally teaches that our natural bodies will be raised from the graves and then taken into heaven. This is not actually true. As Jesus clearly teaches, flesh gives birth to flesh, but it means nothing. The human body is not the image of God, but is simply the image of our natural parents flesh. God is not black or white, male or female! These are natural distinctions of the flesh. Jesus said that the flesh means nothing because the spirit gives life. In the same way, Paul taught that flesh and blood (natural body) couldn't enter the Kingdom of God. It should be clear then that we must be SPIRIT to enter into a spiritual kingdom.

As Jesus alludes to there is an order of birth that must be followed to enter God's Kingdom. First we are born of water then of spirit. This is according to God's design because the latter is dependent upon the former. We come into this world as flesh again and again for one purpose- to learn about God and our self. By living as creatures of flesh we have come to know death, sin and suffering. Yet this is also leading to come to know our Creator (Spirit) and our true self (spirit) better. Our trials and tribulations here allow us to **gain the experience and wisdom necessary to realize we are spirit from God.** This is a true epiphany that changes everything! Our spirit's innate desire is to be like God while returning to God.

We have come into the world to grow spiritually but this goes hand-in-hand with the increase in knowledge. We have been eating from THAT knowledge tree for millions of years now. And as Jesus said, the "fields are ripe for the harvest." Many are ready to be picked out by God! So in another, higher sense, this "knowledge" we are born from can also be seen as being "born of water." It is not unusual for Jesus' teachings to be true on several different levels of understanding. He had some "food" for every level of comprehension. What truth seekers will find is that "truth" is relative to our level of faith and understanding. Again like that bird that decides to fly, when we are ready and decide to live in the Spirit of Christ a whole new reality opens before us! Some say that Jesus walking on the water was a symbol that he was above the rest of humanity because the sea (water) represented humanity. While others say it was showing that his spiritual understanding and wisdom were supporting him. I believe both interpretations have an element of truth in them, but there is no doubt that Jesus came to teach us the knowledge of salvation. The knowledge of the truth will set us free.

Luke 7:33

For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.'³⁴ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and "sinners."³⁵ **But wisdom is proved right by all her children."**

If God is the Father of our spirit then let wisdom be the mother of our soul! Wisdom is the living water that flowed from Jesus' mouth providing a new life for thirsty souls. Once the soul has been born of this wisdom, then the reality of our spirit can come to life! It is written that Jesus grew in wisdom and understanding while walking the earth. Well, we are here to do the same if we are to follow him. If we do

this, we shall find our salvation. Of this I am sure. But how do we follow Jesus?

Obviously Jesus was a man born of spirit (born of God), but are we born in the same way he was? Well according to the rather questionable Gospel of Matthew, Jesus was not only born of the spirit, but also is said to have been “conceived” by the Holy Spirit. Then in Luke’s Gospel we also read that he was “filled with the Holy Spirit” before entering the trials of the desert. Yet, John the Baptist was also a man apparently born miraculously and filled with the Holy Spirit from birth. So what or who is the Holy Spirit? Keep in mind that all spirit must be from God. So the Holy Spirit is the original spirit of this world that has been QUALIFIED by doing God’s will. We know that there are "unclean" spirits in this world that cause all sorts of problems, so we can think of the Holy Spirit as that Spirit of the world which obeys God's will. Even though all spirit is from God, only that spirit that has come back into alignment with His PERFECT will is deemed holy.

Romans 12:2

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

God’s “perfect will” is a higher will that can only be known by going higher in consciousness. In this lower, physical plane of creation every single atom contains the life (spirit) of God. Every cell of our body contains the life of God. When life organizes and carries out God’s higher will this life (spirit) is called holy. This world is full of spirit, but not all is holy. This is by God’s design. Though because of the Holy Spirit’s presence here, God can reach us in tangible ways. He can speak to us, heal us and guide us to a higher life in Christ. So when we read about the Holy Spirit filling or coming upon someone it is by the will of the LORD God. In many ways, the Holy Spirit was first like our father by creating the building blocks of life while the earth was our mother. But then the Holy Spirit acts as our mother because our spirit has passed through the Holy Spirit and our LORD God (Christ, Son and Word of God) acts as our father. So all of humanity is here as a result of the Holy Spirit being on and in the earth. For this reason, God is present at every level of our development. Even if we make our bed in hell, His Holy Spirit helps to lead us out of the darkness so we can see the light of Christ. While God guides our spirit, our spirit then guides our soul. While each spirit is free to choose his own path, there is one thing that is never a matter of choice- who we are. We are God’s offspring destined to become the fullness of our Father. While Jesus was the first of his kind to make this transformation, any who follow will reveal the same glory!

“just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.”

This is the truth! We will be exactly like Jesus. However, long ago, Christendom did everything in their power to separate Jesus from us. They wanted the power and control over their subjects. They would say, “You are not like Jesus, and you cannot reach God without us.” They taught that the man Jesus came into this world without an earthly father. This supernatural event is said to separate him and make him different than the rest of humanity. As I have written many times before, I do not accept this teaching of men as truth. I believe that “virgin birth story” is an added fabrication created in the minds of over-zealous leaders aimed at bolstering the Christian movement. **Jesus didn’t teach this about a virgin birth nor did any of his apostles including Paul.** It either didn’t happen, or it doesn’t matter. Paul was

full of zeal, yet not one word about such an incredible even. For those who can accept it, this fictitious tenet of Christianity was added long after the disciples had passed away. What I explained in *Jesus the Chosen Man* is that Jesus was exactly like us and we shall be exactly like him. This is what Jesus taught and Paul preached. So, like it or not, I strongly believe that Jesus came into this world in a very natural way, which is to say his body was conceived by a natural father probably Joseph. His spirit, however, is a whole different story!

In a very real sense, EVERY child of God has been conceived of the Holy Spirit. All has come from God, which means from the Father through the Son and then through the Holy Spirit. All is spirit, and when you have come into alignment with God's perfect will, you are holy. Through His Holy Spirit, God has created the fabric of the universe from which all life has emerged and then evolves. Since we have all come from God, Jesus' uniqueness was not that the Holy Spirit gave him life, but that he was the FIRST to overcome sin, death and the devil. Like us, he is and always had been SPIRIT from God, but he became our leader and Lord because he was more mature (spiritually) than any who had ever walked the earth before him. Jesus brought the Spirit of Christ into this world thereby becoming the first man to overcome the works and world of Satan. Because of his love, maturity and obedience to God, Jesus the Christ is our Savior! Jesus is now the Spirit of Christ living in us and leading ALL back to God! So seek Him, hear Him and follow Him. Someday your spirit will take flight to be with Him!

In *God Is- Everything Else Isn't*, I detailed how everything and everyone is spirit from God. Our spirit gives us life and connects us eternally to God as we move through the fabric of time and matter. Because of this connectedness to the Source of all life, we can never actually die, but we can only believe we are dead through deviance and deception. When we move out of that spiritual alignment with God, we move into the darkness. This is the key! We must come to know to see the Light of TRUTH that we are alive in God! So do not think that being "born of the spirit" means that you BECOME spirit. Again, you have always been and always will be SPIRIT! Jesus knew this and, I believe, used the phrase "born of the spirit" to mean the time when we REALIZE that we are spirit. Through acceptance of this truth and obedience to God's will, Jesus' spirit revealed himself as God's mature and qualified Son; in whom, God was well pleased. Jesus accepted the undeniable truth that all of must accept- Christ is our life and the reason for life. This divine key opens the door to heaven, which has been kept hidden from man. Yet now it is given to those mature enough to accept it.

Colossians 1:26

The mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Who do you suppose are the "saints" that God is revealing His higher truths to? The saints are those that have realized they are spirit and are ready to follow Christ Jesus into the reality of sonship with God. God is our Father- the Father of our spirit! The saints are truly God's Sons because they have the Spirit of Christ and are God's anointed! They are the anointed souls ready to live for God. They have grown in wisdom and in spiritual stature to the level where they know His perfect will. We all began like newborns in our relationship with God, but will end just as Jesus- mature

and holy. Long ago, mankind was born in complete ignorance of God. As man's spiritual eyes opened, his first sense was to fear God, but, in time, this feeling eventually turned to awe. Mankind is moving past awe to a sincere respect for God, but, in the end, it will all turn to love. It should be clear that the spiritually mature LOVE God as their only Father. This is why we do God's will because we love Him. It is for this reason we have come into this world as human beings-- to be led by faith into the knowledge of truth until we emerge as the mature offspring of God. The purpose of life is our spiritual maturation.

The Maturation

2 Corinthians 3:17 (NASB)

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.
¹⁸ And **we all**, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory**, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Much wisdom can be gleaned from this passage written by Paul to the Corinthians. First understand that "the Lord" is the spirit of Jesus, who is Christ, who is the Son and Word of God. Jesus is the Word made flesh. Jesus found liberty in the Spirit of Christ, so he was free from the laws of religion and of men. We too have the Spirit of Christ and are beginning to see God's glory shining from us. From life to life, we increase to a higher level of glory until **we are transformed into the same image as Jesus**, which is the image of God. As man measures time, this process of spiritual maturation happens very slowly. Science indicates that humans have been evolving for millions of years in natural ways, but Jesus showed us that we also progressing in spiritually. For many, many ages each of us has been returning here to be refined and transformed or as Paul says, from "glory to glory." Whether we can see it now or not, we are going to be perfect like our Father is perfect. For this purpose, God continues to send us back again and again to learn more lessons, grow in faith, and move closer to our home with Him. We are on a journey back to God, but we don't find our way home in a single lifetime. How could we? Some are only in this world for a few seconds while others never make it out of their mother's womb! It should be obvious to serious truth seekers that God is using reincarnation of our spirit as the way to bring us to His perfection.

Jesus often times used parables about nature to teach about God and His Kingdom because our earthly world shadows the heavenly one. Consider then the amazing process of being born. In the natural, a child is conceived in the darkness, not by its own will, but by the will of its parents. In the same way, we (spirit) are conceived by the will of God in a womb of spiritual darkness, which is the spiritual ignorance of this world. As discussed in *The Meaning of Life*, the reason for "life" is to gain full consciousness of the Truth. So in this eternal cycle of life the spirit does not grow in height and weight, but in awareness and love! We are maturing into the image of our Father! Nothing can keep this from happening because God is God, and we, His children, have His spiritual DNA. So everyone his beginning as a single spark of life from God in the womb of darkness called the void. It is here where our journey for life began.

THE CONCEPTION-

Jeremiah 1:5

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Have you ever wondered where were you before there was time? Where did you live before the earth and sun were created? Some believe they didn't exist at all until the moment of their natural conception. They believe that the same moment when a new body was formed in their mother's womb, so were they. I wonder if these also believe that the spirit depends on the flesh for life! Apparently these also have no earthly idea that they are spirit. Jeremiah, however, seemed to know that he was a spirit being that existed before his natural birth. I wouldn't say that coming into this world of death and darkness is coming to life. Rather everyone that is born of flesh will die because the flesh is part of the manifested, temporary world. However, those born of the spirit are not flesh and will never die.

John 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; ²⁶ and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

The "one" who LIVES and BELIEVES and will never die is your SPIRIT! Your spirit is your true self born in God's image. But if you are not living through your spirit, then God doesn't recognize you. When God says, "I never knew you," He is speaking to that false, natural self, which doesn't believe and will most certainly die. Yet, even though your false natural self dies, your true self will live. We should understand that our spirit from God has never been actually dead; this is impossible, but spirit can lose consciousness. As a consequence of this, our souls have been deceived into accepting this world in the flesh as reality. We have accepted these bodies we live in as our life, so the illusions pain and death seem very real in this world. As Jeremiah alluded to, we all were with God before we were placed into creation. So our true life doesn't begin with a natural conception or natural birth. Our true conception wasn't when a sperm joined with an egg. But our true life is realized when spirit joins with consciousness! Our life is from God and is God! The Father gives us life and the Son leads us to realize it!

So if there is a place in time we could call our true CONCEPTION it would be that moment of creation when we (spirit), being led by the Word of God, went into the void. God spoke (breathed) His Word into the darkness, and we, the LIGHT, entered it. You could say that we went into the womb of creation to begin our development, each of us like a seed of God beginning a period of gestation. For billions of years, every spirit has been moving through this physical plane taking on higher and higher forms of life until evolving to our present form. Of course traditional Christianity teaches creationism not evolution. What they don't understand is that **God created evolution to bring about higher and higher forms of life to build His Kingdom.** Do you remember what Paul said? We are moving from one form of glory to a higher form of glory. So it is true that we are spirit beings on a human journey, not human beings on a spiritual journey. Our true life is not defined by the form we take because we are spirit always growing in consciousness. We have passed through the spectrum

of life being qualified along the way. Because we have been qualified by world, we are all the children of God. This is why we can say that all been conceived and born through the Holy Spirit because God, who is holy, is our Father.

So our life in this physical universe began with the “Big Bang” when God’s Light went into the void. Yet surely what came from God must also return to God? This is the beginning of our journey of consciousness powered the spirit, which is always connected to God. Think of spirit as energy because energy makes things move and gives them life. Jesus, the enlightened and anointed one, said that we are the light (or energy) of the world. Each of us is a ray of Light from God that went into spiritual darkness. Consider the multitude of stars in the night sky. They are perhaps trillions of miles away, but we can still see their light! God’s light in us is no different. We entered the void as just a spark of light, but by the grace and will of God, we are transforming into the likeness of God.

Where there was darkness, God made light. Where there was nothing, God created the heavens and the earth. He placed us, His seeds, in the womb of creation, so that His glory would be all in all. There in the womb of creation, faith would become our umbilical cord. Through this divine conduit of faith, God has nourished his spirit children with His life and love. In the natural world, a fetus remains in the womb until it is mature enough to be born, and so it is in the spiritual. Creation became our womb where our spirit has been maturing for ages and ages. Like every unborn child, our spirit was surrounded by our mother’s womb (Mother Nature) where we continued to grow in consciousness. Yet like every unborn child, we were completely unaware of the world we were about to enter. Our Father God had given us His life and now our mother earth was ready to give birth to human beings.

THE INFANT SPIRIT-

Genesis 2:7

The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

If one is looking for an actual moment that mankind was “born of the spirit,” then this passage from Genesis marks it. I believe this because this is the point when man reached self-awareness; man became a living soul- a sentient being of the highest order in nature. God, through evolution, created more and more advanced creatures, and then separated humans from the ape family. This is when we became self-conscious. This quantum leap in consciousness was necessary for us to prepare to become Christ-conscious. All humans are spirit that has been born into this present form to become God’s Image. Perhaps about four billion years ago, God set the spirit of man apart from the rest of creation and making him king of the jungle, as it were. With this heightened level of awareness and intelligence, the mind of man was (and is) driven to know. Like a newborn, all of our senses began to soak up information.

As infant spirits, we were placed in a crib, which the Bible calls Eden. There in our infancy, God took care of us and made sure that man prospered thereby filling the earth with more “vessels” for God’s offspring to use. As our LORD God cared for us giving us all that we needed, this was really a time of bliss for the spirit of man. Yet,

there came that fateful time when we made our first choice. Although mere infants in spirit, we thought we needed more than what God was offering. From the moment our spirit went into the void, we have been seeking knowledge through experience. This God-given desire is insatiable and will lead us back to God; however, it also led us to taste that tree of death. We were innocent until this first choice to eat of the duality tree. Before this we did not know good from evil. We lived like animals with no real sense of what is right or wrong. Also by eating of this tree, we became aware of our flesh to the point we believed we were flesh. For the first time, our infant spirits were deceived by the carnal mind into believing we were merely flesh. Believing ourselves to be flesh, we also believed we died when the body died. In other words, our self-awareness told us that our self died when the body expired. This deception of death came upon the newborn spirit and soul of man long ago by the will of God, as we read in the story of Adam and Eve.

Adam and Eve are one being who represent the human SPIRIT and SOUL respectively. Because Adam and Eve were one when Eve ate of the tree of knowledge so did Adam. The soul (Eve) of mankind led the spirit (Adam) of mankind into sin and this kind of spiritual death (sleep). We read that before Eve (soul) was taken out of Adam (spirit), Adam (spirit) was put into a deep sleep. We know that infants spend much of their time sleeping, so I see that this was also true of our infant spirits in a sense. As infants, not only were we napping much of the time, we also had very little experience or wisdom yet. There was humanity, the infant spirits of God, in the cradle of creation being fed in body by the earth and in spirit by God. There we were babbling, being unable to speak. There we were lying in our crib unable to walk. However, little by little we grew out of our infancy and all of this was about to change!

THE TODDLER SPIRIT-

1 Corinthians 14:20

Brothers, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

A toddler is somewhere between being an infant and a child. As Paul claims, there are certain qualities about infants that are desirable concerning evil. The toddler spirit is innocent with regards to evil because of his lack of knowledge. Sin infected the soul of man pulling the spirit down with her. Since sin is a state of deception, it must also be eradicated through the soul. The infant spirit of man did not know what sin was, but the toddler spirit is beginning to understand. When Cain killed Abel, this “toddler spirit” surely had a sense that he had done something wrong. Yes, the spirit of man was starting to grow up.

At this stage in our development, the toddler spirit is babbling in a kind of incoherent language, which the soul really doesn't understand. So during this time, the soul, who is the companion of the spirit, mostly eats from that tree of knowledge. This “tree” is the one filled with the fruit of the world, which she eats using her natural senses and digest using her natural mind. In this way, the soul is still a “carnivore” because of her carnal appetite. During this “toddler” era, mankind would be considered still fairly primitive like cavemen in all facets of life including that of religion. To this

immature spirit, God is still very much a mystery. And while that “babbling” of the spirit is starting to be heard by the soul of man, it is mostly disregarded.

One thing is true of toddlers; they like to put things in their mouths that they shouldn't! Man was no different during this stage of our spiritual development. We tried everything- tasting the different experiences that the world had to offer be they good or bad. Even so, this toddler was still considered innocent because he was mostly unaware of what is good or bad behavior. During this time, our LORD God is watching over us like a father and keeps us from getting into to much trouble. He even holds us up when we first try and walk on our own.

Psalms 37:23

If the LORD delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm; ²⁴ though he stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand.

Yes, every toddler must toddle, and often times they stumble! But God is always there to protect us from any real harm. In truth, it is the soul that will feel the bumps and bruises of our falls. The first goal every toddler has is to escape from his crib! The toddler spirit of man was always curious and looking for something new. At some point in our early civilization, mankind left his “crib” to see what was out in the rest of the world. This curiosity to know all things is driven by the spirit of man by the Son of God. This is all part of learning who we are. Eventually, our spirit begins to walk and talk a little better then a much bigger and brighter world opens to us.

THE CHILD SPIRIT-

Acts 17:29

"Therefore since **we are God's offspring**, we should not think that the divine being (**our true self**) is like gold or silver or stone--an image made by man's design and skill. ³⁰ **In the past God overlooked such ignorance**, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

Yes, we are God's offspring; and yes, we used to live in ignorance and deception. In the past, God overlooked our “bad” behavior because we were still young- you know kids will be kids! During our childhood stage, God allowed us to “play” freely on the earth's playground. While God had still not laid down the law for mankind, we certainly were increasing our knowledge of what was considered good and evil. Mostly we were learning from our mistakes more than from God. God was watching over us, but we were still too young to really be taught His higher truths. This is the age when our child spirit really came to acknowledge God more personally. Our relationship with God began with a sense of fear. The thought that an all-powerful Force was watching over us was a little unnerving. Yet as all parents know, obedience begins with the fear of discipline.

Psalms 34:11

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

The Bible says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and so it is. For young children, fear is usually the most effective motivator. "Eat your broccoli, or you will get no desert. Clean your room, or you cannot have friends come over." Every parent knows what works. If children fear they are going to lose something, they usually make the right choice. God has treated us like children through the ages using both the fear of punishment and the reward for good behavior as His *modus operandi*. During the child stage of the human spirit those who followed their spirit were blessed by the LORD God with mostly earthly blessings. This makes sense because although we were adult in the natural we were children in spirit. Kids don't want jobs; they want to play. Kids don't want tools; they want toys. So God provided those "good children" with earthly blessings like bountiful harvests, wives, health, fertility and so on. We see this being displayed in the more ancient writings of the Old Testament.

During this "child stage" this spirit of man was beginning to really communicate with God on a meaningful level. As a result of this higher level of spiritual communication and awareness, the world's religions began to emerge. Some looked outwardly at nature that is always speaking of God while others looked within into their own spirit to learn from God. Either way, man was beginning to really speak to God, spirit to Spirit. This period in our spiritual development is significant not only because of ability to communicate with God, but also our ability to remember the wisdom of past lives. We know that in the natural, our earliest memories begin around age four or five, and this is seen in the spiritual too.

Mark 10:13

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

God loves His children! After every life here in this world, our spirit returns to God. Once we have become somewhat developed we can truly appreciate and even recall this return to God. Many of God's children have told of near-death experiences in which they were aware of the peace, joy and light they entered. I believe this is what Jesus was speaking about here when he says we must be like a little child. Our first memories (stored consciousness) of God begin when we are little spirit children.

During this era, mankind began to really grow especially in all area of knowledge. This increased knowledge was also apparent by types of civilizations and social fabric that were created. Popular religions, powerful empires and wondrous inventions were becoming commonplace across the earth. This seemed to be mankind's heyday, or should we say, "play day?" But recess time was just about over. God had watched us playing in the "dirt" of the world for long enough. It was time for a bath in the way of a flood! So God took most of his kids back into heaven and washed them with grace. Soon after repopulating the earth again, our Father decided it was time for some rules to be set for His children. Yes, the spirit of man was coming upon the age of accountability!

THE ADOLESCENT SPIRIT-

Hebrews 12:7

Endure hardship as discipline; **God is treating you as sons**. For what son is not disciplined by his father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. ⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should **we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!**

If you feel that God is disciplining you, rejoice because God is saying you are a legitimate son! In Judaism, a boy becomes a “man” at the age of thirteen. Regarding our spiritual development, this is the period when the spirit of man reaches a kind of “puberty.” Our inner “voice” changes as our spirit becomes louder and more authoritative. This is the time when man’s spirit is really now starting to take more of a leadership role over the soul. Along with this new spiritual prowess given from above, more responsibility also is handed down from God. This is age of human history when God handed down the Law, and man became accountable for his sins. The Jews, of course, have officially documented this, but every spirit passing through his adolescence has been shown what God expects of them. In other words, we know what is right and wrong, so we had better make good choices.

As we read in *Hebrews*, God disciplines those He loves. These are the ones mature enough to handle the coming trials and tribulations. Jesus was tested and qualified by such trials. Jesus is Lord because he PASSED the test! If we claim to be his followers, then shouldn’t we also be put through these tests of our spirit? Jesus endured the lures and traps of Satan who worked through Jesus’ natural mind. His spirit was strong, pure and ready to reveal God’s Son to the world! This is why God expected so much from Jesus. This is why Jesus said, “If much is given to you (from God), then MUCH is also expected.” A father demands much more quality and effort from a 16 year old than a 6 year old. The same is true of God with us, His maturing sons.

Like every good Father, God disciplines us children according to our level of maturity. During this adolescent age of humanity, our spirits were no longer children, but neither were we adults yet. This means that even though our spirit had grown stronger and wiser, we were still “of the world” being led by the soul. For this reason, the Law is for the natural man who hasn’t come to the full realization of who he is. God’s discipline is not necessarily to punish us, but rather to teach us His ways. Whatever courses our lives take, trust that God is doing what is best for our spiritual development. In the same way, the Law and effects of sin were not given to burden us, but to lead us into a higher life in Christ. Even honest teenagers will admit that they need boundaries from their parents to help edify and demonstrate their parent’s love for them. As any parent of an adolescent knows without set boundaries from a parent confusion and conflict can become the guiding principles. This is why God made clear His commandments to govern our behavior. They are simply designed to keep us out of trouble here in the devil’s playground (the world) until we have matured in Christ. The maturing spirit is powering the mind to higher and higher levels of learning and understanding, which is certainly apparent in the past 2,000 years. This increased receptiveness and perceptiveness is also manifested in man’s religions. During this time, our religions became more enlighten by the Truth of God.

Like in the natural, the “teen spirit” is torn between two worlds. In this case though, the battle is between the natural world of the senses and the spiritual Kingdom of God. For ages upon ages, we (spirit) have entered this world, lived in a body of flesh and been companioned with a soul. It is in the soul (mind) where the battle takes place. Does the soul choose the worldly food that she has grown accustomed to or the spiritual food that is harder to reach? Then does the spirit believe the soul and take the worldly delights she offers him? This saga is as old as man himself; it is the sequel to the Adam and Eve story! Apparently some were still having trouble understanding this, as Paul explains.

Hebrews 5:11

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. ¹² In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! ¹³ Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴ **But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.**

We start with milk, but in time, we must eat that solid food- the meat of the truth. This is the truth that will set us free from deception. So apparently eating from that tree of the knowledge of good and evil is exactly what we needed! God didn't make a mistake by placing that “tree” in our reach, and we had to eat of it to advance the plan of life and salvation. In *Thy Kingdom Come*, I showed how mankind has a higher sense of what is right and wrong than ever before in our history. Two hundred years ago, Christians thought it was right to own slaves. Do they still feel this is “right?” Yes, it seems unthinkable, but that just goes to show you how we must continue to advance in the knowledge of the truth. Now, whether Paul realized it or not, he was attempting to teach Kindergartners calculus. Many were entering Christianity, but very few were chosen to carry the Truth. We know that Jesus had the same problem even with even his closest disciples. Many that lacked spiritual understand or faith simply turned away when his teachings became too difficult to accept. So being able to understand and accept the deep mysteries is a sign of a more mature spirit. Above all else, the mature spirit acknowledges that God is his Father.

Because the mature have trained themselves to distinguish between what is good and what is evil, they are without an excuse. If we know the difference between good and evil, God expects us to follow that code of conduct written on our hearts and minds. Of course, the choice is ours. Even today we see some adolescent spirits that continue to make the wrong choice being led still by the deceived soul. Yes, the devil is still doing his work on the earth. And who is the devil? The devil is the enemy of God, the carnal mind of man and ego that loves acting as a god. No one can BE God in this world; we can only be His image, as Jesus was. This divine irony of the truth will help lead the prodigal sons to repentance. What we all will find is that God's peace only comes by DOING what we SEE our Father doing. We can only BE the image of God! The image (man) is a reflection in a mirror and can only do what the Subject (God) does. Jesus realized this truth. The effect (man) IS only because the Cause (God) IS. Straying from this truth brings us pain. Have you ever strayed from God? Have you ever knowingly rejected God's will in your life? Have you ever been an “evil” spirit? You might be surprised who are the ones called evil.

THE EVIL SPIRIT-

Luke 11:11

"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, **though you are evil**, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Here, Jesus is speaking to his closest followers. Did you know that the men that Jesus chose to be his disciples were evil? Are you also then evil? What is an "evil" spirit? As discussed in *Hell Revisited, Satan Revealed*, every spirit is from God even the so-called evil ones. So we must accept that God is the Father of all spirit and life. There is no exception. Because of this truth we must also acknowledge that God created what we call evil, but evil may not be what you think it is. "Evil" is part of the plan of perfection. There can be no good without evil just as there can be no knowledge of life without knowing death first. We all must be lost before we can be found, right? I believe God feels the same way because He has led us into disobedience.

Romans 11:30

Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

Do you believe what Paul says here? God has made us all disobedient, so we would learn from it. Wasn't it God who planted the tree of death in our midst? Wasn't God who created the devil that tempted us? I, like Paul, hold God completely accountable for what is called "the original sin." We only did exactly what God knew we would. Does a parent place poison that looks like candy in the reach of their child and tell them not to eat it? Certainly not! Yet, this is what those of Judea-Christian tradition are taught! What foolishness to think that God did something so reckless! I, like Paul, also trust that God knows exactly what He is doing! We had to eat of that tree of knowledge to become like God- knowing good from evil.

Many self-righteous, religious souls are quick to label others as bad, sinful or evil when these souls don't believe or live as they do. They will say that these evil people are going to an eternal hell when they die. Again, this is foolishness! However, Paul humbled himself and others because he knew better. Paul realized that we ALL have been "evil" and said that he was once the worst of sinners. He said that we ALL used to follow the devil and ways of the world. This is our natural condition before we come to Christ. The word "evil" which is used to describe spirits in many passages of the New Testament is a translation of the Greek words "poneros" and "akathartos." These words can mean vile or wicked, but "akathartos" is many times translated as "unclean" or "impure." In other words, these are UNholy spirits that have not yet be qualified and purified. We can think of these evil spirits as God's "naughty" offspring that need to be taught a lesson. We all need lessons from time to time!

Ephesians 5:8

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth). ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord.

We used to be the spirits of darkness (evil, wayward, bad), but now we know and have the light of Christ! Yes, none is righteous, so we are the disobedient spirits whom Jesus came to save! Can you accept that you were a lost spirit and Christ Jesus is your Savior? Each of us has lost our way and need some help; otherwise we wouldn't be stuck in this (lower) state of life. We are called dead in our sin though we walk in Hades, which is the place of dead. The Spirit of Christ is our only hope to be resurrected from this condition. And evil or not, we are all God's children that are destined to take on the image of our Father. God knows what it will take to save us, and in the dispensation of time, God will bring us all to salvation through Christ, His Son. So, God is not worried about His plan of perfection. Evil is not a problem. Satan is not a problem. They are necessary devices used to help us to realize who we are!

Understand then that light and darkness are the same to God. This means from that highest perspective in Truth there is no such thing as good or evil. In the Holy of Holies where God's peace reigns eternal, God is all in all. We say that God has a right hand and left hand. We see that one is for love the other for judgment. One is for forgiveness, the other for vengeance. Good and evil are then like a left and a right. We need two hands to climb the ladder into heaven and two legs to walk with God. As we mature, we learn through our trials and errors. Every lifetime lived in the flesh is like another day for the spirit to learn. As our spirit matures, his voice becomes stronger.

John 5:28

"Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out--those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.

The Voice is the Spirit of Christ, and the grave is life in the flesh. After each lifetime we are judged according to what we have done. Our spirit is held accountable for our previous life, so that when we are reincarnated we reap what we have sown. Those who hear His Voice and remain defiant will rise to taste suffering and death again in this world. Those who hear and accept His Voice as their own are the mature Sons of God. They will rise into Christ-consciousness and live for God.

THE MATURE SPIRIT-

1 Corinthians 2:6

We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

Are you ready to enroll at that place of higher learning? You know, "K of G," the Kingdom of God! There you will be taught the secret wisdom of God. No, you don't

need books or to go up into the clouds, but your soul will certainly be lifted higher! Heaven is a higher state of consciousness and spirit. As your true self (spirit) matures, you will lift your soul (consciousness) into the Kingdom for a holy marriage consecrated and confirmed by God. This is how our soul is saved- by being united with our spirit in Christ.

Being strong, mature and filled with wisdom, the spirit gains the respect and control of the soul. A spiritual synchronicity develops that brings the soul to perfection and the spirit back to God. The spirit and soul need each other for salvation to be realized. Just as Adam needed Eve so he wouldn't be alone in the world, so does the spirit need the soul to know. More than this, God needs you. Yes, God needs each of us to return to Him so that He can be all in all. You are part of God's life, plan and purpose! Have we not read that it is not good that the spirit be alone? For this reason the soul is the partner for the spirit on our journey into the knowledge of the Truth. The soul, or mind, is where consciousness is planted, cultivated and harvested. We (spirit) reap what we sow. Each life in this world is another growing season for consciousness. With the help of a loving, submissive soul, the spirit of man has grown stronger and closer to God. When your soul perfectly expresses who you are and you perfectly express God, then you know salvation. Simply put, this is the secret wisdom of God that has been hidden from us.

For those spiritually mature enough, the mystery has been solved. Christ is our true life and self. Accepting this pivotal and essential truth is an indication that you have matured. This is the point where the spirit has been through life (many lives) enough to know that spirit is life and God is life! We only have true life when we surrender our life to God. Just as Jesus Christ came to realize this, so does every mature, qualified Son of God. You may have heard of that "brother" God gave us who was an example of a mature Son of God.

Hebrews 2:17

For this reason **he had to be made like his brothers in every way**, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

There is a reason that Jesus is called our eldest brother. It is because we are all of the same family! Yes, he is called the "firstborn" of God, but he is certainly not the last! He is leading all of his siblings (humanity) into perfection and back to God. Thanks be to God that Jesus IS his brother's keeper! While walking the earth in the flesh, Jesus helped all that he came into contact with, but now, as a SPIRIT in God's Kingdom, he has access to the universe! He is in His Kingdom, which is in you and all! In this way, Christ Jesus will guide us back home to our Father's house. The mature spirit is the Spirit of Christ that knows and loves God as Father.

Romans 8:14

Because those who are led by the Spirit of God are Sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Some of my Christian friends have tried to tell me that we are not "actually" God's

children, but we are creatures that have been created from the dust. Well, the flesh has been created, so they must see themselves as flesh. But I am spirit! While Paul does speak of being “adopted” into God’s family, he was speaking of the Gentiles coming into the family of the Jews. So if you are flesh, then God have mercy on your soul, but if you are spirit, then hear what your spirit cries out! “Abba, Father!” Clearly, as we read in *Romans 8:14*, God is the Father of our spirit, and we are the Sons of God!

Romans 8:18

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

The Sons of God will be revealed just as Jesus was revealed. Now understand that being called a “son” doesn’t mean you are a man, but rather it means that you are SPIRIT! More than this, we are becoming God’s likeness and fullness- heirs of God! Certainly you have read the many lofty proclamations that Paul wrote about those who truly had the Spirit of Christ, but do Christians really believe they will attain the fullness of our Lord? I certainly do! This is our purpose on earth- to do God’s will and be God’s image.

Ephesians 4:12

...so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Little by little and life by life, we are moving closer to this glorious goal. The mature Sons (spirits) of God will live on earth even though they are in heaven. In other words, in Christ they have the freedom from fear, from sin and from death. And they bring God’s love and power to earth. As we prove our love and faithfulness, God gives us more responsibility and authority. Most parents would not let their 8 year old child drive their car, but they might let their 18 year old (I did say might!). When God deems us ready to handle it, we are given the keys to the Kingdom. The apostles were given an opportunity to take this divine power on a little test drive. While they only got a sampling of what it was like to be a perfected Son like Jesus, the time is coming when miracles will be commonplace. The Sons of God will bring God’s love and will into this world! God’s Kingdom is coming to a spirit near you, or more accurately to the spirit IN you!

The Miracles

John 10:38

But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."

Thank God for miracles! Have you ever consider what would have become of the teachings of Jesus without His miracles? Jesus and God knew that our natural minds need some persuading. So it seems unlikely that Christianity would have ever gotten off the ground without God bending a few of nature's rules. There is no doubt that miracles get our attention, and this seemed to be the main reason why Jesus used them. Even his disciples seemed to be greatly influenced by them. I believe His miracles were designed to draw the crowds so that he would have an audience for his teachings. It should be obvious that most who sought out Jesus then were not seeking the knowledge of the Kingdom, but were after a miracle cure for the flesh. While Jesus did heal many ailing bodies, the miracles Jesus showed this world were like strong medicine for ailing, unbelieving souls. They were divine antibiotics that could quickly reverse the effects that infectious disease of the devil, which is doubt. Miracles can remove our doubt, and Jesus knew this. So not only was Jesus a healer of the body, but he was also the great physician of the soul! Whether a soul was in the lowest hell or knocking at heaven's door, he met each follower where they were spiritually. Still it should be obvious that Jesus more interested in healing souls than bodies. In other words, he wanted to teach us the truth that could set us free.

While there are some miracles throughout the Bible, nobody has ever topped Jesus who was the master miracle maker! This is because no one had ever reached the status of Son of God! This is the key to miracles. We are told that the first miracle Jesus performed in his ministry was turning water into wine at the wedding. Every natural miracle he manifested had a spiritual meaning. Jesus cured some of blindness, but Christ enables us to see God! Jesus turned water into wine, but Christ changes our life from the flesh to the spirit! By the way, have you noticed that potent forms of alcohol are called "spirits?" Have you also noticed that those who drink seem to let their inner feelings show? If you are angry on the inside, this will show through when you drink alcohol. Most of us have seen the "happy drunk" and the "angry drunk," but now take this into a spiritual context. If we live on SPIRIT, then we shall see our true self revealed. If we drink the blood and eat the flesh of Christ, then we shall have His life! So the purpose of miracles is much more than just to improve the health of an ailing body. They are to teach us the higher way and to glorify the Highest One!

Luke 19:37

When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, **the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:**

³⁸ "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" ⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Everyone loves a winner! But put that winner on a humiliating cross to die, and then see who his true friends are. Miracles happen every day, and in varying degrees, we have all witnessed or experienced miracles in our lives. Yet, do we fully understand the physics behind these miracles? I believe there is a spiritual science to why and how miracles can happen. In simple terms, miracles are gifts from God, which could come as a spiritual, mental or even a carnal healing. Even what we think are tragedies sometimes turn out to be miracles in disguise. While I am sure that miracles happen every day, many times we do not fully perceive them.

Miracles can certainly be blessings in our lives, but their main purpose is to glorify God and increase our faith. Still, how and what exactly is a miracle? The dictionary says that a miracle is “an inexplicable event by the laws of nature so is held to have supernatural or divine origin.” There are documented cases in the medical field of “miraculous” cures from cancer and other terminal diseases. One man has been struck by lightning seven times! It surely is a miracle that he is still alive. There are some who might have missed their flight on the plane that crashed killing all aboard. Sometimes the birth of a child is considered a miracle, and why not? It may not be supernatural, but it is still very amazing how life begins. Still, what about those supernatural events?

First, we should understand that our physical world is the home of the Holy Spirit, who represents God here in this lowest realm. The Holy Spirit is called the Helper and our Comforter because He brings down God’s truth, love and will into Hades. God is omnipresent in our world because of the Holy Spirit. So through this Holy Helper, the Spirit of God resides within every atom of the universe. We can think of the Holy Spirit as God in an elemental form. In the movie, *Star Wars*, the “Force” was this mysterious power generated by all things that the Jedi Knights used to gain supernatural abilities. To tap into this “Force” required FAITH and stillness on their part. Does this sound familiar? I wrote about how faith unlocks supernatural power in [*Bringing God to Life- A Matter of Faith*](#).

Jesus showed us that the “Force” of this world is able to bend natural laws and extend beyond the bounds of what we thought was reality. Life can be measured by vibration, so when your spirit is in step with God, then the Force will be with you! It is like a harmonic convergence of the spiritual kind. Certainly we have all had those days walking in step with God’s Spirit and everything seemed effortless, perfect. Those are the moments when we say and do the right thing without giving any of it a second thought. God, like the Force, is everywhere and in everything. The reality of all things is spirit from God, so when our focus is on the unseen, spiritual life then miraculous things will happen in our present life.

When Jesus became the catalyst to heal a sick body he always reminded the one being healed that THEIR faith had made them well. Our bodies have the ability to heal because God lives in every cell and every atom. There the Holy Spirit can cure any disease, but we must to have faith. Where do we get the faith? Where else? God. If one empties his heart of doubt, pride and hate then God will surely fill it with faith, hope and love. Miracles are the result of faith and desire, which is God’s faith and God’s desire. If our faith was the size of a mustard seed, we could move mountains. Hard to believe that isn’t it? That is why it hard to move mountains!

So in actuality, miracles are the release of God’s spiritual energy that exists in all things. This “energy” can be tapped into by aligning our will with God’s perfect will. The Red Sea parted for Moses because it was God’s will; Moses just happened to be in the right place at the right time because he followed his faith. It all comes back to faith. Jesus said, “Your faith has healed you.” Faith, like the oil in the virgins’ lamps, is something we must maintain and use wisely. You could think of it as your own spiritual bank account where you make deposits and withdrawals. This bank is open 24/7 and is called KARMA. Some Christians may have trouble accepting this “Eastern” word, but this universal truth is found in every major religion including Christianity. Jesus, Paul and God have told us that man will reap what he sows. This is our karmic account. Some have a debt to pay while others have started “saving” riches in heaven. Some naively believe that they must leave this world to have access

to what they have secured in God's Kingdom. They apparently don't believe Jesus when he said that the Kingdom of God is within us. Heaven and hell are states of mind and spirit. By doing God's will both spirit and soul are lifted closer to heaven where our inheritance of divine riches is kept.

We are here in this lower state of life to learn to love as God loves. Every time we love as God loves, we make a deposit into our savings. Every time we trust in God's way, we earn interest on our faith. Every time we do God's will in our lives, we are increasing our heavenly wealth, which no man can take away. God gives everyone the gifts of faith, hope and love, but what we do with these is our decision. Like the Prodigal son we can squander everything and become desolate. Yet, we are always able to come back to God in the end. Still, the truth remains; for those with no faith in their bank, they will see no miracles. For those with no love in their heart, they will have no forgiveness. These had better return to God for a loan! He has a monopoly in those particular commodities! Understand that by using our faith, we don't necessarily deplete this divine resource. Like money, faith used wisely makes more faith!

John 14:12

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. **He will do even greater things than these**, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

In the Spirit of Christ, we can do and have all things; but without Christ, we can do nothing! Jesus taught that when TWO or more come together in his name (spirit) whatever is asked would be given to them. The key is being in His SPIRIT because Jesus had the Spirit of Christ, which is the mature and perfected Son of God. In Christ, we are all one; so by joining this union we have access the fullness of God. Jesus walked on the water, but those who follow in Christ will glide through the air! The higher the octane of the spirit, the more power that is available to the soul and body. There are documented accounts of possessed individual levitating during an exorcism. Their body was the home to many spirits that caused it to rise. If this be true, then what shall we expect when the fullness of the Christ's Spirit resides in us! I tell you the truth; mankind has only just begun to unlock his spiritual potential. Mental telepathy, levitation and healings of all kinds will become actualities when the Sons of God are revealed to the world!

Even today, when souls believe and spirits join in Christ, a spiritual fusion of faith takes place releasing the unlimited power of God. Because Jesus believed, only one other with faith was needed to create the miracle equation. However, there were no miracles where there was no faith, no maturity and no relationship with God. Only the more mature children of God have the faith necessary to unlock this energy from on high. A million years ago when man's spirit was an infant, those cavemen could not tap this divine power because they did not know God. Even the miracles from the great prophets of the Old Testament are very few, but this will change as the qualified Sons (spirits) of God are revealed! These spiritually mature prodigies of God walk the earth today waiting for the moment when the Spirit of Christ is fully manifested in them.

The Manifestation

Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. **Against such things there is no law.** ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since **we live by the Spirit**, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

The fruit of the spirit is a very healthy diet for the soul! Understanding that we are spirit and should live by the spirit is the key that opens heaven's door. Spirit is at the center of everything and is the reality of everything. Whether it is an atom or an Adam, the heart of life itself begins with the spirit. Surrounding the spirit is the soul where consciousness is known and expressed. It is in the soul where the spirit finds his purpose. For the soul, it is in the spirit where she finds her peace. The human psyche (soul) is a complex entity where emotion, will, knowledge, and imagination come together like instruments of a symphony. When every part of our being is keeping time with God, then the music we produce is divine and joyous. When the children of God are in harmony we are the Body of Christ! Our spirit is our life, and the spirit is what is empowering us back to God. Because of our spirit we have obtained existence and consciousness of self. Yet for ages and ages the spirit of man was barely heard. That "still small voice" was like that of a young child, and so he was. But what began as a seemingly insignificant spark of God's life has matured into a new man called Christ! As we mature into an anointed Son of God, we no longer live being led by our natural senses. The new man develops spiritual senses that give him NEW sensations and perceptions of a Kingdom hidden from natural eyes.

Even though Jesus walked upon the earth, he LIVED in the Kingdom of God. Do you understand what I am saying here? Jesus' body was here, but his mind and spirit were in the Kingdom of God. So his spirit lit up this dark world with the light of Christ, yet this is the same light that should light every man. We are the light of the world sent here on holy mission to shine as Jesus did. Jesus said that we should uncover our "light" and then the world would be a brighter place. While Jesus was the brightest star that had ever shined from heaven to earth, each of us will also shine God's glory. Some stars are brighter than others, but we are all God's children nonetheless. All light works to destroy the darkness. The more we seek God and His will the more we will shine and produce the good fruit of the Spirit of Christ. We continue to accumulate wisdom, love and faith through our lives until that divine light of Christ comes shining through our whole being- body, soul and spirit.

THE PERSONALITY-

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope

fully on the grace to be given you **when Jesus Christ is revealed.** ¹⁴ **As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.** ¹⁵ **But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;** ¹⁶ **for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."**

The main topic I addressed in *The Revelation (The End of the World as We Know It)* was how Christ returns to this world through His Spirit being revealed in us. In the above passage, Peter just causally slips this idea in, but I wonder how many Christians have taken note. Yes, every eye will see Christ because Christ is in everyone; he only needs to mature and be revealed. Dear child of God, who do you think you are growing up to be? Who are you going to look like when your spirit has fully matured? You will be just as Jesus was- a perfect Son and Image of God!

Peter goes on to write that we are called to holiness, but what does it really mean to be holy? We know that Jesus also told us to be perfect like our Father; however, many Christians do not strive for perfection because they are deceived about salvation. They say, "I am not perfect, but at least I am saved." I say what Jesus says, "Only those who do the Father's will shall enter the Kingdom of God. So, wake up! And be what God says you are!" All mature Sons of God strive to be perfect, which is accomplished by being aligned in spirit with God's perfect will. Of course, to do God's will we must first know God's will. The mature in Christ are able to effectively communicate with God, spirit to Spirit. In ancient times, what made a prophet and prophet? It was his ability to communicate with God. If we receive the Word of God and are obedient to the Word of God, then we become the Word of God manifested. So understand that this "perfection" is an inner quality of the spirit and not necessarily what the world may deem as perfect.

A good example of this discrepancy would be our perfect brother, Jesus, who the world didn't find so flawless. As Jesus proved, the actions of the mature spirit tends to be a little eccentric as compared to the society at large. At times they may even overindulge in what is considered a sinful activity, but their first and greatest love is always God. They live by only one law- the spirit of the law of life. As a result of the freedom found in the Spirit of Christ, the Sons of God do not necessarily follow the rules of men. They live to express God's love that pumps through their whole being. Jesus gave his love to everyone. Because of his divine love, he rebuked the Pharisees. Because of his divine love, he partied with sinners. Because of his divine love, he worked on the Sabbath. Jesus didn't live by the religious rules men had placed in his mind, but was led by his mature spirit within his soul. The mature know that the only food that satisfies them is doing God's will. The only one that can know God's will for you is YOU! Yet, if one cannot hear God then they must have these rules that are intended to lead them closer to God. This is why most religious zealots are led by their soul and not their spirit.

Many use the word "soul" to mean their spiritual self, but I call this our spirit. I use the word soul, as it is used in the New Testament writings, to mean that intangible (female) entity, which is akin to our psyche. In fact, the Greek word for soul is "PSUCHE" and is where we get the word psyche. The Greek word translated spirit is "PNEUMA," which means breath, current of air, ethereal or life unseen. So an angel can be a pneuma and is certainly a living, thinking being though not of this world. Then clearly, we should understand that the spirit and the soul are not the same entity, which is proven whereby the Word of God is able to divide them like marrow from bone. Yes, they are closely linked, but the spirit and soul are as different as a man is from a woman.

When our natural self dies in this world and the breath (spirit) leaves the body, our spirit returns to God in heaven. This is when the soul can be divided from the spirit. This is done to remove everything that is not holy before entering heaven. This is why Jesus and Paul both taught that many souls are utterly destroyed (in hell) because they were joined to the flesh and not the spirit. Yet any “part” of the soul that was found worthy becomes the platform to form a new soul. This “part” would include any memories, wisdom or knowledge from a previous life. Then when the spirit reenters this world, a virgin soul emerges from and then wraps herself around the spirit, her source of life. She now becomes the medium between the spirit and the flesh. She is a conglomeration of the mind including emotion, will, personality and ego. So think of the soul coming out of the spirit like Eve came out of Adam. She does this to be his helper in the world. While she enters the world naked and pure, she soon finds herself dressed with the “clothes” the world gives her. As I have said before, you are not who the world says you are; you are who God says you are. Many have trouble accepting reincarnation because of this identity crisis created by the deception of the ego. They believe the lie that they are flesh and are of this world. Is this what you believe? They believe they are male, female, black, white, American, Chinese and so on. Is this what you believe? This is not who you truly are. These characteristics are like the clothes we have put on after entering this world. The soul may adorn herself with these coverings, but only the glory of Christ will suit the spirit.

While we may be a different “personality” every time we reenter this world, we are always the same “person.” And that person is spirit maturing into the life of Christ. Understand that the ego, which is closely related to the personality, is really the most superficial part of our being. This outer shell is a projection of who the natural mind thinks we are. The ego is our image of our self, which is a false image sustained by the world. So the personality then becomes the outerwear that our ego says we must put on to hide our otherwise “naked” self. To some degree we inherit a portion of our NATURAL personality from our natural parents and the rest is conditioned by the ambient experiences of the world. Our likes, dislikes, nuances and temperament are mostly programmed in this way. Why do you like fishing? Why do you like pancakes? If you were raised in a different home and setting, you may dislike these things. In some cultures, they would sooner eat the worms than go fishing! So I hope you understand that this is all superficial hoax. Until the spirit realizes that the glory of God is his true covering, the soul leads us to believe that we must hide behind a personality and ego.

The human personality (and ego for that matter) came as a result of our spiritual and mental evolution. As our minds (souls) grew stronger (more mature), the ego began to really take over our being. This is the throne of the devil, where the false self says he is God. While the ego is a human condition, man is not the only species expressing emotions and even a personality. Anyone that has a dog as a pet knows this to be true through firsthand experience. Dogs show personality because they have a spirit and yes, a soul too. In truth, all is spirit. The form we have “put on” in this world is simply a medium we are using to advance to where God is leading us. Every creature from God is expressing the life of its spirit in some way, and the personality is just an evolved form of this. However, in the case of man, the “world” has become more and more influential while the ego has become his god and a false image of himself. The devil works through the egos of men to divide us, but Christ uses the love between our spirits to unite us. The devil is legion, but God is one. This is why mankind suffers as he does because too many are letting the ego control their soul instead of God. The ego lives in the world to gain the world. The ego is the

throne of the devil and must be dismantled before Christ can reign. In the spiritually mature, the ego has been put down and overcome, so then God's nature can shine through our being. Every expression of God is a form of Love. In fact, John wrote a very simple definition to help us discern who is "born of God."

1 John 4:7

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

Yes, if you know and have Love you know and have God! As we more take on His likeness, the more we express perfect love toward others and our self. Love cannot be extinguished! Even the darker, natural tendencies of human nature will not stop divine Love from shining. Our spirit will grow brighter and eventually penetrate the natural self so that light of Love fills our whole being! We read that during the transfiguration, Jesus was seen in his true glory, which is LIGHT! While the world may not be able to see this aura yet, they will see God's love flow from our spirit to our soul and into our good works. And even though the devil may try to dim our light, nothing can stop this from happening. Why? Because God says Christ has overcome the devil, the darkness and the deception! Some may feel naked without a worldly personality, but the spiritually mature know better. They know that Christ is our true personality, our true persona revealed. These in Christ are not concerned with the superficial labels of the world, but seek to bring their spiritual self to the surface. This is not for their glory, but for God's glory! This is how the spiritual Body of Christ is resurrected in us. The spiritually mature know this is the only body that truly matters.

THE BODY-

2 Corinthians 5:1

Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.

Adam and Eve were also "found naked," but this had little to do with their bare skin. They were embarrassed of what they thought they were. For the first time they identified themselves as creatures of flesh instead of spirit of light. We are the only animals on the face of the earth that FEEL the need to cover our skin because of embarrassment, but this condition is more than skin deep! Our whole being went into hiding from God. This is what eating of the knowledge tree will do for you.

So, is your body your self-image? When you look in a mirror do you see a natural body or a spiritual self? The spiritual student lives in his body, but he knows that he isn't his body. Because he doesn't associate his true identity with his body, his body does not embarrass him. He could stand naked in front of strangers and not feel uncomfortable at all. Do we judge others by the appearance of the flesh? We do if we look through our natural eyes. When the world labels a person as fat, ugly or sexy, this person is more likely to attach that identity to their self. While this labeling can

turn into a distraction for the strong, it can be a trapping for the weak because it encourages the connection between the body and our self image. The world wants you to believe that being rich, famous and sexy is the way to happiness, but these things by themselves lead to the destruction of the soul in that state of Hades.

So understand that we are not our bodies anymore than we are the automobiles we drive to work. Our bodies are simply the vehicles we use to move about in this world. So the spiritual student respects and cares for the body in this way. For this reason, the spiritually mature avoid harmful activities like smoking, excessive drinking and overeating. They understand they are free to do as choose, BUT they also fully realize that the only way to God's peace is by following God's will.

Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.

If you do God's will with your body, then it is truly a temple of God and a living sacrifice to God. You are NOT your body. And the body is NOT yours. God created a body suitable for you in this world through billions of years of evolution. You are not that body; you are spirit that is just renting out the space for awhile. In many ways, the body is like a garden that we must take care of. No gardener is fed eating the soil of his garden, but he certainly can enjoy the crop that is produced by the fruit of his labors. So the mature Sons of God do not worry about their physiques, which is to say they would not try to look like super models or body builders. They keep their body in good health because their spirit and soul are in good health. The spiritual exercise of the spirit must always come before the body. Instead of toning the flesh, they rather push up their faith, do some love crunches or run with their "Trainer" farther than they thought they could go. There is no doubt that Christ Jesus will "push us" to be in perfect spiritual shape.

When we live according to the spirit, everything else falls into perfect place. Put the spirit first and the body and soul will be taken care of wonderfully. Our overall health starts with the spirit and works through the soul and then to the body. Positive vibes from the spirit translate into positive thoughts of the soul, which can have an incredibly positive affect on the body. When the spirit feeds and leads the soul, then the body will be of good health. It has even been scientifically proven that spiritual health directly affects our physical health. Those who pray or create positive thoughts heal much faster and have better overall health than those who don't. This is because our spirit is our true life (energy), and when we are tapped into Christ, we have the power of God to heal and to be healthy.

While human beings are living longer than ever, they are also picking up some unhealthy lifestyles. Obesity has become epidemic in the United States just in the last century. Some blame fast food, but there are likely some "spiritual" influences at work here too. It has been documented that some of those who are obese in this current life have lived a past life where they starved to death. The spirit learns only through experience. If one has starved to death in a previous life then he may eat himself into a grave state of obesity in the next. This karmic cause and effect relationship is likely the root of many of our social ills and weaknesses. Eventually wisdom comes to the rescue and a balance is found that leads to good health. Life is about choices, and choices lead to consequences. Once we have matured in Christ, we are fully aware of what is right and wrong in the wisdom of the spirit. This is how

we learn in this lower world of shadows- through duality. And this is why God made us male and female.

SEXUALITY-

1 Thessalonians 4:3

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of **you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable**, ⁵ not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God.

Are you the master of your domain? Through the Spirit of Christ, the mature have self control over their mind and therefore also their body. No one could argue that the flesh has needs that must be met, but these desires should not control us. I think most men would have an easier time fasting from food than fasting from sex. This is really not their fault because the male body is designed to desire sex. In other words, the utmost desire of the flesh is to make more flesh. The spirit of our flesh gives rise to the desire, which is then translated to the brain. The natural mind is the brain's activity, but the spiritual mind operates from the wisdom of the spirit. We should also understand that reproduction of "self" is quite natural because it is perhaps the strongest, most rudimentary desire of nature and all life for that matter. Everything seeks to reproduce life, which is a divine desire from on High. Isn't it God's utmost desire to reproduce His Son's life through us? So the body isn't evil for wanting food or sex, but the body must be made submissive to the hierarchy of our true self. The body should serve the soul that should serve the spirit. In this way, a spiritual harmony is achieved within our personal domain.

Long ago ancient man, who was young in spirit, was only concerned with the needs of the body. Food, shelter and sex were pretty much the only concerns of early man. After only a few million years, this carnal focus started to shift. As the spirit matured, the soul began to focus less on the body and more on the "heavenly things." Abstract thoughts about self, life and God began to be asked by that still, small voice within man's being. Through the ages, this inner power has been taming the beastly nature of man. Jesus and Paul, to a lesser degree, are good examples of men that didn't need sex in their lives. Paul wrote quite frankly about sex and desire, which he basically said that if your desire for sex is too strong to control get married. So gradually humans are losing their animal desires as we mature in Christ. This includes sex, but also even food and sleep will often be pushed aside when the spirit is at work in us. Fasting was a common practice in Jesus' day, but while some "practiced" this sacrifice, others had mastered it! Jesus wasn't worried about filling his belly with food, but rather his sustenance was doing the will of God. Again, when we do THIS everything else will take care of itself.

As I wrote about in *[Drugs, Sex and the ROCK that Rolls Them Over](#)*, sex shouldn't be viewed as a bad or evil thing. While some do certainly pervert it, sex is a necessary and beneficial act of intimacy between a man and woman. The spiritual student understands that sex is not just intercourse of two bodies, but also the union of two souls. Therefore sex for the mature is not a casual event such as animals have, but is symbol of a sacred bond. While having sex isn't really "making love," it can be

expressing one's love. God designed sex to act as a kind of glue that would hold many relationships together when other (higher) bonds have become undone. So the spiritual student views sex from a higher perspective. It is not about satisfying natural, primitive desires, but it is seen as a way to express their love and bring pleasure to their life partner.

What is truly interesting is that revelation that there is no male or female in Christ. Of course, we don't have to leave this world to live in Christ, so the spiritually mature have this strong sense that they are not sexual beings right now. So entering this world with a male or female body doesn't have nearly as much influence on the mature as on others. In other words, these spirit led souls will behave in a more "neutral" way than others. Their actions, emotions and thinking will not be stereotypical of natural men or women of the world because they are spirit! Whether they live in a male body or a female body, the Sons of God bring forth the fruit of the spirit. This is their highest desire- to glorify God!

MATERIALISM-

Colossians 3:1

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ² **Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.** ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When **Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.**

What a wonderful passage! Christ is your life! That says it all! Now, is there any question how the spiritually mature feels about those "earthly things?" The mature have the mind of Christ, which means they desire the intangible gifts from God over the things of this world. They see material possessions as temporary, so they seek what they know is permanent. Peace, joy, holiness, love, faith and justice are the "things" we should all desire. When these are our only possessions, then nothing in this world can possess us! And what about food and shelter, surely we need these things, right? No, we really don't. The body does, but WE don't. The only necessity of life is the spirit.

While wealth is certainly not a goal, the spiritually mature are usually successful in whatever endeavor they have been led to undertake including their vocation. I am sure Jesus was an excellent carpenter before he became a full-time Christ! It is even possible that the mature in Christ possess great worldly wealth, but they control their money. Even today, I am impressed and encouraged to see such great charity coming from the rich and powerful. Oprah, the very successful talk show host, is a great example of this. She is not controlled by greed, but is led by her wonderfully mature spirit. The Sons of God are everywhere and are taking over the world in the name of Love! They give generously and do not ask to be paid back. Because of the Spirit of Christ coming of age today, there is more charity in the world today than ever before. Yes, God's Kingdom is coming! So understand that being rich is neither a sin nor a condemnation. Jesus told the rich man that he must give everything away because the rich man was controlled by his money and not God. If God has you, then everything you have is at God's disposal.

Rich or poor, it doesn't matter to the spiritually mature because they give still give freely to those in that come into their lives. They give the gifts that are much more valuable than money. Because they usually choose a practical lifestyle, their wealth may not even be apparent. Clothes for warmth and cars for transportation means they would not typically wear lavish clothes or drive expensive cars. As one brother showed us, the Sons of God ride on lowly donkeys and not noble steeds. They are not influenced by the trends of society like so many others. Too many souls of this world medicate themselves by providing the ego all its worldly desires. This only serves to inflate that false image with a sense of pride. "Look at all of my stuff!" Then soul will tout, "I am rich!" But in reality, she is poor and dressed in filthy rags. As we should know, wealth is not the only costume the ego uses to keep man a character of this dream world. The guise of holiness has also proven to be a very effective deception that keeps many souls tied down with the weight of the law.

LEGALISM-

Galatians 5:16

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. ¹⁷ For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. ¹⁸ **But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.**

Every Christian soul should meditate on what this passage really means. If you are being led by the Spirit of Christ, you are not under the law! If you are IN Christ, you are above the law because Christ supersedes the law. Why then does Christianity keep teaching the law in the form of the Ten Commandments? I will tell you why. It is because most are not led by the SPIRIT, but instead are led by the soul. The mature in spirit know what is right in their own heart (spirit) whereas those that are still living naturally must be taught or think what is right. In Catholicism, children memorize prayers that they will repeat when it is "appropriate." Then as matter of ritual or etiquette they will recite the words exactly as they have learned them. Without the sincerity and power of the spirit, such prayers are meaningless and even harmful because they deceive many into believing they are profitable. Prayers, laws, rituals nor rules will ever save us from sin and death.

Colossians 2:20

Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: ²¹ "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? ²² These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings.

It is true that laws help keep order in this lower world, and some definitely need this to control their behavior. Yet, there will come a time when rules of men must be broken to achieve the will of God. Even today most of mankind still needs the laws of the prophets that helped define God's will. Yet what the prophet knew long ago should be common knowledge of all God's children today. How mature are you? Are you a Son of God that can feel God speaking to you through your spirit? Suppose

you hear or read something that you KNOW it is true, but it contradicts that which you have been taught? What do you do? Are you going to believe what you were taught by men or accept what is ringing so true in your heart? Have you felt such a ringing? This “sound” is your spirit expressing the joy and excitement of receiving the Truth from God. Truth can be found and come to us in many ways, but God always confirms the knowledge of the truth in our spirit. Conversely, the devil deceives us through the soul (mind) using the things of this world. Paul taught that the woman (soul, mind which is female relative to the spirit) should be quiet and still, so our spirit can know and teach the truth. The spiritual student knows that God’s will and truth cannot be found in any book. There is only way to know God’s will and that is through direct contact, spirit to Spirit. And in the spirit there is freedom from the law.

1 Corinthians 6:12

"Everything is permissible for me"--but not everything is beneficial.

"Everything is permissible for me"--but I will not be mastered by anything.

“Everything is permissible...but not everything is beneficial” is an actuality that the spiritually mature know very well. The sins of the flesh are seen more as a misuse of time and energy, but not as chains of death. Those who are not flesh cannot commit sins of the flesh. Those living with the Spirit of Christ are no longer chained by the Law or the guilt accompanying it. They have truly been set free to do anything, BUT being mature, they also understand what is the right and profitable choice. This is where wisdom really comes into play. The spiritually mature, filled with lifetimes of knowledge, will not keep making the same mistakes and bad choices that lead the soul into suffering, sorrow and even death. The mature Sons of God seek to please their Father, so they do what they know is right despite what the world may think.

We should realize then that the Law of Moses is a shadow of the truth. It is the way the natural man (who is also a shadow of his true self) must live in this world to please our LORD God. But as I explained earlier, the law is not for the mature sons in Christ. Still many religious souls attempt to follow the law because of the fear of punishment. (They might be sent into an eternal hell if they don’t). Others try are hooked on the law like drug so that they can get that “fix” of pride. Either way, the law can never save us, but only lead us to the one who does save- Christ! Now those in Christ uphold the law because of their love for God. God’s will becomes their will and this is the law of the spirit of life. Jesus confounded and enraged the religious leaders by living in this way. He didn’t follow their rules. In fact, when he preached in Chapter 5 of Matthew he rewrote those old laws with higher ones. You have been taught to hate your enemies, but I say to love your enemies. You have been taught to take an eye for an eye, but I say turn the other cheek. Jesus raised the standard of the law! Jesus was trying to take humanity into the higher life of Christ where there is only one command- love each other as God loves. If you do just this, you have fulfilled all the Law.

RELIGION-

John 4:23

Yet a time is coming and has now come when **the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth**, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

Many today are leaving organized religion because they see its shortcomings. Many of my friends tend to label me a "religious" man, but this is really not accurate. I would say that I am spiritual, not religious. More than this, I am SPIRIT! And yes, in my mind there is a big difference between spiritual and religious. The spiritual soul is more open to spiritual truths whereas the religious soul is governed by a specific doctrine. The spiritual soul is free to move outside the lines, but the religious soul is stagnated in the box of his religion. While the spiritually minded may begin in a particular religion, they will eventually go beyond the teachings of men. They seek the truth from God. Jesus is a great example of this. He went beyond what he had been taught. Moses did the same. Truth comes from God as pure revelation, but then it finds its way into the hands of men and becomes a religion. Jesus was given pure Truth; those who followed built a religion.

Religion is generally good for the souls of this world, but it is inadequate for the Sons of the Kingdom. Many times the mature will not feel they are being "fed" by going to church. If your pastor or priest doesn't inspire or teach you, then what purpose does he serve? Many are still being fed the "milk" at church, and this is as it should be. Meat is a little harder to come by, but more and more religions are being refined by the Truth. I am blessed every time I hear a minister sharing some real meat of the truth! Yes, we are all looking to be fed, and some do this by being very involved at their church. The average person might think about God on Sunday mornings and maybe Wednesday nights, but the spiritually mature seem to always have God on their mind- a continuous prayer. Many have told me that going to church helps them focus on God and life, which is a good thing if that is what it takes. This is like when some people require a personal trainer to get or stay physically fit. Some people need that person or group to help them stay on course, but the spiritually mature are supported directly by God.

For many ages now, man's religions tend to be more soul-based than spirit-based. Consider the religious zealots that Jesus confronted. They were mostly led by the soul and deception (which is what got us in trouble in the Garden). Whereas, those who worship in spirit and truth are led by their mature and willing spirit. Our spirit gains knowledge by experience through the soul, so the soul can have a direct impact on the spirit in this way. She can lead him astray as Eve did Adam, but she can also be helpful and holy. Suppose a person with a young rebellious spirit is placed into a strong Christian environment. This religious and "soul-based" experience would most likely have a positive effect on that undeveloped spirit. So religion can certainly be helpful for those still maturing in Christ, but as Jesus said there will come a time when we worship in a higher way. It is important to understand that a follower of Christ need not be a "Christian" because Christ goes far beyond Christianity. The Word of God has permeated and certainly transcended every major religion ever conceived by man.

Again, we must see that all sincere religions have some measure of the light of Truth within them. We know that the Sun rises in the east and sets in the west and then there is darkness. The light of Truth has moved across the horizon of humanity in the same way. The Truth rose in the Eastern religions first with the birth of Hinduism and Buddhism. These are said to be the oldest religions of the world still being practiced.

Then as time marched forward during humanity's development the light of Truth shone on the Jews of the Middle East. By this time, the Sun was high in the sky. So, the knowledge of God was the highest it had ever been. It was at this brightest moment of the "day" when Christ came into the world through the man, Jesus. As the Sun moved west, Christianity was born and flourished. It started in abundant sunshine, but then grew dimmer as the Sun moved westward toward the horizon. Before the setting of the Sun, one last religion sprung up out of humanity- Islam, which today is called the fastest growing religion on earth. This will be the last prominent religion to come from man because the age (day) of religion has passed. A New Day is coming! As the Sun returns to the eastern horizon, every religion shall see His Glory! Every religion of man will see the Truth in every other religion because the Truth will shine brighter than ever in what will be the Day of the Lord!

THE TRUTH-

1 Timothy 2:3

This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who **wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.** ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time.

Jesus and Paul put the highest of premiums on seeking and accepting the knowledge of the truth. For the spiritually mature this is their prime directive- to know the Truth. Some may ask, "What is truth?" Yet the Sons of God know truth when they hear it. Conversely, they also know delusive dogma when they see it. The perfected souls in Christ will not accept mankind's reprehensible religious teachings even though these "tenets of faith" have been taught for hundreds of years. With spiritual eyes they question and scrutinize everything to see if it passes the tests of Love and Truth. They can then see right through the foolishness of an eternal hell where the lost children of God are tortured. This picture was not conceived in the mind of our God, but rather in the devil mind of man! Evil men created an image of God from their own sinful self, but those born of God know Christ is the true Image of God. Those in Christ express God's Love and Truth. So fervently they seek the knowledge of the truth and then freely give it in love. They only want to know God and God's will. They want to learn to love as God loves. Just as those who love are born of God, so are all truth seekers led back to God, who is Truth.

So then when any truth from any facet of life is discovered by the mature Sons of God it will be accepted. When science proved the earth was not the center of the solar system, they let go of those false notions held for so long. When science proved that the universe was not created in six days, they let go of unenlightened ideas founded in ignorance. When science shows us that animals have evolved over millions of years leading to the emergence of man, they accept it as God's way of creating life. Knowledge replaces faith. What was once unseen faith carrying the offspring of God is now being transformed into a platform of knowledge upon which we stand. All truths support The Truth. We are not only growing in the knowledge of the world around us, but also in knowledge of the Kingdom within us! If we listen and look closely, the outside world is preaching and teaching us about the inner world of God's Kingdom. Everything we see, hear and touch are shadows of a higher

reality. This higher reality is the Kingdom of God where the Son of God is King. His Kingdom is not one of castles floating on the clouds; His Kingdom is a life in a higher state of consciousness where anything is possible! By the grace of God mankind continues to evolve physically, psychologically and spiritually toward this goal. Mankind is reaching higher and higher levels of knowledge and awareness, which is leading us face to face with God. Consider the child prodigies that come into this world with extraordinary talents. They have built this knowledge and skill in a previous life. Spiritually, we do the same! Long ago, very few could understand what the prophets were trying to convey about God, but today this knowledge is becoming common among all mankind. Today more than ever before, God is tearing down the false teachings found in man's religions and replacing them with His Truth. God is showing us that our only salvation is in the Spirit of Christ, which Jesus has sacrificed for us.

For example, many Christians believe that no matter how imperfect or "evil" a person is, if they accept Jesus as their personal savior before their last breath, they will enter the Kingdom of God. This is a lie concocted in the mind of the devil! Do you believe Jesus is Christ? Good! Then also believe every word and the one command that he gave! Love each other as God loves you. Yes, believing that Jesus is Christ is the easy part, but taking up our cross and following is a whole other matter. Believing in Jesus is just the beginning of your faith in Christ; do Christians not know where it will take them in the end? If you follow Christ Jesus, you too will die on the cross, so that Christ lives in you. God demands perfection and holiness! This is what happens to those truly following Christ.

Now, on the other hand, there are also those that believe that all "good" people go to heaven and all "bad" people go to hell. This teaching is actually closer to the truth! If we do evil things, we shall reap more suffering in the next life. If we do good, we shall reap more blessings from God. But understand all have fallen short of God's glory. This is why we need saved! Good children or bad children, they are all God's children. God is taking care of the situation. Of this, I am sure! God will save all no matter what condition they are in right now- no matter how deep their hell has become. Why can some not see the BIG picture here! Are these the same kind of souls that look at an acorn and say that will never be a huge tree? Do they not see the Seed of God in everyone? Can they not see that life is a process of perfection for the children of God? Yes, the wind blows wherever it pleases, but can you see it? Then how will you see those born of God? You will see the effects of the spirit!

The mature Sons of God are bright in every sense of the word! Their spirit shines, but so does their soul. In other words, they are of high intellect, but not necessarily well educated by the world's standards. So they may be illiterate and living in a poor village in a Third World country, but this doesn't matter at all. Even without a sophisticated vocabulary, his ability to understand esoteric, abstract ideas is exceptional. Though his words may be small, his wisdom spans across the epochs of time. After passing through this world many, many times, the mature spirit has the gained the wisdom from God and is leading the soul to perfection. This is her salvation and together they will return to the Kingdom of God.

Philippians 3:12

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one

thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I **press on toward the goal** to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

You know Paul believed in Jesus, but this wasn't enough for him. He strived, worked and pressed on toward the goal. What is the goal? Perfection in Christ is the goal! Our inner calling and divine desire is to be perfect like our Father is perfect. Our perfection is realized in the higher consciousness of Christ and is powered by Spirit of Christ. Being in Christ is living in a higher reality above this world's worries and rules. Through this fullness and maturity of our spirit, we are able to return to our Father's house and into our loving Father's arms. You are not of this world nor are a child of flesh. Expose the lie of Satan and realize that you are the offspring of the Most High! Being God's Son you should know who you are growing up to be! What son does not mature to become the likeness of his Father? What son does not watch and imitate his father? Yes, of course! Because of their love for God, the mature Sons of God do what they see their Father doing and thereby become God's Word made flesh!

Romans 8:17

Now if we are children, then we are heirs-- **heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

If you are ready to accept who you are then also accept your inheritance! Embrace Christ as your life and God as your Father! Yes, God is your Father, and wisdom must be the mother of your soul. Where spirit and truth meet God is revealed. A man and woman make one flesh, but living in the spirit and truth will make us a Son of God. We are here to reveal the glory of God through Christ, who is our life! God is raising mankind out of Hades and into His Kingdom! Yes, now is the time and here is the place for the Sons of God to live and be revealed! Here is where we are born of water and then realize we are spirit. All have been born of God and will take on His likeness to show the world the glorious face of God!

The Spirit of Christ is yours!

james

December, 2004

[return to the Savior of the World](#)

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