

Startling, but exciting revelations about
the world we live in

Heaven  Harmony

*Plight of the
Earthbound
Spirits*

J A Vorster

After reading this book, tie yourself down or simply just go
ahead and dance in the street

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SPECIAL NOTE TO THE READER

Can there be anything new under the sun? I mean something so new that you would want to shout it from the rooftops? What you have in front of you right now is a little book that is going to do just that, that is, introduce you to that brand new thing under the sun. And it is going to have a profound effect on your future way of thinking and acting. After completing the reading of this book it is likely that you will want to take stock of your life and also attach and maintain a new awareness about life around you. Whatever your age, up to now you have simply accepted, like all of us, the assumption that we are what we are, that is, brain-powered individual human creatures going through life dependent upon whatever circumstances come along and opportunities on offer, not to mention the stresses and strains accompanying them.

You will find that it is not so. You are, and have always been, under scrutiny and subject to making choices in life. However, this revelation will come as a good dose of the best medicine you've ever had. The first effect it should have is a great sigh of relief followed by a sense of exhilaration for the next steps you take in life. All encounters with fellow human beings will take on a whole new meaning. You will have the advantage of seeing them for who and what they are and you will also be able to identify the unseen influences affecting their lives. You will awake each morning with a new sense of direction and enthusiasm for each breathing moment, not being able to wait to tackle the world that is at your feet. You are about to live the way you're supposed to live, perhaps even laughing within yourself at the delight of it all.

What a pleasure!

PREFACE

Being born into this world means being introduced to a terrestrial realm where all human endeavour is subject to the dictates of education, politics, business and finance. Added to this would be the compelling lure of entertainment, sport and other forms of recreation. During the course of our sojourn on this earth, our lives will also be affected by war, crime, disaster, conflict, disease and death - interspersed by fleeting moments of happiness, peace and satisfaction.

Life, therefore, offers no guarantees. And we certainly have no idea whatsoever as to the duration of our individual lives on earth. To say that we should make the most of it while we are alive offers no outcome, unless we do not really care. Competing in a race, of any kind, one has to start at the starting point. Only then can one proceed, knowing what lies ahead and how to negotiate the way to the finishing line. The same applies to life itself. It has a starting point. And that starting point is the experience of discovering who and what we really are. Once we do, only then can we really commence with life. It would be like standing on the threshold of the right door to the truth of our existence. From that point onwards remarkable things will start happening. It will become plain sailing as we take a walk through that door into areas filled with revelation about our true purpose.

As human beings taking up space on this planet it is imperative that we experience the truths that lie in wait beyond that door. If we do, life will take on a totally different meaning, one that will radically change our thinking and alter the course of our lives. In fact, as legal inhabitants of Planet Earth, we have a right to certain information that might have been withheld from us up to this point of our lives, not by design, but through mankind's lack of knowledge concerning its own existence.

If you were the untraced heir to a fortune, you would proceed with your current lifestyle ignorant of this fact until such time as the good news reached you. Only then will your lifestyle begin to change. Likewise, as a reader of this book, you may consider yourself the traced heir to an inheritance, the currency of which is far greater in value than all the money in the world. What would you do with it? Possibly by the end of this book you will hear yourself say, "I only I knew then what I know now!"+

This book lifts the curtain to a stage not yet tread upon. And you are going to walk right onto that stage, from where you will be transported into a world totally different to the one you have been used to.

A new reflection on life awaits you. So get ready, climb aboard. You have an adventure ahead.

Chapter One

The Human Assumption

We live on a planet where we, as human beings, physically interact with each other, that is, all confrontations between humans, whether at home, work or play, are on a physical basis. Communication between two or more people consists of eye contact, words and gestures, all of which belong to and emanate from the physical body. Of course, there are mental processes involved, but these also come from within the physical body. We even judge each other by our physical appearance, as if someone's physical body tells the whole story about that person's character.

The point is, we see ourselves (our human bodies) as living, physical entities capable of intellectual and emotional expression as supposedly generated by our brain by means of our mind, which presumably forms an integral part of the brain. This would make us somewhat like hi-tech emotion-laden, intelligent robots living out our lives until disease or disaster terminates our existence.

Most people would accept that we also possess some kind of spirit, but that such spirit operates more as an inner field of conscience for the purpose of self-examination and resolution of difficult issues in our lives. In other words, the belief is that we are a totally independent life force within our physical selves and that no other form of influence has any bearing on our intellectual or physical abilities, nor our consciousness as living human creatures.

This means that a psychiatrist could not look beyond the physical sense-gained experiences of a patient in order to find answers to whatever the problem is. And he or she would have to rely on the patient's memories of events as, presumably, imbedded in some area of the brain. An extraction and analysis of such memories would then have to follow.

THE REAL YOU

Most of what is stated above is a misconception held by all of us and we've been living with it for all of our lives. Our general understanding of how the human body functions . as briefly summarized above . is totally wrong. And this is where eyebrows are going to be raised. However, allow me to proceed and let this book put things into perspective. You are on your way to that stage not yet tread upon.

Your physical body is primarily the outer shell of the real you, that is, your *spirit*. The real you, your *spirit*, is housed by a physical body for the purpose of keeping you (your spirit) earthbound. You are, first and foremost, a spiritual being expressing yourself (as a spiritual entity) through a physical body. Therefore, your intellect, emotions, memory and ability to communicate belong to and emanate from the spirit within your physical body. Even your *mind* forms part of your spirit.

As a spiritual being, locked inside a physical cocoon, you cannot experience the spirit world. Your five physical senses form the windows for your spirit to the natural world. In other words, as a spirit confined to the earth *within* a body, you are applying yourself, on the earth, *through* your body.

As a young spirit you learned the language of your parents and it took quite a while for you, as a spiritual being, to get your body to form and give sound to those words via your body's vocal chords. When you stand in front of a mirror you will only be able to see the reflection of your physical body, and you can say to God as per Job 10:11, "You have clothed me (my spirit) with skin and flesh, and have fenced me (my spirit) with bones and sinews."

What a remarkable description. By command God locked in the spirit behind a fence of bones and sinews and wrapped clothing of skin and flesh around that fence, so that the combination of spiritual and physical components, joined together, culminate in a creature called *man*. The only difference between us and Angels is the fact that we have this covering of a structure made up of flesh and bone.

And if the physical body is merely a cladding for the spiritual being within, then it (the physical part) can have no intellectual and emotional abilities or mind of its own. Your mind . the brain of your spirit, you could say . forms part of your spirit body. It is this spirit-mind that uses the physical brain as a conduit, by means of chemical activity and electrical impulses (generated by the spirit) to instruct the physical body to enact the movement and sound of the spirit. The process is instantaneous, as if you had no physical body.

In other words, the spirit within gives animation to the physical body via the nervous system. And the latter is empowered by that spiritual life force within, not unlike the plugging in of power to a computer to make it perform. The Bible makes it absolutely clear that as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (James 2:26)

Therefore, your physical body is merely an outer covering (in the likeness of your biological heritage) for you as an individual spirit in which your consciousness as a living entity is seated. Two people in conversation are really two spirits having a chat. The one spirit may have a very attractive physical appearance and the other not so attractive. But it is not what you look like that matters. It is what comes out of your spirit that establishes the nature of your character. And what comes from your spirit is known as your *word*.

Now you know who is really in consultation with the psychiatrist. Your spirit made the appointment and your body got there by means of the power of your spirit. In other words, your speech and body language is really the speech and body language of you as a spirit- being.

Imagine a dating couple sitting in a restaurant gazing at each other across the table with love-struck eyes. Both are very attractive human specimens. They are sizing each other up, both in love with what they see. What in effect is happening is that two spirit-beings are excited about the appearance of each other's physical bodies and they cannot wait to unite in wedlock, which they eventually do. Less than a few years later they despise each other and head for the divorce court. The reason? Simple. Their relationship was based purely on physical sense-knowledge. They did not realize that two spirit-beings were involved. And neither did they know that, as spirit-beings, they possessed inherent wickedness under the authorship and orchestration of another unseen spiritual force. (More about this later)

I have, in essence, given you the bottom line as to the make-up of the human creature called *man*. You now also have the key with which we will unlock some important doors for you to step through to areas where you will find many truths about yourself as an earthbound spirit. You are about to become truly acquainted with the person you really are.

Chapter Two

A Word is Born

From the moment you, as a spirit being imprisoned by an outer body of flesh, sinew and bone, were born, you started becoming aware of an environment filled with sights and sounds. Soon all five of your physical senses were active in absorbing all there was to offer from one phase of your growth to the next. As an infant spirit you had no idea that your own spirit (which you received at conception) was responsible for activating your physical body, empowering it to start functioning as an expression of yourself, that is, your spirit-being. Your parents did not explain this to you simply because they had no idea either.

After years of nurturing, love and affection, and having completed your education, you were ready to face the world that would reward you for your services. The question is, what did you have to offer and what could the sea of humanity expect from you?

Everything you have ever absorbed through your five senses from birth to the present has worked together to form your personality and character. Your thoughts are limited to your experiences and your spoken words will be based on your thoughts. You are what you think and say, and you do so in accordance with what has been absorbed through your senses. For as he (man) thinketh in his heart, so is he. (Prov. 23:7)

You might have a leaning towards certain traits, tendencies and habits, mainly because of the constant exposure to your parents and peers who have displayed these oddities. You are filled with the memories of your life's experiences, with all the actions, decisions and choices ever made and words ever spoken. Your (spirit's) intellect has developed as a consequence of these experiences.

You are, therefore, the sum total of what you have seen, heard, smelled, tasted and touched. All of this, put together, represents your *word*. Therefore, as a sense-knowledge creature, the only thing you can offer the world is your *word*. People judge you by your word, for you and your word are one. Your personality and character consist of your unspoken word (thoughts produced by your intellect) and your spoken word. And your earthbound spirit, as the *recipient* of all that it has absorbed through the physical senses, is the holder of your word. You are a sense-

knowledge earthbound spirit dependent on the physical, material environment you encounter during the course of your life.

This *word* of yours, which provides you with an identity as an individual, is also your *book of life*. You ~~are~~ been writing your very own book since birth. You add pages to it every day. Your *book of life* is reserved for the time of Judgment when it will be opened. ~~But~~ I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.+(Matt. 12:36)

Why the ~~word~~ that men shall speak? You, as an individual, are represented by your *word*. You *are* your *word*. You and your *word* are one. And you are judged by who you are . which is your *word*.

It is not your physical body that is up for judgment, but you as a spirit living *through* your physical body. ~~For~~ we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his bodyõ +(2 Cor.5:10)

Who is ~~every one~~? It is every *spirit being* living inside and through a physical body. The combination of physical body and spirit body is called man, but the life of man is his spirit body, which is held responsible for the things done in his physical body.

You see, God made man after His image and in His likeness. We are spirit, just like God, with the exception that God added a physical body for the purpose of limiting our movement to the confines of the Earth, over which dominion was given to man. For as long as our human bodies remain intact and functional we, as spirit-beings, will remain on the Earth. The Earth is the habitat of man in his form as both spirit and flesh. In this form the spirit part of man is blind to the spirit realm and needs the physical component to experience the material world only. However, although our spirits are locked out of the spirit realm, the spirit realm itself has open access to our spirits and exercises great influence over our lives, as we shall see during the course of this book.

Without your spirit body your human body will be lifeless. You can alter the shape of your human body through nutrition and exercise. Here your spirit body does not play a role except for the life-giving aspect enabling your human body to participate in physical activities in the first place. The *decision* to use your body in any way

whatsoever, however, comes from the *mind* of your spirit body. It is the mind of your spirit that controls every aspect of your life. And it is your mind that projects your word by means of your physical body.

The first man, Adam, became a living soul when God imparted his spirit life to him. Adam's outer human body was lifeless before this happened. Adam and Eve entered this world as fully-grown adults, completely loaded, or programmed, if you like, with knowledge, as if they received a crash course on life as earthbound spirits. Adam and Eve got to know each other by their word. And as a living soul you, too, are represented by your word. Everyone with whom you come into contact have nothing to go by except your word, for you are your word personified.

A CREATIVE FORCE

As an earthbound spirit created in the image and after the likeness of God, your word is a creative force, just like God's word is a creative force. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He (the Word) was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him (the Word), and without Him (the Word) nothing was made that was made. In Him (the Word) was life, and the life was the light of men. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:1-14)

Here we see that God identifies Himself by His Word. God *is* His Word and we *are* our word . *within* His Word. We, ourselves, are identified by our word. If someone named John paid a visit to your home today, then you could say that the word of John was with you today. This applies to everyone. We are all words, for it is our word that gives us our identity. Our outer appearance tells us nothing about ourselves . until we speak. Think of Oprah Winfrey. Her word is the host of a TV show. Even more accurately, the word of her spirit is a TV show host. Likewise, the word of the spirit of Dr Phil gives advice to the words of the spirits who are guests on the Dr Phil show. Perhaps Dr Phil will only see it that way once he has read this book.

You are able to create, with your word, just like God, except that whatever you create would be within the finite context of your existence here on Earth. And, as a creation by the Word of God, everything you create becomes a creation *within* the Word of God, for you exist within that Word of God, For in Him we live, and move, and have our being;+(Acts 17:28)

Our every thought, word and deed actually take place within God's Word. For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.+ (Heb. 4:12) That is how God knows everything about you. And that is how God will be able to judge you one day when He opens your word (book of life), which was actually written within His own Word. You may want to read Psalm 139 if you want a good idea of just how exposed we are to God.

We have seen that the Word of God (Christ) became flesh and dwelt among us. The reality of our creation by and within the Word of God, and the fact that we exist within that Word, is clearly borne out by what we read in Col. 1:16,17. For by Him (Christ, the Word of God) all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.+

LIFE WITHIN LIFE

Just imagine that! At this very moment your life is being lived within Christ - the Word of God. And if Christ had to die (and He did), then you would die with Him. (This we will discuss in a later chapter. You are in for a surprise.)

If God wanted to He could get rid of everything He created by saying, "whereby undo everything I created.+ Then everything, including the human race, would simply just disappear, for everything emanates from and exists within His Word, which is, in essence, God Himself.

Or, if God wanted to annihilate the entire human population of the Earth, He could do so by just a mere thought of intent. He (God) set his heart upon man, if he gather unto himself his spirit and his breath; all flesh shall perish together, and man shall return again unto dust.+ (Job 34:14,15) That certainly depicts just how precarious an existence we lead. However, God's love for the man He created in His image is so great that He allows man to continue in his wicked ways, for the time being, that is. He also said, "So shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.+ (Is. 55:11)

I need to add here that although your spirit forms a personality (known as your *word*) as a result of the experiences gained within your natural surrounds, your God-given

spirit also possesses attributes unique to itself. Within your consciousness as an individual spirit you possess talents and abilities that God will unleash at the right time and at the right place for the right purpose. Your spirit is not your own . it belongs to God.

You also need to know that everything in life is manipulated spiritually. God can change your personality by placing another spirit within your own spirit for the purpose of changing circumstances and events within the lives of others. One such example is found in 1 Samuel 10 where Saul was %turned into another man+by God. God is in control of His creation.

Everything God created, including you, serves a purpose, and He monitors His creation from within the source of it all, His Word. Nothing will return to God void of that purpose. Ever wondered why you lost everything and now you and your spouse are forced to live with your mother-in-law, who happens to be frail and in need of care and attention? Or perhaps you suddenly became compassionate and started a soup kitchen for the needy.

Whatever the purpose set for you, know that everything you do in life is purely incidental to that purpose. And all of it actually takes place within God's Word. You could say that your life is on the %big screen+of God. The reality of this fact cannot be ignored, for it won't go away. Your plans and goals in life are always subject to what God has in store for you, and it could even mean utter bankruptcy if that is what it would take to get you on the road to your purpose.

Chapter Three

Your Word in Action

In your finite capacity as an earthbound spirit living on earth through your physical body, you are able to create with your words. Your word is a creative force. Every word you utter has an effect on both yourself and others, either positively or negatively.

This can be illustrated in the interaction between yourself and another person. Your kind, loving and encouraging words to a person will have the effect of uplifting that person. That person will go away having been empowered mentally and emotionally by the power of your spoken word. On the other hand, hateful, insulting and damaging words spoken to a person could incur a sense of humiliation, inferiority, bitterness and revenge. In both instances the creative power of your word will have come into play, inducing positive creativeness in the one and negative creativeness in the other.

Your thoughts (unspoken words) can also be damaging to yourself. You create either faith or fear for yourself by the way you think. Constantly mulling over the bad experiences of your life can not only develop into self-condemnation, but also attract negative energy affecting other areas of your life as well as the lives of those close to you.

You see, everything in existence came to being from the creative power of God, through Christ ~~up~~ upholding all things by the word of His power.+ (Heb. 1:3). We live within the *energy field* of that creation, made up of positive and negative elements permeating all things visible and invisible. And there is intelligence in all of it, waiting to respond to the nature of even our thoughts. These energies go to work either for us or against us. They are our servants, willing to construct or destruct according to our thoughts, words and deeds, which provide the creative blueprint for these energies.

Matter is forged by energy, but that energy requires spiritual intelligence (which we possess as earthbound spirits) to create either positively or negatively. And the end product will emerge in line with the foundation we provide, which is either faith or fear. ~~By~~ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.+ (Heb.

11:3) God is a God of faith and He made us in His image so that we could create by faith also. However, after the fall of man both the knowledge of good and evil entered the spirit of man and the world became corrupt. Fear became the offspring of evil and the building material for the negative energy lurking in the wings.

Our thoughts and imaginations are where everything begins. They are like racehorses in their starting pens. Whether mounted with faith or fear, they will run with it. Pride, self-interest and covetousness are the breeding grounds for anger, jealousy, revenge, envy and greed. Picked up by the negative forces around us, they start to roll, creating and inflicting mental harm and ill health on those we focus on.

Love, peace, forgiveness, contentment and joy, on the other hand, will have the exact opposite effect. It is a matter of a positive mindset. And this mindset can only establish itself within our spiritual make-up once we know and accept the truth about ourselves. ~~And~~ be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.+ (Rom. 12:2) However, in this context, it is not possible to renew our minds unless we have a good reason not to be conformed to this world. This we will discuss later in this book.

SENDING YOUR WORD

Another way in which we create is to ~~we~~ send our word. Imagine you are busy in your study and you feel like a refreshing cup of tea. You call out to your husband or wife (nicely, of course) to make the tea. Your spouse complies and pretty soon the tea is set before you. What did you do? You sent your word. Your word went to the kitchen and brought about the production and delivery of the tea to the study. And yet, your word remained with you.

You could say that you actually did the work (the tea making) yourself, for you and your word are one. Your word will do whatever your mind wants it to do, for that's where your word comes from. Your word is a creative force. In this case it carried out the task of bringing about the tea. You did not fret or doubt or give it a second thought. You spoke out the desire of your heart and your word produced it. Your word, spoken in unwavering faith, delivered the evidence of the substance required.

We also design and create within our word, by the power of our mind, and then physically produce it ourselves, such as the layout of a garden. That garden then originates from, exists within, and forms an integral part, of our word. Should you detect that someone has made a change to your garden layout, it will immediately be

registered within and felt by your word. In effect, your word will have been violated. This is how we, as living souls created by the Word of God, are acting within that Word and nothing we say or do goes unnoticed, for, as previously mentioned, ~~we~~ Him we live and move and have our being+as per Acts 17:28.

Since humanity prefers to follow sensual rather than spiritual lifestyles, attributes within our God-like make-up lie dormant, prohibiting us from achieving our full potential as creative beings.

Chapter Four

The Make-up of Man

The curtain to the stage not yet tread upon is about to start lifting. Thus far we have only pressed the button to start the process.

To reiterate, the human being with its spirit-infused physical body is called *man*. The physical part of man bears neither consciousness nor individuality. Consciousness and individuality lie within the spirit and is ~~acted~~ out or reflected through the physical body.

All expressions of this consciousness (from the heart and mind), therefore, emanate from the spirit. In other words, ~~man's~~ *life* is seated in his spirit. This would include the intellect, emotions and memory. The body is merely the physical house of the spirit and is animated by the spirit. Indeed, ~~as~~ the body without the spirit is dead ~~+~~ (James 2:26)

Without the spirit all functions of the body would cease. Upon destruction of the body (through disease or fatal injury), ~~one's~~ personality and character (in effect, ~~one's~~ word) will depart with the spirit, for they belong to the spirit. Death does not bring about a loss of consciousness, but simply a transition from one place (the body) to another (the spirit world). And, of course, ~~one's~~ consciousness and individuality remain with the spirit.

The human spirit is a living entity, complete with heart and mind, and it is the *life* of the human body, which it ~~lights up~~ or energises and animates via the brain and the connecting nervous system by a process of chemical activity and electrical impulses. The human brain has neither a mind of its own nor does it contain any information. It is incapable of thought, intelligence or emotions, and neither does it possess a memory bank of any kind. All the information comes from the spirit and is passed through the brain.

By using an electrode and stimulating a certain part of the motor cortex of the brain, a brain surgeon can cause the movement of certain limbs of the human body, which is exactly what the human spirit does. The difference is that the human spirit does it

intelligently, while the surgeon does it artificially. This certainly goes to show that the brain functions in robotic fashion.

Brain researchers and scientists have been trying to unravel the workings of the brain in a bid to locate and explain things such as consciousness, individuality, memory, intelligence and emotions. They won't find it simply because it isn't there to find. The Bible reminds us that we are to *walk* in the spirit and we are to *live* in the spirit simply because that's *what* we are and that's *where* we are. We cannot walk or live in the spirit if our spirit has no consciousness or intelligence as a living entity. As human beings we live in a physical world through physical bodies, which is what makes us *man*, but what makes us *man* is our spirit.

There are no mysterious connotations to worshipping God *in spirit* (John 4:24). It simply denotes the fact that we are spirit and that we worship with our spirit in the same way as we speak with our spirit. You do not think or speak with your brain. You think and speak with the mind of your spirit. Our spirit comes first . our body follows.

Every word that you speak comes from your spirit. We, as spirits, are *encased* in our physical bodies in order to be earthbound and to live our lives as earthlings. By design we are blind to the spirit world around us and in which we live. However, the spirit world, with its demons and evil spirits, have access to our spirits where they can directly oppress or possess us, hence people with dual or multi personalities. Mental illness is not a disease of the brain. It is a demon-invoked condition of the mind of the human spirit. Cast out the demon/s and the *mental* illness will disappear. (More about this later.)

ANALYSIS OF AN EARTHBOUND SPIRIT

Up to this point in this book you will have gained a degree of understanding concerning our roles as earthbound spirits. You should now be ready to take your first step onto that stage. In order to lay the foundation for the chapters to follow we will now broadly define the heart, mind, word and soul of the human spirit.

The HUMAN SPIRIT is a living being, of spiritual substance, and has spiritual shape and form not unlike that of your physical body.

The HEART of the human spirit encompasses the consciousness of the human spirit as a living entity and seats your intellect and emotions. This is where your

personality is formed and reflected to the world you live in. And, importantly, the place God looks at.

The MIND of the human spirit is the ~~%~~decision-maker+of the heart. It takes what is in the heart and decides how to portray it or how to apply it to circumstances. Depending on the condition of the heart, the mind can be honest or deceitful in its deliberations. Your mind is the ~~%~~executive officer+of your life.

The WORD of the human spirit comprehensively covers the entire nature of you as an individual spiritual being. Your word reflects the condition of your heart, which your mind extracts and offers to the world. You *are* your word. You have nothing else. The world judges you by your word. And so will God.

The SOUL of the human spirit is nothing more than a *representation* of the sum total of you as a living being with spirit, heart, mind and word and history of your life. You are ~~%~~counted+as a soul, such as in a census of human population. God counts you as either a saved or lost soul.

Chapter Five

The Spirit of Man

Man is a spirit living through a physical body. Just to stress this reality, let's look at a few scenarios and maybe have a little laugh up our sleeves at some of them.

A man mowing the lawn is a spirit mowing the lawn.

A group of people having a chat around a table is a group of spirits having a chat.

Gossipers are spirits gossiping about other spirits.

Boxers in a ring pounding each other are spirits battering each other's bodies.

A man speeding past in a flashy car is a spirit catapulting his body forward in a modern chariot. He hopes to impress the bodies of other spirits.

A fashion model strutting unnaturally on a ramp with a far-away stare like a motorized robot, is a spirit doing just that.

A suicide bomber killing as many people as possible is a spirit destroying the bodies of many spirits. Little does he know that nobody dies . they only move on to the spiritual realm.

A person consulting a psychiatrist is a spirit consulting another spirit, neither looking beyond the brain for answers.

People drinking it up in a pub are spirits filling their bodies with alcohol, making it difficult for their sober spirits to communicate via numbed brains. Drug addicts do the same.

And then there are earthbound spirits who live in greed and corruption at the expense of others, and leaders of nations who find reasons for war for the sake of monopolistic economic power.

Make no mistake, as earthbound spirits we are supposed to live through physical bodies. The physical body of man is a wonderful creation, ~~used~~ used to the spirit so that it responds instantaneously to the actions of the spirit, like a puppet with millions of strings attached. And although the senses of our bodies, effectively, provide sensual benefits to the body only, they are only functional *because* of the spirit within.

God is spirit . and He speaks.

Angels are spirit . and they speak.

We are spirit . and we speak.

The difference is that God and angels remain spirit, but we have a physical attachment through which we have to speak and act as spirits. And it is for one reason only. It is to keep us bound to the earth to govern it and to reign over it under the sovereignty of God, for the earth is our domain.

A PRODUCT OF THE REAL WORLD

The spirit world is the real world. We, in the natural world, owe our existence to the spirit world. We are a product of the spirit world. Therefore, if it were not for the spirit world we would have been non-existent. It stands to reason then, that if we are a physical product of the spirit world, then we are also totally under the control and at the mercy of the spirit world. The spirit world holds sway over its creation of material and human existence. God is spirit and the Creator of the physical world. God is Reality. Human beings and the entire universe are the products of that Reality.

We were not created and just left to multiply and to do our own thing. We have been under observation since the beginning. All of our thoughts, words and deeds are being recorded . and we have no control over it. They become the content of our *word*, that is, our *book of life*. There is a purpose behind this, just as there is a purpose for everything we ourselves create and produce. The product of our hands and minds have to perform a function, otherwise we discard it permanently. Is this not true?

Chapter Six

The Heart, Mind and Word of the Spirit

All your thoughts take place in the heart of your spirit. Your heart is the engine room of your life and the seat of your consciousness as a living being. The operator of this engine room is your mind. It decides how it wants to run your heart.

The fact that the heart (of the spirit) is the holder of the consciousness of man as a living being is borne out by the many references made to the heart by God. In 1 Sam. 16:7 we read that *the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.*

This innermost core, the heart of the spirit of every individual, is where all our deliberations take place. You may look upon your heart as the intelligence centre of your spirit. Our intellectual ability, our emotional output and our will are imbedded in the heart. It is the possessor of our intuition, creativity, insight, imagination, understanding and intent, carries a *database* for all the knowledge ever gained and contains a *filig system* for the storage of the memory of each and every experience of events, deeds and words.

Any interaction between two people is, in essence, an interaction between the heart of one and the heart of another. Depending on the condition of the heart, it can be cunning and deceitful or sincere and honest . or a combination of both. Whatever the output, it will always be limited to reflect whatever it contains . and this content is known as your *word*, which will be a full representation of the sum total of your personality and character. You could say that you are a walking, living *word*. As already mentioned, your word is also your *book of life*, to which you add new pages every day.

THE CHIEF WHIP

Now although the heart of your spirit is the intelligence centre of your life, it needs a voice for the word of your heart. It comes in the form of the *chief whip* for your heart, namely, the *mind* of your spirit. This *overseer* of the heart will observe, deliberate and decide how to portray and deliver the word of your heart in order to suit the circumstances. And, more importantly, the mind of the spirit is the one component that can bring about changes to the heart, with the help of your spirit. However, such a transformation can only come about from a renewed spirit, which will lead to a renewed mind.

The point, for now, is that your physical brain has absolutely nothing to do with your consciousness as a living being, your intelligence, your memory or your thoughts. It all comes from the heart of your life force . your *spirit*. Your brain is only there to receive the transmission from the mind of your spirit and to convey same to the necessary parts of your body (speech and action) for execution.

All the thoughts we have and all the little conversations we have with ourselves do not take place in the brain. It may feel like it's all taking place up there, but it is actually our spiritual mind in action, busy deliberating over matters of the heart while the brain is on standby (robotically) to receive and to convey. For as he (man) thinketh in his heart, so is he. (Prov. 23:7)

One way of forming a good idea of how the mind operates within our spirit is to consider the workings of a computer. The heart of your spirit can be likened to the combination of the hardware, operating system and software of your computer enabling you to connect to millions of websites on the internet. Like the contents of your heart, some of these websites are good and some are bad.

Now what would represent the mind of your computer? It would have to be something that knows what is available through your computer and then decide what to extract and use, whether good or bad. The answer is *someone*, not *something*. And that someone is *you* - the operator of your computer. As the mind of your computer you decide what to take from the heart (your computer) for whatever purpose.

And this is how the mind of your spirit works. It deliberates on what to take from the heart for the purposes of either good or bad. Depending on the condition of your heart (the vault of your word), your mind will choose between the old man or the new man of the heart. However, a renewed mind will do the right thing. (see Chapter 11)

Chapter Seven

The Pursuit of Brain Power

All of your thoughts take place in the *heart* of your spirit. All your decisions are made by the *mind* of your spirit. And your physical brain is the route the mind of your spirit takes for the purpose of voicing and demonstrating itself through your physical body. The regions of the brain responsible for speech and movement come into play purely as a relay from spirit to body. The process is lightning-quick . as if spirit and body are fused into one.

If it were possible for us to separate our spirits from our bodies, our spirits would be able to converse with one another without the need of bodily speech, for thoughts (unspoken words) in the spirit world are heard and understood as clearly as spoken words. In such a scenario our physical bodies would be in suspended animation, void of any intellectual capabilities for the simple reason that the conscious life of man is seated in the spirit

Of course, such a scenario would not be possible, for a spirit-less human being translates into a dead human body. As soon as your spirit departs from your body, your heart stops beating, your lungs stop taking in air and your brain stops functioning. Why? Simply because your body will have lost the *breath of life*, also known as your *spirit*. This is the *breath of life* referred to in Genesis 2:7 when God injected spirit life into man. This is what gave man consciousness of self and of God. This is what gave man a heart and a mind. This is what gave man intellectuality, emotions and the ability to hold memories - all of it forming an integral part of the breath of life within him . his *spirit*.

The ~~no~~ healthy body, healthy mind+belief is, therefore, misapplied. It implies that the mind forms an integral part of a conscious brain and that a healthy body sharpens the mind. The health of the mind (of the spirit) does not improve or deteriorate. It is more a matter of a God-infused human spirit instills the necessary wisdom for such a human spirit to control the health of the body through correct eating and exercising and, more importantly, empowers the human spirit to appropriate divine healing for the body.

It follows that our so-called ~~no~~ brainpower+is non-existent, for the brain possesses no conscious intelligence or power to execute the will of the human being. It is the *mind power* of the *heart* of the *spirit* of the human being that governs all actions of the human body. The physical brain is purely the connection point from spirit to body.

SPIRITUAL MIND OVER MATTER

The study of the brain has intensified over the last few decades. In many written works on the subject of brain research it is clear that the human brain remains a mystery. No one has yet been able to come to any definite conclusions other than the fact that electrical and chemical activities take place in different regions of the brain leading to the varying functions of the human body.

The Location of the Mind

Some four years ago I was attempting to put to paper some notes on the make-up of man based on my understanding of the Scriptures. This is when I realized for the first time that the human brain could not possibly be the seat of our intelligence, but I could not quite put my finger on it. Added to this was the teaching (by churches and Christian writers) about the definition of soul and spirit, and the different roles they played. This, too, now became questionable to me. Virtually day and night, I mulled over it, meditated on it and prayed about it. It really became an obsession with me. I have always been a person who needed to find a logical explanation for how things work, with a tendency to scientifically probe and explore, even things spiritual.

A few days later my sister . an avid reader . knowing nothing about my dilemma, arrived with a book she had taken out at the library, which, for some reason, she thought I might be interested in reading. At that point I had no interest in a book about the human brain written by a brain surgeon. With nothing better to do, I started flipping through it. One single word ~~to~~ mystery+leapt out at me as I perused the book. Only then did I start reading it. My sister became the messenger of the answers I needed.

To my amazement I discovered that brain researchers (and all of us) had taken it for granted that the brain was the intelligence centre of the human being, responsible for the processes of thought, emotions, imagination, reasoning and memory. The scientists were looking for something that had to be there, but wasn't. Yes, they pinpointed the regions of the brain responsible for movement, speech and everything else, but they had no explanation for consciousness, individuality or the location of the mind and also concluded that the brain could not possibly store memory because of the very nature of its substance. They openly declared that they were stumped and that the brain was a mystery.

After obtaining a few more books on the study of the brain from the library I not only learned a great deal about the brain, but also took note of the general conclusion of

all these writers that the brain remained a mystery. The scientists were stumped, but thanks to them, my problem was solved.

For the first time I realized that the Bible makes no mention of the brain, let alone mention thereof as a component of man coming into play as a mechanism for thought, conscience, memory or - for that matter - deliberation of any kind, but that the heart and mind of the *spirit* of man was the possessor of man's consciousness as a living creature.

All references to the heart, spirit, mind and soul in the Bible, make it abundantly clear that man was indeed a spirit living through a physical body. Moreover, the *spirit*, *heart* and *soul* are not interchangeable as role players and neither are the processes of intellect, reason, memory, and imagination generated by the brain.

What I had learned was not only a significant breakthrough to a greater understanding of the make-up of the human body, but it also lifted the veil of mystery to do with the divine liberation of the human race.

Let's take short-term and long-term memory for example, which is one of the many puzzles to researchers. They believe that a section of the cortex is responsible for the storage of memory and that damage to this section of the brain can, for instance, obliterate short-term memory. The fact is that the heart (of the spirit) is where memory is stored and damage to the cortex area handling the relay of short-term memory from the heart prevents this process. This, of course, concerns the *output* of short-term memory. The area of the cortex (if undamaged) handling the *input* of memory of fresh experiences to the heart remains unaffected. Short-term memory thus, although *filed* in the heart, *remains* on file. It simply cannot be processed from the *file cabinet* for use by the physical body *because* of the damage in the relevant cortex area.

If I had to put it in a nutshell, I would have to say that the brain is the absorption point (fed via the physical senses) from where transferral of the information input is processed to the spirit, *by* the spirit, and for the purpose of consumption *by* the spirit. Poor eating habits, disease or brain damage will affect the brain's ability to function healthily, making it difficult for the spirit to either extract the experiences from the natural world or deliver responses to it. A display of frustration, irritation, depression or anger does not emanate from the brain, but from (the heart of) the spirit, which is

the seat of man's consciousness, mind, intellect, emotion and, of course, the location of the memory archives.

You see, although your brain tells your heart to pump, it is your spirit that enables your brain to do so. So, in effect, it is your spirit that keeps your heart pumping. A severely damaged brain or diseased heart can stop both in their tracks, that is, bring about death to the body, in which case the spirit has no option but to withdraw (depart) from the body.

The Bible speaks of a troubled spirit; an anguished spirit; a jealous spirit; a hardened spirit; a sorrowful spirit; a contrite spirit; a broken spirit; a steadfast spirit; a hasty spirit; a provoked spirit; a haughty spirit; a humble spirit; a vexed spirit; a patient spirit; a proud spirit; a heavy spirit, and many more expressions to do with emotions. If this does not prove that the spirit part of man forms the conscious, living part of man, then what does?

This also tells us that the factors affecting the health of the physical and spiritual components of man are nutrition, the emotional state of the spirit and, as will be discussed in Chapter Twelve, the extent of influence by demonic forces at large. It is amazingly ironic that man's spirit itself, through its stressful behaviour, can be responsible for causing destruction to its own physical abode, such as with strokes.

We cannot do without the medical profession, especially those dealing with such a vital part of the human anatomy, for they are, in effect, ~~fixing~~ fixing the human brain for the benefit of the living entity within the human body, the spirit.

Maybe this now clears up the ~~mystery~~ mystery for neuroscientists, especially in view of their collective findings that brain matter is inconsistent and bears no mechanism that could possibly be responsible for driving the will of the human being, let alone possess creativity, imagination, understanding or store and retain memory.

Suffice to say, there are no words to describe the marvel of the human brain. But, as wonderful as it might be, it is the *presence* of the spirit that makes it possible for the brain to impart pleasure to the body in response to the intake of the five senses. The *absence* of the spirit not only deadens the senses of the body, but also renders the brain powerless to function at all. Of course, a spiritless body is a dead body, and a dead body does not sense anything.

When it comes to the display of emotions and any form of expression, the only roll the brain plays is that of a relay mechanism for the purpose of animating the body in accordance with the whims of the real life of man, which is the heart and mind of the spirit locked within the body. In other words, the ~~output~~ is that of the spirit. The ~~portrayal~~ of that output is by the body. With the spirit safely tucked away, completely undetectable, it is no wonder that man believes that he is a brain-powered form of living being shaped by the wonders of evolution.

Any malfunction of the brain, caused by injury or disease, does not incapacitate the spirit. It simply means that the spirit is unable to express itself coherently as a result of the damage to the very mechanism it requires to animate the body. It is like the engine of a car. Should one of the pistons be misfiring the car will deliver a spluttering performance.

Stop *thinking* that you are thinking with your brain. Start *knowing* that you are thinking with your spirit.

To all those involved in the field of brain research I want to ask, with respect, why on earth do you not consult the Bible and get to the *spirit* of the matter? ~~For~~ what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man within him?+(1 Cor. 2:11). And may I personally add, ~~for~~ the *brain* doth not know!+

Chapter Eight

Enter the Big Word

We have already established that your social and moral fingerprint is your *word*; that you and your word are one; and that other people identify you by your word, which makes you a walking, living *word*.

The other significant reality is that God also identifies Himself by His Word. *Ἐν* the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He (the Word) was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him (the Word), and without Him (the Word) nothing was made that was made. In Him (the Word) was life, and the life was the light of men *ὅ* ..And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us *ὅ* (John1:1-14)

WORDS WITHIN A WORD

Furthermore, we have come to realize that we, as words, actually exist within the Word of Creation, also known as Jesus Christ. *Ἐν* by Him (Christ, the Word of God) all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.+ (Col. 1:16,17.)

Therefore, God *is* His Word and we *are* our word . *within* His Word, which is Jesus Christ, *Ἐν* and in Him all things hold together+. Every moment of our life is a moment of existence within that Word of God, *Ἐν* or in Him we live, and move, and have our being;+(Acts 17:28)

Everything in creation emanates from, exists in, and leads to Jesus Christ. *Ἐν* or of him, and through him, and to him, are all things;+(Rom. 11:36)

During His walk on earth Jesus (the Word) said, *Ἐν* And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.+ Jesus was talking about the cross to which He would be nailed. If our lives exist and are lived within Him, then we would be lifted up to that cross also. And if He had to die on that cross, then we would have no escape from His death, His descent into Hell, and His resurrection from Hell.

This was the Word of God, in the flesh, who took the sins of man upon Himself in order to shake it off into Hell once and for all. We had to go with him, for we lived within Him. It was the only way we could come back.

Let me explain this.

In Matthew 4:4 we read ~~that~~ that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God~~±~~. The emphasis here is on the word *live*. The physical body of man needs nourishment in order to stay healthy, but the spirit part of man needs the Word of God in order to *live* fully. This means that if you do not live by the Word of God, even if you have the *breath of life* within you, you will remain alive but be *spiritually dead*. The first man, Adam, died spiritually when he went against God~~s~~ Word. Physical death followed. As a result, all of mankind was plunged into spiritual death, and now tries to lives by bread alone.

Although man is spiritually dead, God~~s~~ breath of life remains within man, and is locked in within His Word of Creation (Jesus Christ). The dead spirit of man was condemned to Hell (within Christ) so that it could be renewed (born again) to a new life, that is, so that it could live once again . by His Word and in His Word, Jesus Christ.

Also notice that God reversed the process. Adam first died spiritually, and then physically. Jesus first died physically, and then, by His Spirit, took man~~s~~ Spiritual Death down to Hell. But in His physical death, Jesus poured out His blood, ~~for~~ for the life of the flesh is in the blood~~±~~. (see next chapter).

Although your spirit is responsible for sin, your spirit enacted sin *through* your physical body, rendering it unclean. For this reason our flesh is condemned, hence the reason for our bodies to be put to death through Christ. ~~For~~ for what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.+(Romans 8:3)

Now you need to understand that your spirit, even in its dead state, belongs to God. God did not kill it, man did. God only declared it dead. And without you being aware of it, God took it and sent it to hell under the protection of His Word, Jesus Christ, who was without sin and not subject to spiritual death, but subject to the penalty of suffering *for* spiritual death on our behalf. What was the cost to us? Absolutely nothing except *faith* in what was accomplished *for us*. ~~For~~ for God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.+(John 3:16)

As ironic as this may sound, we have to accept the Death Penalty, and die in Christ . in order to live!

TO HELL AND BACK

The world has many problems, but the biggest problem facing the world today is the fact that it does not know that it has been to hell and back. This was the greatest liberation movement ever offered to the world - and it still holds - but in its ignorance and blindness the world is pursuing every other way but this route.

Are you a teenager? You've been to hell and back.

Are you a housewife? You've been to hell and back.

Are you an architect? You've been to hell and back.

Are you a movie star? You've been to hell and back.

Are you yet to be born? You've been to hell and back.

You might wonder how it is possible for a person not yet born to have gone through this process. Earlier we discussed the fact that all of creation is contained within the Word of God and that Jesus Christ *is* that Word that became flesh. The very last person still to be born exists right now within Christ, the Word of God. *For in Him we live, and move, and have our being.* (Acts 17:28). As yet unborn persons have their being within the Word and therefore also made that descent into hell.

Also, in Acts 17:26 we see that God *hath* made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;+ This is clear that the birth of every individual is scheduled for an *appointed*+time. So it does not matter if a person is still to be born. Provision has already been made for that yet unborn person. The point is, unless one has been to hell (in Christ), one cannot go to Heaven.

And all one has to do is to *appropriate* it by acknowledging it in prayer to God. God has given you a measure of faith for this purpose, so that it may become a *reality* in your life.

This death and resurrection in Christ was a spiritual one . for you are a spirit. A person who remains an unbeliever right up to the point of bodily death will therefore

have a spirit that has not been delivered from spiritual death. Such a person is then subject to the ~~second~~ death+, from which there is no return. ~~But~~ the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.+(Rev. 21:8).

A SWEET FRAGRANCE

Did you know that you are a sweet fragrance to God regardless of whether or not you have *appropriated* salvation through Christ? Remember, we all died within a single body . that of Christ. When God looks upon you and me, He sees Christ within us, the One Who paid the penalty for *our* spiritual death. Christ stands clean before God and we enjoy the same status, but only because of Christ.

However, there is a condition attached. Let's look at 2 Cor. 2:15,16. ~~For~~ we are unto God a sweet savour (aroma, fragrance) of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish. To the one (that perishes) we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other (the saved) the savour of life unto life+.

We see here that we are a sweet fragrance to God regardless of whether we are saved or not. That sweet fragrance of Christ reaches to God either from ~~death~~ unto death+ or from ~~life~~ unto life+. It's a matter of which category we fit into. If you have accepted Christ, then you have passed from spiritual death to spiritual life. You therefore have the *life* necessary to pass from *life unto life*. If you have not accepted Christ - even though you are a sweet fragrance of Christ to God while you are alive - then you remain in spiritual death and will pass from *death unto death* the day you die physically.

That poor beggar on the street is a sweet fragrance to God in Christ. Likewise, that convicted man behind bars is a sweet fragrance to God in Christ. If the beggar is saved then he is a sweet fragrance from LIFE to LIFE. If the prisoner is unsaved then he is a sweet fragrance from DEATH to DEATH. The saved beggar, however, is living in poverty ONLY because he has failed to gain knowledge from the Word of God concerning his status as an Heir of Salvation and the benefits attached thereto. Satan is busy devouring him. ~~Be~~ sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.+(2 Peter 5:8).

Our fellow human beings are not our enemies. But they are sought out to be ~~devoured~~+ and to be used by Satan. Unwittingly, they become Satan's human agents in this world. ~~For~~ we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against

principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.+(Eph. 6:12)

The big question is, if Satan has been defeated, then why is he still around and allowed freedom to devour, to steal, to kill and to destroy? After all, he is the author of sin and the resultant curse upon the world. Has he stolen and devoured your peace, your well-made plans and your finances lately? Has he destroyed and killed your marriage and the life of a loved one through disease or an unnatural tragedy?

Why must we still be vigilant? Why is he still around?

Imagine the world's most dangerous criminal being brought to trial, convicted, and sentenced in a most unusual way. In laying down the sentence, the judge states: "You have been found guilty of the most heinous crimes imaginable, committed all over the world, leaving people of all walks of life devastated by your cruel and heartless actions against them. This day you are being judged once and for all. Every person in the world can claim victory over you this day. And I decree that insufficient justice will be served by banishing you to jail for life at this point in time. Therefore, you and your gang of thieves, robbers and murderers will remain free to roam the streets of the world where you will be recognized by all and despised by all. This day's judgment will follow you wherever you go. I herewith, by the power of this judgment, grant authority to all the peoples of the world to make war against you and to overcome you when they see you or sense your presence in their midst. You will flee from all those who resist you. Those who innocently, through ignorance, fall prey to you will be given an opportunity to get their revenge. Those who willingly *choose* to side with you will eventually join you to banishment for eternity.+"

Are you beginning to get the picture?

Our lives are lived under God's Grace, but while we live we are subject to the influence of spiritual forces at play, which could abruptly end our ability to make a choice. We are told, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.+(Eph. 2:8). It takes faith to be saved, which, together with Grace, is a gift, and we need to use it in order to pass from *life unto life*, while we still have time.

Chapter Nine

The Life Of the Human Body

We know now that the life of man is in his spirit. This is where his consciousness as a living being is seated. But what about the body itself, what life does it have? Simply put, the spirit powers up the body and makes it work. And for our bodies to work our blood has to continue circulating to all parts of the body, especially the brain, to keep it nourished and functional.

Should the heart stop beating or if the body loses too much blood the spirit unplugs from the body, for the life of the flesh is in the blood (see Leviticus 17:11-14)

The spirit needs a healthy body and it is the blood that provides life to the body, but it is the spirit that charges up this life in the first place. Perhaps we can liken it to a charged up battery. If it leaks it loses its charge (spirit) and dies.

Now this is of extreme importance. Man's body is tainted with sin and if the life thereof is in the blood, then it is sin-laden also. And the spirit of a sin-laden body is condemned. For this reason Jesus Christ took our sin upon Him and poured out His blood on behalf of all mankind, so that our bodies of sin could be cleansed. And bearing our condemned spirits within Him, descended into Hell, paying the price for our transgressions before rising again (being born again), thereby renewing our spirits. He alone could do it for He, Himself, was without sin. And in that act we were born again within Him, for in him we live, and move, and have our being (Acts 17:28).

Remember, Jesus Christ is the Word of God and it is the Word of God that created us. We exist within that Word and when the Word went to the Cross we also went to the Cross. Earthbound spirits who accept this Act of Salvation are no longer under condemnation. They are freed from sin and have new life . the Life of Christ. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new. (2 Cor 5:17)

THE TREE OF LIFE

Remember the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden? Well, Jesus Christ was and still is that Tree. We are like the leaves on that Tree. We live because of that Tree. But

when the time comes a great many of those leaves (the unbelievers) will fall off and face Judgment. The leaves that remain on that Tree (the believers) have already been judged (in Christ) and have Eternal Life.

Whether or not you have accepted Christ as your Lord and Saviour, the fact remains that provision was made for your Salvation and the rejection of this Act keeps you under condemnation. God's love for you will remain (as if you're a leaf on that Tree of Life) until the end of your life on earth, after which eternal separation from God awaits.

Do not let this happen. If the truth of the Good News (the Gospel) has entered the heart of your spirit and you truly believe it, then do not delay one second. Come to God in prayer, confess that you are a sinner and declare that you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins, and rose again, to set you free. You will be born again and you will *know* it. You will still be earthbound, but eternal life will be yours.

What if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.+(Romans 10:9-10)

And from the moment of your re-birth your spirit will have become united with His spirit. You will be one spirit with Christ. You will be in agreement with Paul, who confessed, I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live: yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.+(Gal 2:20)

There is one more aspect of the identity of Jesus Christ that I would like to discuss. This would help to give a better understanding of how we relate to the truth of our existence.

THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF GOD

The nation of Israel did not believe in the idea of a Triune God. They believed God to be One. We read in Hebrews 1:1-3 that, God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these times spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath anointed heir of all things, by whom also

he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.+

As dominion over the earth belonged to man, legal entry for the Word of God had to be achieved through the womb of a woman. God, as biological Father, provided the seed and the Holy Spirit brought about the conception. With God as biological Father, the blood of Jesus was untainted by sin.

Jesus was referred to as both Son of Man and Son of God. As the *Son of Man* Jesus was representative of the entire human race, for He was the Word responsible for the creation of man. Man existed within Him.

As the *Son of God*, Jesus was representative of God, the Word of God made flesh, hence the express image of the Person of God. Just as your person is represented by your word, God's Person was represented by His Word in the form of Jesus Christ.

As far as Jesus' humanity was concerned, He was no different to any other human being except for being void of sin. He was born with a spirit of His own as provided by God. He had his own spiritual heart. He had His own spiritual mind. But the *Word* within His heart was that of God. This was the Word by whom also he made the worlds+ and through whom upholding all things by the word of his power+. So, in effect, Jesus was God.

Just as you and the word of your heart are one and people know you by your word, in the same manner was Jesus, and the Word of His heart, one. Jesus declared, *For I and my Father are one.*+(John 10:30). This is why Jesus was able, at a very young age, to teach in the synagogues, astounding even the scribes, for He was the Author of the very Scriptures they were trying to teach.

God spoke only through His Word. God hath in these times spoken unto us by his Son+. The Son was the Word made flesh. Jesus said, *For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.*+(John 12:49) Here was the Word of God, Jesus, addressing the human race. Here was the human race . spirits living inside physical bodies . looking at the Word from whom they came and by whom they came into this world. They did not know it.

Jesus, as the *Son of Man* with his own spirit and heart and mind, was given the Power to give up His life, even though He was without sin and therefore not subject to death. God, the Word within the heart of Jesus, could not die. This is the Word that quickened Jesus and raised Him from the dead. Jesus was born again, right there in the corridors of Hell. You and I, within Him, were born again too and raised up together with Him. We are now a sweet fragrance unto God either from death to death or from life to life.

Chapter Ten

The Purpose of Christ

The entire Bible is devoted to the reality of the existence of good and evil in the world we live in. Man is the product of the good (God), but also the victim of the evil (Satan). In essence, the Bible is a book of warning to man not to fall prey to evil and, secondly, to seek deliverance from evil. And, as we have seen, that deliverance comes in the form of Jesus Christ.

It is also made clear in the Bible that although man is the *victim* of evil, it is by *choice* that he has become the victim. Furthermore, because provision was made for deliverance from evil through Christ, man's judgment (by God) will not be based on his condition as a sinner, but on whether or not he *accepted* that deliverance. Man therefore stands guilty before God of *unbelief*, not sin, *for* all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.+(Romans 3:23)

This brings us to the purpose of Christ. *For* this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.+(1 John 3:8) This destruction included both the obliteration of our *status* as victims and our *choice* to be victims.

Deliverance from captivity to the god of this world (Satan) has switched us from one kingdom to another. *(God) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:+(Col. 1:13,14)*

Someone who professes to be a Christian once told me that God wants us to have fun and enjoy life. This person's lifestyle revolves around I-pods, cell phones, DVD players, movie watching and books written by people who indulge in promiscuous worldly pleasures while alluding to God as one who approves. There are many who claim to be believers, but they act as if God is highly privileged to have their attention. They do a balancing act on one toe within God's Kingdom while frolicking in the world with the other nine toes.

Indeed, God wants us to be happy and joyous, but within the boundary of what He has done for us and to enjoy the blessings He has promised us should we live as new creatures in Christ and within the context of the rules of fellowship with Him.

Imagine this. Up to this point in your life you have committed horrendous crimes. You get arrested, stand trial and receive a life sentence without parole. A man stands up in court and, addressing the judge, says that he will take the blame for your crimes and serve out the sentence in your place. The court is in a state of mesmerism, completely overtaken by the authoritative presence of this man. Overwhelmed, the judge accepts, sets you free and orders that your substitute be taken to prison.

After only three days in prison, your substitute turns the prison world upside down. His influence is overpowering. Wardens and prisoners alike cling to him. Rehabilitation becomes an overnight miracle. The prison authorities rush through paperwork for the release of this man and all the inmates of this prison. All of their sentences are considered served in full. They all walk out of prison, following the man who came to set them free.

The man who took your place in prison comes to you and says, %served out your sentence. My life became yours. Your life became mine. Now follow me so that, together, we may set all the captives free.+

A NEW CITIZENSHIP

The fact of this UNION with Christ is clearly illustrated in Eph. 2:4 . 6. %But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us TOGETHER with Christ (by grace ye are saved), and has raised us up TOGETHER, and made us sit TOGETHER in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.+

Our citizenship is in Heaven, but we have a job to do on earth. We are the Body of Christ, which is in Heaven and on earth. We are in SPIRITUAL UNION with Christ for as long as we remain in our physical bodies on earth. Our empowerment comes through the Holy Spirit, Who has placed us in the Kingdom of God. And that Kingdom is within us. This is how we can be both in Heaven and on earth at the same time. We are already seated in Heaven where Christ is and Christ is wherever we are.

If we are spiritually seated in heavenly places together with Christ, even while we are physically present on earth, then our conduct, wherever we find ourselves, should be as if we are conducting ourselves right before the sight and hearing of Jesus. %For our conversation is in heaven+ (Eph. 3:20) In other words, when you speak to anyone . whether it is a fellow student, a work colleague or your spouse . you should converse with them as if you are seated right there in that heavenly place,

with Jesus overhearing your every word. We should live our lives in constant awareness of this.

A BLESSED UNION

Many years ago I was struggling with the reality of this question of our union with Christ and Galatians 2:20, in particular, presented me with a problem. It reads, %o have been crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.+

Not only does Paul state here that Christ now lives in us, but also that the life we now live in the flesh we live BY the faith OF Christ. While meditating on this verse, I suddenly found myself suspended from everything around me. I was in the process of having an %aner+vision. I saw myself lying in bed. It was early morning. A voice came to me and said,+Son, rise up, get dressed and take a walk.+I duly obliged, left the house and started walking down the street on the sidewalk. When I came to a park opposite the road, the voice of the Lord came to me again.

%Son, take a walk through that park.+I obeyed.

While walking through the park I noticed a hobo sleeping it off on a bench. He was dirty, smelly and clutching an empty wine bottle. I could not help turning up my nose at this sight. That\$ when the voice came again.

%Son, go over to that man and wash his feet.+

I replied, %Lord, I know you said in your Word that we should wash one another\$ feet, but, surely, this is not what you meant?

Then He said, %Son, it is no longer you who live, but I who live within you. Now take ME over to that man so that I may wash his feet.+

What a revelation! This experience had nothing to do with the washing of feet. This had to do with the faith OF Jesus. The Lord was showing me that HE is the One Who does the work through us in the same way that the Father did the works through Him when He was on earth in His physical body, and that HE accomplishes whatever needs to be accomplished by HIS FAITH through US.

We take Jesus where He needs to be. We are here in His place as if He, Himself, is still here, %because as he is, so are we in this world. (1 John 4:17). The Bible speaks of varying levels of faith, such as weak faith, unfeigned faith, strong faith and growing faith. However, in carrying out the commission, the level of faith of the individual

members of the Body of Christ does not come into play. Yes, like Peter, we need faith to boldly go forward in the name of Jesus to carry out the commission and, in so doing, to let Christ come to the fore, but only the faith of Jesus can heal and deliver those in need. What we lack then is faith in the faith of Jesus. How do we overcome this problem, especially when we, ourselves, are in need of healing?

We are not going to be healed by going to a church every Sunday. We are not going to be healed by having fellowship with other Christians. By this I do not mean that that we should not attend church or have fellowship. You see, it is not the environment or atmosphere of a church building that brings healing to our bodies. And neither is it our spiritual re-birth that guarantees this miracle.

What brings healing is our UNDERSTANDING of what was wrought for us on the Cross. And if we understand it then we will KNOW that it is the FAITH in the RIGHTEOUSNESS of God in Christ . and that WE are now in POSSESSION of this RIGHTEOUS FAITH by the LIFE of CHRIST now LIVING in us. We are here . on earth . in the PLACE OF Christ. God wants US to take the initiative and CLAIM what is RIGHTFULLY ours as children of His Kingdom. The Kingdom of God is WITHIN us . and the King of the Kingdom, Jesus, is in us too.

Many Christians, all over the world, have come to understand this mystery and have been laying hands on the sick in accordance with Christ's commission. Those who were healed were quickened, at that particular point, by the message of the Gospel and the Power of the Holy Spirit working WITH and THROUGH the Christians following and obeying Christ's commission.

The question is, HOW do we gain UNDERSTANDING? How do we convert from being a churchgoer to being a victorious doer of the Word?

Chapter Eleven

The Spirit of our Mind

Did you know that God takes no pleasure in our inability to have faith? But without faith it is IMPOSSIBLE to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.+ (Heb. 11:6)

This tells us that God FULLY EXPECTS us to have and to apply faith. Why would He say so if it were not possible? Are we missing something somewhere? Did faith not come packaged with the gift of righteousness when we were born again?

Flesh is flesh and spirit is spirit. Every man is born spiritually dead (separated from God) as a result of the fall of Adam. It is our spirit that is totally re-born, re-created, at that moment when we believe and receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. And it is our spirit that gives us God-consciousness. Jesus said, It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.+(John 6:63)

What this means is that without our spirits we are unable to function at all as human beings and therefore also unable to receive any communication from God. God communicates with our spirit. Our spirit responds to God and our bodies react to our spirits.

Our physical bodies became the casualties of spiritual death and the curse that followed. Spiritual re-birth brings about a reversal of that process, DEPENDING on whether or not we were fully enlightened about the meaning of Salvation. Most people hear the Gospel but pay no attention to the fact that physical healing forms an integral part of Salvation.

Jesus healed people of all kinds of sicknesses and diseases. These people responded with belief in their spirits to the words of Jesus and their bodies came into subjection to their believing spirits. You see, your spirit possesses a physical body that is totally dependent upon your spirit for its continued existence and well-being. What your spirit says, goes.

Your spirit (the real you) is in charge of what your body eats or drinks. Your spirit (the real you) controls the words that flow over your physical tongue. Your spirit (the real you) determines where your body goes when walking or driving. You (your spirit) can talk to your body and tell it to respond in the way you want it respond. It HAS to OBEY you. Why? BECAUSE YOUR SPIRIT WAS RE-CREATED WHEN IT BELIEVED AND YOU WERE BROUGHT INTO UNION WITH CHRIST AND YOU NOW LIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF GOD. In simple terms, you got your life back and your body has to fall in line with that NEW LIFE.

Remember, your body has gained experience of sin (through your five senses) when your fallen spirit was in charge. The old spirit was kicked out and your new spirit now faces up to the same body, which will WAR against your new spirit. Satan will certainly give a helping hand by flooding your senses with all kinds of temptations and denials in an attempt to devour you. This is where Paul leads the way when he said, *But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection*. (1 Cor. 9:27) Here Paul says that he communicates with his body and directs it like a conductor would an orchestra.

THE NEW MAN

We read in 2 Cor.5:17 that *if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.* You have become a new man under a renewed spirit. And if indeed so, then, *put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man (under the old fallen spirit) which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be RENEWED IN THE SPIRIT OF YOUR MIND, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in righteousness and true holiness.* (Eph. 4:22-24)

Who is this *old man* referred to above? This old man is your *word* as developed under your old spirit. Your word projects your image as a human being. Your word is your personality and character formed out of sense-gained knowledge. And this word of yours is corrupt. Paul says you are to *put on the new man* by transforming and renewing the seat of your word, which is in your mind. And you are to do it by the power of your recreated spirit, which permeates and controls every part of your body, including your MIND.

You have a lot of stuff stored away in the memory banks of your heart, kept alive by first the old, and then the new, quickened, spirit. You have to renew your thinking and disallow your memory to get the upper hand when flashing lustful and tempting images to your new spirit. Paul reiterates the importance of this attitude when he

says, %And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.+ (Rom. 12:2)

In other words, you have a new spirit. And you are to bring your word into line with your new spirit. Your word has to take on the attributes of your new, God-reconciled spirit. Your birthright has been restored to you. It is up to you to nullify the sense-inspired, former deeds of the body, now no longer under the illegal authority of darkness and depravity. God gave you a new life. That life is now in the hands of your new spirit.

Let's take this a bit further in order to get absolute clarity on the matter.

With whom did you become ONE when you were born again? You became ONE with Jesus when you received Him as your Lord and Saviour. Jesus said in His prayer to the Father, %That they all may be one, as you, Father, are in me, and I in you; that they also may be one in us, that the world may believe that you have sent me.+ (John 17:21) And who is Jesus? He is the Word of God. Therefore, you became ONE with the Word of God. The Word of God is now ALIVE within you. Your %old man+(your word under your previous spirit) received a companion - the Word of God within your new spirit, The Word (Jesus) now has to push aside your old and corrupt word, which developed under the former spirit. How? By - as Paul says . renewing your mind to this fact. He says, %BUT ON (by faith) the new man which was created according to God, (by making His Word, Jesus, one with you) in righteousness and true holiness.+ (Eph. 4:22-24)

Paul emphasizes this union with Christ, %Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.+ (Phil. 2:5). He reminds us in 1 Cor. 2:16. %But we have the mind of Christ.+ Paul also speaks of his continued teaching of fellow Christians %until Christ is formed in you.+ (Gal. 4:19)

Therefore, we should renew our minds to the fact that the WORD (Jesus) is now part and parcel of our new spirit and that we should transform our thinking until Christ be formed in us. It is an ongoing process only for as long as it takes for us to *finally* accept this fact and live our lives accordingly.

We see then, as with Peter and Paul, the clear UNDERSTANDING gained of what and who you are in Christ, builds your OWN faith . the faith that pleases God. Your own strong faith completely trusts God to deliver on His Word and has total faith in the faith of Christ within you.

CAPTIVES OF THE WORLD

All of humanity . captives of the forces of spiritual wickedness in high places - stands guilty before God. In the form of flesh, God took our guilt and sentence upon His own life and went to prison (hell), ~~And~~ having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.+ (Col. 2:15). Our life became His and His life became ours so that we may be set eternally free.

God has destroyed the works of the devil through His Word, Jesus Christ. We have become one spirit with Jesus Christ. And we now have a mission. He said, ~~Go~~ ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.+ (Mark 16:14-20). As you go, Christ within you will do the work by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are here now *in the place* of Christ.

THE RENT CURTAIN

What is God's attitude towards his human creation today? Where is God when a toddler is busy drowning in a pool? Why is a good person allowed to die tragically while bad people appear to get away with murder? Why do thousands of poor people die in ~~natural~~+ disasters and the survivors left homeless? Why do we not appear to see the Hand of God in the affairs of human society today like we did in the days of the Old Testament as recorded in the Bible? Why does it appear as if God has abandoned the human race?

These are some of the questions being asked today. A great many people have discarded their belief in God because they cannot see any evidence of God's existence in a world gone mad. However, the answer to this dilemma lies in the difference between the Old Testament (Old Covenant) and the New Testament (New Covenant).

Let's consider the following scenario. A very rich man decided to construct a large building in which he would house marvels and wonders for the world to see. No-one, except himself and the architects and workers, was to be allowed access to the building during the construction period. The mystery of the project had to remain intact until the building was completed and officially opened to the public. A high, temporary wall was erected around the construction site with security people to guard it. Finally, the time arrived. The security wall was demolished and the day of free access to this wondrous place was announced. No longer did the world have to

wait. They now could enter freely and enjoy all that was on offer inside this amazing place, that is, all those who *wanted* to enter.

The moment before Jesus died on the Cross, he said, *It is finished.* These words signified the end of the Old Covenant. Jesus Himself had met all the conditions of the Old Covenant on behalf of man. He had fulfilled it and by the act of His crucifixion He instituted a New Covenant between Himself (and therefore between man) and God. When He died, the massive curtain covering to entrance to the Holy of Holies was rent in two from top to bottom. Access to the Presence of God was now open to all. The High Priest of the Old Covenant became obsolete. Jesus was the new High Priest, Mediator, Surety and Advocate of the New Covenant between God and man.

BALL IN OUR COURT

From that moment onwards the ball was in man's court. God had done all that He was going to do to save man. Jesus was sent *that He should taste death for every man* (Heb.2:9). We were *baptized into His death* (Rom. 6:3). This message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as contained in the New Testament spells out God's involvement with mankind. That rent curtain opened up to us all the benefits of God's Kingdom right here on earth. By this event we were redeemed from the Curse of the Law. We were set free from the bondage of darkness and all of its suffering and pain. It gave us free access to the throne of God to ask, claim and receive all that we may need as His children.

God no longer sees a defeated people. His Son had conquered evil once and for all. You and I are a sweet fragrance to God in Christ. God no longer regards our sin condition. All sin had been placed on His Son and offloaded in Hell. Sickness and disease were nailed to the Cross. God had set to man only one condition to meet . and that is to believe in His Son.

And this is why it appears that God had abandoned mankind. In actual fact, it is the other way around. We are the ones who have abandoned God. God has provided the way, the truth and the life . which is Jesus Christ. His death and resurrection marked the start of God's period of Grace upon mankind during which we have the opportunity to come to the knowledge of Salvation . Salvation from sin, eternal condemnation, poverty, sickness and disease. Its all been taken care of. But we continue to suffer because we lack knowledge of God's Word. God declares in His Word that, *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you* +Entertainment and self-satisfaction are our preferences . and so we destroy ourselves.

God gave us His very own Righteousness by which we possess the ability not only to overcome all our earthly problems, but also to avoid them. All it takes is for us to get a little education on the matter. Until we get that education, God is going to do nothing further. He wants us to do it ourselves by means of the Power He has placed in our hands. We're not talking about religion. We're talking about God and His Word for all peoples of the planet.

Chapter Twelve

Love and Hate

Now, you have boldly stepped onto that stage not yet tread upon. It is no longer a mystery stage, for you are standing there. But you know there is something still to come. And here it comes.

The world that God so *loved* that He gave His only begotten Son, is the world made up of the *man* He created in His own image and after His likeness.

The world that God *hates* is the *condition* of the world as a result of the man He placed in it. And the thing that grieves God is the love that man has for the degenerate world in which he lives.

Inherent in man, by design of God, is man's *free will*. Man, as a free moral agent, from Adam to the present, *chose* the path of unrighteousness . the very opposite of the nature of God. From the moment you were born the spiritual death incurred by Adam has worked within your own spirit to make you *want* to sin. You are responsible for your own sin by *choice*. ~~For~~ all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.+ (Romans 3:23) In fact, we are so degenerate and so far removed from the righteousness of God that God describes our own version of righteousness as ~~filthy rags~~+ (Isaiah 64:6)

What is it, then, that makes us so averse to the righteousness of God?

VOICES FROM BEYOND

In a court of law the judge will be influenced by the voice of the prosecutor *against* the defendant and the voice of the advocate *for* the defendant. The judge will then decide or make his ~~choice~~based on those voices. The world we live in is filled with voices and those voices have a bearing on our freedom of choice in life. Those voices belong to demon spirits and fallen angels. And they are in direct contact with our own spirits and, if allowed, will orchestrate and assist the actions of those (human beings) who desire to follow evil means of achieving their goals.

The origin of these unseen spiritual forces is a subject for another book. Suffice to say, they exist and are active all over the world as we speak. They are in control of governments, nations and individuals, as is clearly evident in the evil being perpetrated worldwide. Corruption, death and destruction follow in the wake of their influence. Their very first objective is the removal of all forms of reference to the name of Jesus Christ in the public sector, which then opens the way for decay in the moral standards of society. Crime, drugs and promiscuity become the norm. Hardly a movie script is without the repetitive use of the name of Jesus Christ as an expletive.

Where do you think our jealous, revengeful and murderous thoughts, that lead to like deeds, come from? The minds of our spirits are under constant bombardment and scrutiny. Evil spirits can add to our thoughts by means of suggestion and temptation

using our very own senses, such as when men look upon beautiful women for too long. Remember, we are spirit, and evil spirits can pass on some powerful ideas, which we believe to be our own. And soon we start having a mental debate. Sound familiar? There are those of us who are so steeped in sinful living that we don't even need encouragement from the invisible world, in which case it is likely that we are possessed by one or more of these evil spirits, who sit back, enjoying the ride.

Then on the other hand, you might be a peace-loving, law-abiding individual with hardly a nasty thought crossing your mind, but you either loathe or have no interest in religion of any kind. This suits the invisible enemy just fine. They'll place you on the backburner for a later date.

The reality of interference from the spirit world is repeatedly made clear in the Bible, consummately so in Ephesians 6:12, which reads, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." And the ruler of these spiritual forces is none other than Satan, to whom the title of "god of this world" is given in the Bible.

Sicknesses and diseases are the offspring of lives being lived in sin. These evil spiritual forces are at the forefront of plunging mankind into an abyss of unrighteous living and the ill health that follows, so as to cut short any chance of reconciliation with God. Mental illness is supposedly a demented condition of the mind for which people receive psychiatric treatment. As already expounded, one's mind belongs to one's spirit to which the spirit world has access, and mental illness comes as a result of demon possession or oppression. Jesus cast out these demons and healed people when He walked the earth, delivering them from the bondage that made them spiritual prisoners.

And that is what people in the world have become - spiritual prisoners, or "captives" as referred to by Jesus. Man is captive to wickedness and the sordid pleasures of the world, but basking therein and wanting more.

So you see, the world is a spiritual prison camp, of which Satan is the master, but we are there by *choice*, albeit through ignorance. That is why God, because He has provided us with a way of escape, first holds *us* personally responsible. And then He will deal with Satan.

LOVE OF THE WORLD

If you are in love with the world and covet its lascivious pleasures, then you can consider yourself an enemy of God. "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a

friend of the world is the enemy of God.+ (James 4:4). And in 1 John 2:15 we read, %love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.+

But know that it is the Spiritual Death within man that blinds him to the truth and separates him from God. Man sees only the physical world and is forced to love it and participate in it in order to survive. He does not know that he is a spirit with a direct link to God for all his needs. Like Pontius Pilate, who acknowledged Jesus Christ but washed his hands of the revelation standing before him, society is doing the same today.

Who needs God when the going is good? It is a thing for Sundays and for those who need a crutch in life . definitely not for the well-informed man of the world. Such would be the thoughts of those at the receiving end of the unseen whisperers.

ILLEGAL ALIENS AT WORK

Now, there is something you need to know and understand. Man is God's legally appointed agent on the earth, as per Genesis 1:26-28. We also read in Psalm 115:16 that %The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.+ We have dominion over the earth and no other spiritual entity has any legal right to operate here. Not even God could directly intervene, that is why He had to enter the earth legally by being born into the world of a woman. However, Satan and his evil spirits are permitted to indirectly ply their evil trade on the earth through agents, those agents being none other than man himself. Man is the unwitting agent acting on their behalf to steal, kill and to destroy.

And, as already explained, the avenue of communication for this purpose is the mind of man. It is only the presence of the Holy Spirit within the spirits of men already born again through Jesus Christ that prevents total chaos on the earth.

The paradox to this (man as agent to evil) is that man, in turn, uses the power of spiritual forces to transcend the laws of the natural world by unknowingly forming an alliance in matters such as mind reading, hypnotism, making objects disappear and reappear, levitation and some other things you see certain magicians do. Such people are then regarded as gifted in their field of performance.

For instance, a person claiming to be a mind reader will ask you to focus your mind on something specific. A demon spirit will pick up your thoughts and relay it to the mind reader. These demon spirits are known as familiar spirits, for they are familiar with the personalities of perhaps thousands of people going back just as many years. They are able to imitate deceased people and pass on a message to their loved ones still living, using another human being as a medium. These same spirits are responsible for the concept of reincarnation.

In most African countries ancestral spirits are worshipped and revered. Rituals would be followed to call up these spirits for help and guidance. The truth is, human spirits are not left behind to roam the earth. These so-called ancestral spirits are none other than demon spirits imitating the departed. They revel in the opportunity to bring about destruction and death through tribal conflict, faction-fighting, corruption, dictatorships, economic failure, genocide and xenophobia. Only African countries with a strong Christian presence are able to suppress the workings of these dark forces and maintain a degree of economic success.

Hypnotism is another example of human spirit control and can be applied in two ways. The medical profession uses it to shut off your consciousness by inducing sleep. However, your spirit-mind remains sharp and alert, enabling you to sleep-talk. In this form of hypnotism you (your spirit) remain in control of your own speech and action, albeit subconsciously.

When it comes to hypnotism for the purpose of entertainment, the same process takes place, except that the hypnotist, in effect, takes control of your mind and instructs your body to perform outrageously before an audience. The hypnotist then returns the control over your body to your own spirit. Your own spirit will remember nothing, for it will have been suspended from command. Hypnotism - the Bible forbids it - is dangerous, for it opens up your spirit to possible demon intrusion.

Ever wondered how it is possible for certain magicians to make objects disappear and re-appear behind or inside a solid object or how they are able to push their hand through a solid pane of glass? As already pointed out, the physical world is the product of the spiritual world. Spiritual beings (Angels or demons) can pass through solid objects as if they weren't there at all. In effect, the physical (originally brought into existence by the spirit world, that is, God, through the release of energy) is passing through the spiritual. This means that a spiritual being can manipulate a solid object (even a human hand) to pass through another solid object, for both are products of the spiritual world. So it is not the magician who does it, but the spiritual being with whom he, perhaps unwittingly, has the alliance.

Another area of our lives affected by spiritual forces is our dreams. Dreams take place in your spirit . not in your brain. If from God, then it could either be a warning, an answer to a problem, instructions or guidance. This is made clear for us in the Bible. If from evil spirits, then they will arrange a little video for us . with the help of our troubled minds . either to misguide us or to scare the living daylights out of us, hence the nightmares.

Demon spirits are the disembodied spirits of a social order of creatures, perhaps thousands or millions of years, prior to Adam. Their present domain is the atmosphere of the earth. They are referred to in the Bible as spiritual wickedness in high places. They seek to live out their own wicked activities through the bodies of humankind, if allowed. The skeletal fossils of the bodies they once had, either ape-like or human-like in appearance, are being unearthed all over the world. Scientists are convinced that they are the remains of the forerunner of the human race and are still trying to find the missing link. Unfortunately for them, it does not exist.

If God had to allow every person (earthbound spirit) on earth to see into the spirit realm for just sixty seconds, then the world would be plunged into a state of frenzied fear. Children would not be able to sleep, with their thoughts constantly on the frightening scenes they had witnessed, knowing that it still exists. Businesses would virtually come to a standstill as a result of employees not being able to concentrate. The main topic of discussion on every inch of the planet would be the reality of the presence of these wicked spirit-beings. World economies would crash. And scientists would probably wonder which of these millions upon millions of evil atmospheric creatures represented the missing link.

Humans, driven to despair by circumstances they find themselves in, are prime targets for these dark forces. Millions of people are sitting behind bars, having turned to crime as a result of successful demon activity in their lives. They did not know that their minds were being manipulated, let alone know about the reality of the existence of these creatures. If they knew then they would have known how to resist them and that it was a matter of choice between right and wrong. How ironic that the Bible is used in courts of law for the purpose of taking the oath, yet the contents of the Book is considered of no consequence. Nobody is familiar with the truth therein.

I personally find myself having to pose the question; would the world be in such turmoil if the truth had been known? What do you think? Are you, yourself, beginning

to see the light? Is your own attitude towards life beginning to take a turn? Are you able to take what you've read so far and run with it? Wait, there's more. Please read on.

FOR PLEASURE AND FELLOWSHIP

The Bible tells us that God created man for His pleasure and to enjoy fellowship with him. Man never had to be concerned with lack in material and social needs of any kind. Man's life was to be a joyous, carefree, unblemished walk through paradise for eternity. Adam and Eve had a taste of it but for a moment. And then freedom of choice to either obey or disobey God, stepped in. They chose the wrong tree - and man has been out on a limb ever since. Satan illegally took over man's God-given dominion over the earth and has been shaking that limb for the last six thousand years, even although that dominion was wrested from him and returned to man two thousand years ago.

That event on the Cross two thousand years ago meant that man had his birthright and his fellowship with God restored. It meant that man did not have to be poor, sick and hungry anymore. But, once again, freedom of choice has become the criteria. Man, blinded by the works of darkness, has chosen to ignore God and everything He has to offer. And so man continues, unable to quench the fiery darts of spiritual wickedness in high places.

THE NOTHING

The building blocks for the Universe were something called *nothing*. The nothing became material *substance*, which was produced by the Word of God, for we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.+ (Heb. 11:3). The Word of God became flesh. The Word of God in the flesh was called Jesus Christ, in whom we live, and move, and have our being+. (Acts 17:28).

The physical body, through which your spirit lives, was formed from the dust of the ground of this planet, which was made from *nothing*. The Bible tells us that faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.+ (Heb. 11:1). This means that the Word of God has an ingredient called *faith*, for it produced the substance so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.+ The Bible tells us that Jesus is the author and finisher of faith;+ and also the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.+

The bottom line? We all live within the *faith* of the Word of God, namely, Jesus Christ. And the only real part of us is the *life* that we have, namely, our *spirit*, which comes from Christ. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6).

At some point in the near future, after the catching up of all true believers, our *nothing* bodies will become glorified, like that of Christ's, enabling us to walk through solid objects and, in the blink of an eye, cover huge distances through the Universe - the product out of *nothing*.

The conclusion of the matter is this. We are *man* . earthbound spirits living through physical bodies. And we need to see each other as such and remain in awareness thereof every minute of our lives. Those of us who have been set free by the truth now operate from a heavenly place. We now live on earth from this vantage point with renewed minds and with a single purpose, and that is to bring the truth to those still in captivity. A nation set free is a nation without a plea.

Well, that just about covers it. I trust that you have gotten the picture. Oh, there's one more thing.

Chapter Thirteen

The Missing Audience

Your feet are now firmly planted on that stage. You want others to join you on that stage by taking the same route as you did and see the world as you now see it. You turn to the audience, but you see no one out there. Want to know where they are? Let me tell you.

The audience (the world) is to be found in the escape mode of life.

Some are sitting in front of their television sets watching soap operas, talk shows and movies . loving what the world produces. Others are chatting it up in pubs and clubs.

Many government and corporate fat cats are going through the motions while wondering about their next luxury cars and ways to buck the system for the purpose of self-enrichment.

Parents are steeped in worldly philosophies, values and pleasures, while their children are piercing their skin with rings and things, hoping it will lead to some kind of recognition or identity with something they can quite put their finger on. Their parents think it is just a phase when, in fact, their children are looking for guidance and truth.

Journalists are looking for juicy stories in this cauldron of dog eat dog.

The poor and hungry want to get on that stage, but their need for food and shelter keeps them away. Then there are others who are in prison with no hope of rehabilitation. They cannot get to that stage. It has to be taken to them.

The world is like a wrecking ball (driven by ~~sp~~ spiritual wickedness in high places), hitting some and missing others. On the back swing it knocks babies into pools, kills soldiers and civilians in far-flung places, and smashes planeloads, trainloads and

busloads of people into oblivion. Along its slipstream it drags certain countries into acts of genocide, while the rest of the world looks on.

Make no mistake, many of the missing audience have indeed heard the call, albeit vaguely. But, like Pontius Pilate, have given scant acknowledgement to it, preferring to wash their hands of any responsibility towards it. They would rather go with the flow, all swimming downstream, heading for the falls.

So you see, the world of earthbound spirits is in a plight. It needs to get where you are standing right now - on that stage. You know how to get them there, for you now have a clear understanding. You have a mission. This is your chapter.

Follow-up e-Book

After having read this book, you might have a question or two. A follow-up e-book is planned to cater for this. Simply e-mail your question to jackv357@gmail.com and all similar questions will be answered in the book. No time will be wasted in compiling this book which promises to be humdinger. You will be informed by e-mail as soon as it becomes available.