

The *Greatest* Gospel Truth

*The Essential Handbook for
Escaping Manmade Christianity & Finding
Freedom in Christ's 'Finished Work'
On the Cross (incl. hand drawn illus.)*

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41 Countries, Worldwide

Philip D. Brittan

The articles contained herein are dedicated to
the greatest Gospel truth ever told.

When Jesus died on the Cross,
He REDEEMED the whole human race.
He paid the entire 'sin debt' of the world –
ONCE . . . AND FOR ALL TIME!

Eternal life is an unconditional gift to all.

HEAVEN – is in everyone's future!

No religious doctrine can alter this reality.

Christianity

is a manmade religion.

It's a gigantic, worldwide bureaucracy composed of paid professionals holding themselves and their indoctrinated followers tightly together by a string of manmade doctrines. Sadly, these doctrines are in no way dependent on and have virtually nothing in common with Christ's complete and perfect work on the Cross, otherwise known as. . .
the **Gospel**.

THE STING OF DEATH REMOVED

THE LEGAL CODE ABOLISHED

JEW & GENTILE ONE NEW MAN

ALL ARE BORN RIGHTEOUS IN CHRIST

GOD'S LOVE & FAVOR RELEASED

ALL ARE MADE PERFECT IN CHRIST

ALL ARE MADE FREE FOR THE SAKE OF FREEDOM

FEAR OF JUDGEMENT REMOVED

PEACE ON EARTH BETWEEN GOD & MAN

MAN'S RECORD OF SIN REMOVED

SATAN IS HUMILIATED & DEFEATED

ALL THINGS ARE MADE NEW

EVERYTHING OLD HAS PASSED AWAY

ALL ARE RAISED IN HIM

ALL DIED IN CHRIST

ALL OF HUMANITY REDEEMED

ALL PROPHECIES FULFILLED

GOD'S WILL FOR MAN COMPLETE IN CHRIST

ETERNAL LIFE A FREE GIFT TO ALL

THE COMPLETED WORKS OF THE CROSS

CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED

THE ONE
TRUE
FOUNDATION

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Preface

It is the author's intention in the writing of these seventy-seven articles, to accomplish two things: first – to reveal the deceitful work of the organized Christian church and second – to open the eyes of the reader to the true meaning of the Gospel.

The time for exposing the manmade religion of Christianity and its fabricated product known as 'the Christian life', as having little if anything to do with the Gospel – is long overdue.

It has wreaked a horrible legacy of pain and suffering upon Humanity since its inception, over two-thousand years ago. The clever techniques of indoctrination that Christianity has used over so many centuries, have robbed Mankind of a proper understanding of their rightful inheritance, both in this life and the one to come.

This inestimable loss can never be repaid. We can however, help those among us in the here and now. We can

assist others in breaking down the sturdy pillars of harsh and ruthless indoctrination.

We can be instrumental in undoing the toxic mental programming that has ravaged the lives of so many innocent believers. Whose life wouldn't be immediately and drastically improved by an accurate knowledge of the Gospel truth?

What better thing can we do than make this truth understood as it was originally intended, regardless of the opposition, threats and ridicule that are certain to come our way from the Christian church?

You'll be happy to know this fact – that the world will be quite willing to hear the truth. They won't attack you for letting them know they're all recipients of the gift of eternal life, whether they make some personal decision or not.

They won't ridicule you for informing them that their sins have been completely removed regardless of what they might have done. They won't despise you for telling them they can live their own life in any way they please. They won't hate you, when you say that God has nothing but love for them because Jesus took all of God's anger, wrath and judgement upon Himself when He died upon the Cross.

They won't accuse you of being a phony or a hypocrite for telling it like it is. You'll be giving them the Good News, like they've never heard it before!

Your harshest confrontations will come from 'dyed-in-the-wool' Christians. Your only vicious responses will come from indoctrinated church members. Thankfully you won't be living inside a manmade world religion.

Your whole life won't be wrapped up in an artificial life called Christianity. You'll live in the real world, not in some hermetically sealed bubble. You'll be free to live your life as you see fit – a concept that church-goers are totally unfamiliar with.

You'll possess 'The Greatest Gospel Truth' and no one will ever be able to take it away from you!

Article **1**

Be All God Wants You to Be?

Honestly, how many times have you heard a preacher, teacher, author or leader mention in one venue or another, that you need to become ‘all that God wants you to be’?

The intent is to inspire believers to seek more, ask more, learn more, do more, try more and be more, even though the idea itself is completely ludicrous. There’s no way you’re ever going to be what God wants you to be. You don’t need to. It’s not a requirement. It isn’t now, nor has it ever been even a vague possibility.

It’s a trap!

From the very moment you accept such a precept, you’ll become a slave to the gruelling Christian process of ‘becoming’. You’ll wind up enmeshed in the patented

Christian invention called ‘God has a unique plan for your life’.

You’ll find yourself caught in the relentless grinding gears of daily enquiry into what God would have you do, say, think and desire from one moment to the next. The hook will be set in your jaw. Christian leaders will reel you in and make your voluntary efforts a part of their life’s mission, even as you try with all your might to be Christ incarnate to everyone you meet.

It will drive you insane if you allow it. It will lead to a life of disappointment, discouragement and disillusionment ending in total burnout if you don’t hastily escape it.

Don’t think for a moment that the idea of ‘becoming’ hasn’t been tried before. The Old Testament was full of characters that were intent on becoming what God wanted them to be; that waited longingly for God’s next command; that were judged on their faithfulness, commitment and desire to follow through, but to what end? Nobody passed the test. No one made the grade. Everyone fell short of the mark.

The experiment was a flop – a total failure!

‘Becoming’ was no longer a viable option. The only way left for Man to finally qualify was to be made perfect all

together – in one instantaneous flash of God’s pure genius. Thankfully, that’s where we are today. It’s called the New Testament. It’s called the Gospel truth. By one Man’s act of obedience all will be made righteous. That’s you! That’s every man, woman and child that has ever lived, on either side of the Cross!

By Christ’s willing surrender and perfect sacrifice, He became the very embodiment of our accumulated sin and failing character and took them both to a permanent grave. We became in that same split second, the legal owners of Christ’s character attributes together with His righteousness, even as we were raised in Him to sit forever at God’s right hand.

To what can we attribute such outrageous good fortune?

God’s unmerited, undeserved love and favor and nothing else! Don’t ever try to pay it back. It’s a gift – no strings attached. You are already made perfect and complete in Him. Relax and enjoy the benefits!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 2

Become a Gospel Truth Teller

Would you like to become a certified Gospel truth teller? Think it would require a lot of effort and determination?

You would need to study theology at an accredited seminary. You would need to learn Hebrew and Greek while spending years in pursuit of a degree. In the final analysis, after countless hours of intense, dedicated mental exertion, you would graduate complete with all the attending rights and privileges.

But if you were completely honest, wouldn't you like to side-step the whole rigmarole? Wouldn't you prefer to just lock yourself away with the Bible and come out a short time later with a complete grasp of the Gospel truth from A to Z?

Ask a Christian pastor what your chances for success are likely to be, going about it this way. You'll come away feeling pretty discouraged! After all, Gospel fluency is their home turf. They think they know all about it – so much so, you'd think they owned it. They've already put in the years of required study. They already possess the diplomas and the degrees, hanging proudly on their walls. They're the pros, the experts, the ones with all the answers.

You can ask them something but don't tell them anything. Nothing annoys Christian authoritarians more than to be told something. Just try – and they'll cut you off like a frozen leg of lamb! They have more important things to do than to avail themselves of inspiring truths emanating from the mouth of a mere layman. Just who do you think you are?

You'd be mistaken if you think mastery of the Gospel truth is a hard and exacting task. You might also be surprised to know that the so-called Christian experts, with all their highfalutin education, have no clue about the Gospel. Not quite sure you can believe it? Well, it's true! They're parrots, repeating what years of indoctrination have pounded into them.

Like trained seals, they perform precisely in the way they've been instructed – exactly as they've rehearsed. Memorizing all the seemingly perfect answers to life's

toughest and most challenging questions is their true calling. ‘Bible thumping’ is their real specialty – not Gospel telling! Ask them to tell you what the Gospel really is and see for yourself. Tell them they can take all the time they need and consult any reference book they want. You just have one simple question, “What is the Gospel?” You’ll be waiting forever for the right answer. Why? Because they don’t know it! These men and women of the cloth actually get paid very well, yet you just have to ask – for what?

So where do you begin in your search for the true meaning of the Gospel, on your way to becoming a qualified Gospel truth teller?

Start right here with the word ‘Gospel’. It means ‘Good News’. Now look closely at the word ‘Good’. There’s nothing bad, sad, disappointing, discouraging, tearful or fearful in that word, wouldn’t you agree? Everything about that word is nice, happy, exciting, engaging, optimistic and positive.

Now look at the word ‘News’. Where ever you see or hear it, it’s complete and final to the extent that it goes, and totally unchangeable by you. Executives in charge of the newspapers, TV networks and internet outlets, aren’t going to contact you personally to ask your permission on whether to print it, announce it or not. Once it’s in their

hands, the news is unstoppable. And so it is with the Gospel – unstoppable and unchangeable by you or anyone else.

Now are you ready for more?

Jesus told His disciples in Mark 16:15-16, shortly before He was to be raised to sit at God's right hand, to go into all the regions of the world and announce the Gospel; a new and permanent peace between God and Man. Whoever believes will be saved (will benefit in this life from the knowledge of that peace) and whoever does not believe will be condemned (will live the rest of their lives in total ignorance of that peace).

The Gospel or the Good News was simply this – that the issue of sin, that had previously kept God and Man apart, had been settled by the perfect and complete sacrifice of Christ, once and for all time.

The disciples were to tell everyone they met, that the record concerning Man's continuous unbelief and sinful disobedience was finally abolished, not by Man's perfect compliance (that would never be possible) – but instead, by the spilling of Christ's perfect blood. We were united to God just as it says in Romans 5:10, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

All of Humanity was permanently joined to God in Christ forever, even while we were unbelieving, disobedient combatants. Romans 4:25 says, “He was raised for our justification”. We were made blameless and guiltless even in the midst of our unbelief and disobedience. If we weren’t all justified – He could never have been raised! What do you think of that?

Christian leaders, teachers, pastors and authors distort, pervert and falsify the truth of the Gospel when they teach that the word ‘saved’ (in Mark 16: 16) refers to REDEMPTION and eternal life.

They use this verse to deceitfully instruct, that anyone who doesn’t believe, forfeits their REDEMPTION and their eternal life (Christ’s finished work on the Cross) and as a result – will spend an eternity in HELL. As we previously shared, the word ‘saved’ in this instance, only means to be rescued from ignorance. It has no connection at all with the completed work of REDEMPTION and the ‘gift of eternal life’.

Congratulations – you’re a Gospel truth teller! Go forth and let others know about the permanent peace that exists between God and Man. Your biggest obstacle will be the Christian church!

Article 3

Belief Follows Redemption

It's a simple idea, isn't it? Can there be anything more fundamental and more logical than this; that REDEMPTION is the fact upon which belief in eternal life can exist and flourish?

To credibly believe in anything at all, a certain fact or collection of facts must pre-exist it. To believe in evolution, one must consider certain facts to be apparent. To believe that all men are created equal, one must allow that at least one or more facts make it plainly self-evident. To believe in climate change, one must acknowledge the existence of a factual base upon which to draw the conclusion. To believe in Capitalism or Democracy, one must have a handle on particular fact-based precepts. To believe in God, one must acknowledge that a set of historical facts come together to form a logical foundation.

Is it possible to believe in something that has no factual basis?

You bet it is!

There are people who believe that alcoholic beverages aren't harmful, even though the tiniest amount of alcohol is known to kill brain cells. There are people who believe marijuana is safe to use, even though the negative side effects are well documented. There are people who believe that the holocaust never really happened, even though the historical reality conclusively contradicts them. There are people who believe that Man never actually landed on the moon, even though we have the undeniable record to support that particular event.

Is there any benefit to holding a belief that is contradictory to existing fact?

Absolutely not!

So, let's take another look at this historical fact called REDEMPTION.

The Christian church teaches that when a person comes to believe that Christ died to REDEEM him or her, only then can he or she be factually REDEEMED. Leaders teach that the act of believing activates REDEMPTION.

Conversely, they teach that if an individual fails to believe, the gift of eternal life through REDEMPTION, accomplished by Christ alone on the Cross, never even happened.

A mere mortal can make the fact of REDEMPTION either true or false, just by acceptance or denial – belief or disbelief. Just believe . . . and the car of your dreams is sitting in the driveway. Just deny . . . and the taxes you owe the IRS, disappear. Oh sure! C'mon now. Believing doesn't make anything true! Who are they trying to kid? Yet in the world of Christianity, belief makes everything possible – including REDEMPTION! Hogwash! The universal fact of REDEMPTION is just like any other fact. It pre-exists 'belief' and proves it beyond any doubt.

This is the Christian church's fatal flaw!

They put the cart before the horse! They put belief ahead of the truth! If they can deny that REDEMPTION is a fact for every person, whether they should happen to believe or not, then those in leadership from the top to the bottom are complicit in a horrific lie, a sick fabrication – a disgraceful act of disservice to all Mankind!

Article 4

Christianity; Is It a Cult?

On the face of it, does it sound even remotely possible? Could Christianity actually be a cult?

Christianity defines a cult, as any belief that does not consider Jesus Christ to be the divine Son of God. As you can see, the definition leaves an expansive, wide open field for any and all kinds of mind control or physical abuse that church leaders may see fit to use. Any form of indoctrination and mistreatment can and does find an open door within their simple declaration. How? Because Christianity has been permitted to define itself and everyone else for most of the last 2,000 years!

The way Christians see it, there are only two kinds of people in the world: saved and unsaved, Heaven bound and Hell bent, believers and unbelievers, converted and

unconverted, REDEEMED and unredeemed, repentant and unrepentant, born again and not born again, Christian and non-Christian.

The prefix 'non' when added to the word Christian, alters the meaning to 'a person of little consequence', unimportant, worthless, lacking the positive characteristic.

Clearly, Christians view themselves singularly and alone as God's REDEEMED, His New Creation, His special family, favored above all others. How normal is this? How is this not foundational to cult behavior?

While Christian history is riddled with controversy centering on widespread, cruel maltreatment of Humanity in all its many forms, to this day it continues to aggressively promote itself unabashedly as it always has, to the very exclusion of the Gospel truth itself.

The wide umbrella of Christianity casts its shadow across dozens of denominations, each with their own slight variations and yet all agreeing on the same main conclusions: non-Christians are destined for an eternity spent in HELL; believing is a requirement for eternal life; one must declare themselves to be Christian to participate fully in the redemptive life; one must press on to live the 'Christian life' as defined by the church.

To in any way oppose these ideas is to become branded with labels like Universalist, dissenter, nonconformist, freethinker or heretic. This, in and of itself, is proof enough of cult behavior.

Next, consider that the new Christian is speedily instructed in the vital importance of total surrender. The complete and utter laying down of all personal independent will (explained as dying to one's self) is absolutely and unquestionably the first most vital aspect of the Christian life. The new believer is told that from now on, he must yield at every turn to God's own will for his life.

Discovering this unique, personal, specific will of God with the dawning of each new day, will become a constant source of restless recrimination, frustration and consternation that will follow him to his final breath! Surrendering to God's will must be met daily with strict and unwavering compliance, as it often involves acquiescing to church leaders' requests and demands, whatever they may be over a wide range of issues.

The church has many needs and the new believer must show himself to be available, teachable, agreeable and dependable. Failure to demonstrate willing compliance will brand the participant as unimportant and useless to the cause. How can this not be yet another ingredient of cult behavior?

Next, the new convert is taught that when he makes his confession of faith, he becomes a ‘New Creation’. He’s told that his ‘old man’ is gone; that everything old has passed away. He can live a new life from a brand-new beginning.

Then comes the rude awakening!

A few days or weeks later, the new believer is advised that the ‘old man’ didn’t die at all! In fact, his ‘old man’ will continue to work tirelessly within him to distract, befuddle and derail him from a life that’s pleasing to God. He must wrestle with his ‘old man’ and suffer the ceaseless heartache stemming from the conflict for the rest of his life. Each day, the new believer must try with all his might to subdue and ultimately kill his other self – his ‘old man’.

This is perhaps the most devastating and despicable lie in all of Christendom! Imagine telling a person, upon accepting Christ as their personal Savior, that they’re a New Creation – then wiping it all away with the pronouncement that they are in fact a dual personality, with their ‘old self’ forever trying to make life miserable. C’mon now – this is worse than a bad, science fiction movie!

If this isn’t an example of cult behavior, then what is?

Here is yet another piece of evidence. The new Christian finds himself continually sinning and living with

two constant companions he never knew before – guilt and shame! His only relief is found in the performance of a ritual referred to in Christian circles as – the ‘daily confession of sin’.

Over and over and day after day, he must constantly and repeatedly offer up apologies and beg forgiveness for things he did, that he shouldn’t have done and things he didn’t do, that he should have done. If he neglects to confess even one sin, no matter how small, it will remain on his record and become a crucial piece of evidence used to convict him when he dies and meets God face to face!

The new believer is even advised to share his sins with others as a way of keeping himself fully accountable to the so-called ‘family of God’. He’s told that his persistent feelings of guilt and shame are positive attributes assisting him in his Christian walk.

The decision is yours alone to make, but who can deny that the facts speak for themselves. Cult behavior is everywhere in the Christian church! Does that mean that Christianity is a cult? In arriving at your own conclusion, there’s an old saying that might be helpful; “If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck – it’s probably a duck!”

Article **5**

Christianity Denies ‘Purchase of All’

Christian leaders, teachers, authors and preachers talk a lot about Christ’s death on the Cross. But, they rarely if ever make the connection to His grandest accomplishment of all.

What did His perfect sacrifice bring about?

Oh sure, most people would be quick to say that it meant the total payment of Man’s accumulated sin – but there’s more. What you’re not likely to hear explained correctly, is this . . . the greatest, most momentous, single event, ever to take place in all of human history!

While many things came about as a direct result of the Cross, the greatest of these is the wholesale PURCHASE of

Mankind. Romans 5, verse 6 says, “At the right time, while we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.” It was necessary that Christ pay for our sin but that was just the beginning. We could do nothing to become re-born. We were incapable of ending our condition of separation from God, even with the removal of sin.

Sure, we were made in the image of God but He had something better in mind. It was His idea that we should be re-created to exist as part of Him. It wasn't enough to be like Him yet separate, even if this would satisfy us. What could make His ambition a reality? What would cause Man to be re-made together in Christ and then placed for all eternity into our Creator?

The goal of uniting all things to Him, hung entirely on one plan and one action with one result – the PURCHASE!

Christian leaders maintain that only loyal followers were paid for at the Cross, even though there were none to be found. They say that ‘believing’ is the only valid credential for removal of sin, even though an Old Testament prophet knew that all would fail miserably. No one was qualified. Everyone was helpless. All had the same critical need to be re-born but none knew how. Nothing explains it better than Isaiah 53 verse 6, “We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

Thankfully, long before Christianity had constructed its case for the buyback of only ‘believers’ at the Cross – a legal and binding ‘PURCHASE of HUMANITY’ in its entirety, had already taken place at the instant of Christ’s death.

In the blink of an eye, He had already snapped-up the ungodly, unruly, unclean, unworthy, unbelieving, unloving, uncaring, uncommitted, uneducated, unsuccessful, untrustworthy, unqualified, un-Christian and every other ‘un’ you can think of. Christ was . . . the UN-REDEEMER!

Let’s face it. Christianity made its appearance far too long after the fact, to argue for its doctrine of ‘you must first believe’. They arrived way too late on the scene, to make their case for obedience as a necessary condition for eternal life. Jesus got it done while Man was still in his helpless estate, eliminating any opportunity for dissention and debate. Even as He finished saying the words “It is finished!” – His death and perfect blood, sealed the PURCHASE.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 6

Christianity Still Under a Schoolmaster

Throughout the Old Testament, believing and unbelieving Jews were continually attended to by God. With the offering of sacrifices year after year by the High Priest, the people of Israel were pulled along often against their will from one century to the next.

Continually under God's watchful eye, none could make a move without specific marching orders from on High. All would need to be coddled and cajoled, judged and punished, from one day to the next according to a ridged set of ordinances carved in stone. Who could live up to His expectations? God would have to rescue His people, time and time again. They were like aimless sheep constantly in need of guidance, supervision and protection. They could never be trusted or left alone. Like immature children in a

third-grade classroom, they could never be without an assertive and vigilant schoolmaster to watch over their every move.

Would God's people ever grow up? Would they ever be able to live in total personal freedom? Would they ever be able to enjoy an independent life?

Fortunately for Israel, that day did finally come. Their harsh overseer, the Law of Sin and Death, was finally dismissed. When and where would this monumental event take place? We're talking about a precise moment, a specific location – a perfect storm whereupon 'the fulfillment of time' would collide head on with the 'end of the ages' in a thunderous, cataclysmic whirlwind the likes of which the world had never seen before and would never see again!

We're talking about the Cross, where Jesus Christ would pay the price in full for the accumulated sin of Mankind – once and for all time!

At the very instant of Christ's death, all of Humanity died in Him and at the moment of His resurrection, all were 'born again' in Him for all eternity. The governing dominion of the Law of Sin and Death was instantly overthrown by the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ. Satan was defeated and destroyed. Jew and Gentile were created anew as One New Man in Christ. Complete independence was at once in

perfect harmony with total security. The ability to think and move without restraint became an inseparable part of an eternal habitation in Christ at the right hand of God!

What would Man do with his newfound freedom? In the more than two thousand years since the Cross, incredible advances have been made in every constructive field of endeavor. Universities and colleges in every industrialised nation of the world are filled to capacity. Young men and women are anxious to improve their lot while at the same time benefit the lives of Humanity to the four corners of the earth. All around us we're made witnesses to the amazing developments and incredible improvements that both freedom and self-determination have made possible for the benefit of all!

Without the unity with Christ that took place at the Cross, where would Mankind be today? Would individual creativity along with independent thought have been allowed to flourish, or would harsh rule and stern doctrine have squashed any sign of individuality, keeping Man forever in the Dark Ages?

Would the patent office be full to overflowing with inventions of every type, size and shape that exist purely for the advancement of life as we know it, or would we still be traveling on horseback, reading by candlelight and cooking over an open fire?

Odd as it may seem, there is one segment of society that looks upon Man's inbred desire for freedom, invention and self-expression as purely worldly, as completely separate, as entirely strange to God's will in every way imaginable.

The Christian church sees the world and all of its bustling activity, as evil; as a workshop for the Devil; as a den of thieves; as a hotbed of corruption and ill repute. They see themselves as set apart, righteous, a peculiar people unrelated in every way to the common man who remains unschooled in the Christian way. They live solely for the purpose of imitating Christ. They try to act, live, speak and think just as He would, if He were still alive in the flesh today. They live under a set of laws and doctrines that no man can keep, locked in a state of contrition as they plead for forgiveness from one day to the next.

Fear of judgement lurks in the dark shadows of their consciousness, continually scanning their grey cells for a sinful act or omission unconfessed. Peace and tranquility elude them as they search the Bible for truth and understanding, oblivious to the Gospel – the completed works of Christ upon the Cross.

Talk to a Christian about total freedom in Christ and you'll see on their face, the look of mystery and incomprehension. Immediately they view themselves in

every kind of compromising predicament, abusing their new-found liberty in every way under the sun. To them, absolute freedom becomes permission to go forth and commit every kind of disgusting atrocity known to man!

God forbid that they should ever trust themselves!

They still need a schoolmaster, a supervisor, a chaperone, a babysitter! Christians never grow up! They could never handle their freedom responsibly. They're so sin conscious that if left to their own devices, they would become a virtual wrecking-ball of self-destruction! It's so sad because after all, individual liberty is central to the purpose of Christ's death upon the Cross.

Release from confinement and restraint is at the very core of the wonderful . . . Gospel truth!

Article 7

Christian Leaders Promote Satan

When it comes to Christian teaching, does any character get more attention than Satan? Listen to popular preachers on the radio or watch them on TV and honestly, you would think the Devil was their sponsor! Attend church on Sunday or show up at a mid-week Bible study and you'll swear he's sitting in the front pew or occupying the chair right next to you!

If Christian leaders would just give up the idea of advertising his persona, believers might forget that he even existed to negatively influence anyone's life – but no sir! Such an approach can never be permitted to happen. Good and evil must exist side by side just as it does in every cowboy adventure, detective story or suspense thriller. God

and Satan must always share the same space, whether it be in church, at home, at work or more importantly, within that coveted space between your ears.

Without the bad, who can appreciate the good? Without a sworn enemy, who can recognize a true friend? This is the peculiar logic that keeps a defeated foe, who hasn't seen the light of day in over 2,000 years, on the front burner of the 'Christian life'!

Many years ago, a popular restaurant used the slogan, "You deserve a break today." It caught on like wildfire, sending people in droves to their 'fast food' windows. The catch phrase has never been more meaningful than it is today, in the lives of innocent believers subjected to the constant harassment of a conquered antagonist who, unbeknownst to them, remains bound and gagged to this very day.

Considering what Christ accomplished on the Cross, in putting Satan permanently behind bars and confiscating the key – who deserves more sympathy than the poor convert? Christian leaders relentlessly torture their followers with the incessant persecution of an enemy portrayed as . . . still on the loose! They soak the believer's precious mind in a toxic hodgepodge of false information, proclaiming Satan to be the owner of the world.

He has jurisdiction over all that lives and breathes. He was cast down from Heaven, only to become the ultimate victor here on earth. God has no authority here! His control has been usurped! Satan is king! Humanity is spinning wildly out of control with nothing to look forward to but a calamitous end! It's each man for himself! Our only hope is to align ourselves with God – confessing our sins, surrendering our wills and obeying His every command, one person at a time!

This concoction of ideas may be the makings of a great, adventure film, but it has no basis in truth. Filling the minds of believers with abject fear and the endless anticipation of doom and gloom concerning them, their children and grandchildren yet to be born, is a gutless, cowardly pre-occupation of the Christian church.

Enough with the insane rhetoric! Refuse to advertise Satan anymore! Release the full, unabridged story of the Gospel as it was originally intended. Christ's death and perfect sacrifice on the Cross was an astounding victory for God, Christ and every man, woman and child that has lived and ever will live. Satan was humiliated, defeated and destroyed!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 8

Christians Live in Constant Doubt

Can you believe it? Can such a statement be true? Do Christians live in a persistent, chronic state of doubt?

Absolutely!

While out of one side of their mouths they talk belief and faith – out of the other side runs a never-ending river of doubt and uncertainty! Think about it. The whole foundation for REDEMPTION, according to Christian authorities, rests on the personal proclamation of ‘belief’.

This becomes the basis upon which Christians claim HEAVEN and eternal life. Without it, they’re certain to be lost. Yet they are the very personification of a very different word – one they would hardly think appropriate. A more accurate word by far, would be – ‘doubter’.

And what is doubt if it isn't unbelief?

When you think of the brilliant plan that God orchestrated to ultimately place His own Son upon the Cross for the benefit of every soul, living or dead, shouldn't it be unthinkable that doubt would reign supreme among the devout?

Christian leaders together with their devoted followers, talk a pretty good game when it comes to their belief. They come across full of confidence and certainty in front of their own – but there really isn't much to it. They have no abiding solitude; no complete freedom; no steadfast truth.

They're all shaking like a leaf! Their lip service amounts to nothing more than a thin layer of veneer concealing a cavernous habitation of confusion, uncertainty, insecurity and ignorance. No indisputable facts to back up their claims. No utter conviction to end their controversies. No rock-solid confidence on which to base their future. No knowledge concerning any 'finished work'. All they have is belief, creating endless doubt. All they have is a statement of faith – a declaration designed to achieve their doctrinal ends and nothing more!

New converts line up to declare their belief and receive their 'get out of HELL free' card, all the while masking

more doubt and uncertainty than they know what to do with.

Of course, that's quite alright. Christian leaders assure them that over their lifetime, answers will be found to all their questions. They say, "Get in and save your hide while you still can! You don't have to understand how it works. Your new Christian friends will bring you along. The appointed leaders within your church group will see that you get trained up!"

There's a lot more sizzle than steak, when it comes to such claims.

Doubt – is the mainspring of Christian life. Every single day, believers young and old recite verses from every book in the Bible. Why? It's either to ease their doubts or to do battle with the enemy. They're engaged in a constant, daily struggle to calm their nerves and relieve their fears. There's a verse for every problem and they have – every problem!

Uncertainty and insecurity rule their humorless spiritual lives, as they plead for forgiveness over an endless chain of sins that pursue them relentlessly, day in and day out. When they're not confessing sin, they're fighting an unseen foe. Their spiritual fists fly in every direction as they struggle in a fevered sweat to thwart the enemy of their soul – the Devil!

And as if this isn't enough – in between these bouts, they must take on their 'old, unregenerate self' in an all-out effort to reduce it to its last, sputtering breath!

Add to this, that Christians fret continually over the ever-present danger of being called to give an account before the Judgement Seat of Christ. They worry for every thought they've pondered, every word they've said and every deed they've performed, in the event that an unconfessed sin, no matter how small, should be revealed in full Technicolor for all in Heaven to see!

When Christians aren't engaged in the confession of sin, beating up on the Devil or pounding their own flesh to a pulp, they contemplate what God's will is for their life.

Unable to precisely determine that will, they wait for any sign of confirmation. In the midst of waiting, they twiddle their spiritual thumbs out of sheer boredom. A malaise overcomes them. They feel distant from God. Their aching bones become parched as if left to the scorching desert sun. They blame themselves for the estrangement that encircles them. In desperation, they conclude that nothing much really happened at the Cross. Christ's perfect sacrifice, while it exalted Him, did little for them. They didn't really die in Christ. They weren't really raised in Him. The Devil wasn't really defeated and destroyed. Everything old didn't really pass away. They didn't really become new.

Everyone is still born in sin. Adam is still a blood relative. Servitude is still their only purpose on earth. Sins are still being counted. Judgement still lies ahead. Nobody's been made perfect. There's no peace between God and Man. The world is a disgusting, hellish place.

Can it get any worse than this?

With little to pin their hopes on and doubts galore, they plead anxiously for Christ's 'Second Coming' to fix it all. In the meantime, they plunge headlong into the Old Testament, searching for solace wherever they can find it, like for instance in the story of Job and the immense trials that he faced and overcame.

This sad scenario repeats itself in the lives of individual believers the world over. Left swimming in a sea of doubt with no factual truths to keep them securely afloat, they have no alternative but to endlessly search the scriptures in the vain hope that a Bible hero from ages past can throw them a lifeline – perhaps a Moses, an Abraham, a David, a Daniel, a Noah or a Jonah.

For every doubt, worry or concern under the sun, there's an Old Testament character that's never too busy to lend a helping hand. Can any of them succeed in ending the fervent consternation of the New Testament believer?

Not a chance!

Only a thorough knowledge of 'Christ crucified' can bring death to fear and doubt.

Only the certainty found in the words, "It is finished!" can bring permanent peace and freedom to your soul.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 9

Churches Are Just Clubs

Men, women and children of every conceivable race, creed and religion have been joining clubs for hundreds and perhaps thousands of years.

What exactly is a club?

A club is any group of individuals choosing to gather together around one particular focal point, within a set of operating rules. The undeniable satisfaction that comes from being a club member is exclusivity – the separation and distinction emanating from engagement in a unique thing, activity, idea, belief or purpose.

The human landscape is riddled with clubs of every description: men's and women's clubs, boys' and girls' clubs, social clubs, political clubs, sports clubs, dance clubs, singles clubs, diet clubs, book clubs, service clubs, travel

clubs, buyers' clubs, car clubs, fitness clubs and yes – even church clubs.

Churches certainly meet all the criteria of a club, in that they offer their members a sense of uncommonness within a framework of rules and behavioral expectations.

The church's leading requirement that hails their particular distinction is the full adoption of their core beliefs. Anyone who cannot bring themselves to confess utter allegiance to these few core beliefs, exactly as stated, is excluded from ever becoming a bona fide member and may even be forbidden to enter the doors of the church.

Churches have a much longer list of supporting beliefs called the 'statement of faith'. Potential members must conform to each of these specific points or risk losing their chance at becoming exclusive and distinguished adoptees into God's special church family. Upon acceptance, the proud and beaming new arrivals receive a dully authenticated certificate of membership and are ceremonially welcomed into the fold.

Church club membership while seeming to be exciting at first, soon becomes fraught with onerous responsibilities and obligations. The new member's free time becomes absorbed in an endless, mind-numbing array of club activities under such headings as: prayer group, study group,

singing group, parental training group, child care group, baking group, instrumental group, teen group, singles' group, retired group, married group, divorced group, depressed group, grieving group, financial advice group, addiction group, self-esteem group, foreign missions group, local out-reach group, 'increasing church membership' group, 'relocate to a larger building' group, 'goals for next year' group and on and on it goes!

Every church leader's relentless and unceasing goal is to occupy and engage the spirit, mind and body of each club member, to the fullest extent possible.

Each individual church club, pertaining to each separate denomination, has its own dedicated and exclusive membership base. They hold tightly and securely to their own kind, rarely to be seen cavorting or rubbing shoulders outside their narrow, specified ranks.

Each club, while existing under different banners such as: Baptist, Presbyterian, United, Methodist, Brethren, Mennonite, Pentecostal, Reformed, Church of Christ and what have you, believes essentially the same things. Each club holds to a similar set of exclusionary beliefs and stipulations. Each club insists that a person must constantly confess their sins even though the Bible says, "Behold the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world." Each club insists that a person must believe before they can

consider themselves to be REDEEMED, while the Bible says, “when you were dead in your sins . . . God made you alive with Christ.” Each club insists that God didn’t rescue everyone at the Cross, while the Bible says, “Christ the Savior of the world” and “The grace of God brings salvation to all men. . .”! Each club insists that God is still bent on wrath and judgement toward unbelievers while the Bible says, “It pleased the Father by His Son Jesus to reconcile all things to Himself. . .”

Bear in mind that church clubs demonstrate no real obligation to the Gospel truth and that membership will mean countless hours spent in the fruitless, lifeless, pointless pursuit of vain knowledge, strictly for the purpose of showing one’s self approved.

You’ll never be approved by God based on your commitment to church club activities, your improved behavior or your earnest study and memorization of scripture. You’re already perfect in Christ!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **10**

Citizenship in Heaven; It's Your Birthright

Have you ever given any thought to the meaning of ‘birthright’?

It's anything but complicated, yet it is nonetheless – amazing! Quite simply, it refers to anything belonging to you completely and entirely because of your birth and nothing else. Say, for instance, a birth takes place in a royal family. The new life, from its very first breath, receives all the benefits and advantages that are due any other member. Equally remarkable is the fact that each of us, as Canadians, receives all the entitlements of citizenship attendant to this great Dominion of Canada . . . just by being born here.

A simple wallet sized certificate of birth is all that you may ever need to show. None of this happened because you had faith, believed, pleaded, surrendered, apologized or

made a personal decision. Your birthright was not your own decision to make. It was arranged for you by the governmental powers that be, before you were even a twinkle in your father's eye!

Now take a moment to imagine what it would be like to become a citizen of Heaven. It would undoubtedly mean a life lived without end, complete with all the rights and privileges attending it! How could such a thing even be possible? Wouldn't we need to be of special birth, to become legal partakers?

No one can simply pronounce such a thing upon themselves by just believing it and proclaiming it to the next passerby. Clearly a decision would have to be made by the powers that be – the Creator of the Universe, God Almighty. God would have to determine a way to clothe Mankind in immortality by a new birth into this marvelous kingdom called Heaven.

Brace yourself, because you're about to hear some great news!

God did make that decision – in your favor and on your behalf, for your sake and for everyone else's that has ever lived, whether before or since the Cross!

From the beginning of time, God took it upon Himself to create a way for every human being at the time of their physical birth, to be clothed in immortality and given their Heavenly citizenship in the very same moment. By arranging to be born in human form as the baby called Jesus, the Creator of the Universe formed a bridge between Himself and mortal man – a narrow way that would exclude no one but instead, bring every member of Humanity regardless of race, creed or religion, safely and permanently across to their eternal dwelling.

At the precise conjoining of the culmination of the ages and the fulfillment of time, God arranged that Jesus Christ would say His final words, “It is finished!” upon the Cross!

In the moment of death that followed, He tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9) and every man died in Him (2 Cor. 5:14). Just then, God was reconciling (uniting) all things to Himself (Col. 1:19-20) and NOT COUNTING PEOPLE’S SINS AGAINST THEM (2Cor. 5:18-19). In one body, He (Christ) reconciled both of them (Jew and Gentile) to God through the Cross, by which He put to death their hostility (Eph. 2:16).

By God’s own design, Jesus, having canceled the charge of legal indebtedness which stood against us and condemned us, has taken it away by NAILING IT TO THE CROSS (Col. 2:14 and John 1:29)! Just three days

later, when Christ rose from the dead – all of Humanity rose with Him (1 Cor. 11:13 and 15:22). Jesus Christ was the only man ever to be predestined to be ‘born again’. By virtue of His being born again, all of Humanity was born again in Him in that same fleeting second!

As Paul said, “From now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.” Paul happily announced, “The new creation has come! The old is gone, the new is here! All this is from God who reconciled us to Himself through Christ” (2 Cor. 5 16:17).

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **11**

Constant Prayer Is Fearful Living

Is there anything more vital to the Christian life than prayer?

Church leaders teach the benefits of prayer for every conceivable situation you can imagine. Absolutely nothing is too trivial for Christians to pray about. They'll pray over their pets, house, boat, car, travel, vacation, kids, relatives, neighbors, government officials, world leaders, war, peace, health, sickness, sleep, food, famine, income, donations, clothing, lottery tickets, weather, activities, gatherings, forgiveness, ministries local and overseas, happiness, ambition, direction, education, future spouse, employment, protection, money, success, fame and the list goes on to infinity.

What a way to live! There's no freedom in this! There's no liberty in a life of constant, unceasing prayer. Who are we kidding? It's abject slavery! It boils down to superstition and the occult.

There are Christians that won't even leave the house, unless they've prayed for travelling safety. Sure, there's a verse in First Thessalonians that says to pray without ceasing, but who can argue that this has more to do with maintaining an abiding sense of God consciousness and not the action of constant prayer over every little thing that crosses our path.

So much prayer stems from formality or fear. A pastor visits you and begins his conversation with prayer. He'll close with prayer before he leaves. Or it's late at night and you ask God to protect you and your loved ones from any unfortunate incident or outcome in the future. Or you're going on a ski trip, so you ask for a heavy snowfall to ensure its success. Or you're travelling north on business, so you ask for clear skies and snowless roadways. Where does it end? Let's face it. It's all just a personal effort to, as the saying goes, 'cover your bases' or – 'hedge your bets'!

It's all part of a process called 'fearful living'!

Who can deny there's something eerie about the whole thing? Christian leaders teach that if we don't ask, we may as

well not expect to receive anything at all. If there's something in this life that we're in need of, it's only because we didn't make a petition for it. We're told to ask without doubting and the thing you ask for will be yours, but wait just a minute – it's not that easy. There's a catch!

The thing you ask for must be in line with God's precise will for your unique and individual life. You'll need to enter into deep, spiritual contemplation, in order to determine with total accuracy what God's specific will is. And even if you get it right, you may still get no answer! He might withhold something, just to discipline you or teach you a lesson.

Sound complicated? You've got that right! All of this is just one more aspect of the nervous, anxiety-prone existence called the 'Christian life'. Truth be told – you're secure in Christ. If there's something in life that you really need, just use your best judgment to figure out how to get it. Only prayers of thankfulness are necessary. Everything you truly need, you already have – in Christ!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **12**

Do Words Have an Expiry Date?

Do you know anyone who spends their days reminiscing incessantly about the past?

Perhaps not, but would it seem unfortunate to you that anyone might choose to live their whole life that way? Who doesn't know that the past is dead and gone and that life is lived from one fleeting moment to the next in a place called 'the here and now'? There is however, one whole segment of society that seems wholly devoted to dead, unimportant and inconsequential history! Are we talking about people who study the events of world history in the hopes that we don't repeat the mistakes of the past? Of course not! We're talking about millions upon millions of like-minded individuals who live their whole future right out of the past.

They live every day by plucking words, thoughts, ideas and insights right out of a dead, non-existent vapor called the Old Testament! Day in and day out, devout Christians as they are called, derive their energy, inspiration, focus, desire, determination and faith from books written long before the Cross – books that have expired, having no more conceivable relevance whatsoever!

Who among us can go more than a week without shopping for the most basic necessity of life – food? Yet when we make our careful selections based on nutritional value and freshness, we rely heavily on one key piece of information; the date of expiry. What makes that date so important? After that date, whatever is contained within the packaging is deemed to be unsafe, worthless and no longer even legal to sell.

If the store decided to give the product away, any right-thinking person would refuse to take it. The effects arising from ingesting such a food could have serious and potentially even fatal consequences. Of course, it's hard for anyone to resist a great deal, so as any food product inches closer and closer to that dangerous final moment of death or 'termination', the price starts dropping like a rock. As long as the product has not fully reached its official date of expiry, it's fair game – legal, safe and proper in every way.

So, are Christians living dangerously when they rely so heavily on the words contained in books that document the life of Humanity going back many thousands of years to the beginning of time as we know it?

Such devotion in carrying forward these thoughts and ideas, committing them to memory and then diligently applying them to everyday modern life, can be very dangerous if in fact – they’ve gone bad. If it’s true that the Old Testament has expired (which it most certainly has), then ingesting it as a source of day to day inspiration and faith will produce many unfortunate side-effects leading to a myriad of mental and physical illnesses, already visible among the Christian population today.

If the Old Testament has truly expired, then just how and where did it happen? If these words are in fact no longer safe for mental and spiritual consumption – at what precise point in time did they go off? The answer you’re looking for can be found in just three little words . . . ‘at the Cross’.

At the moment that Christ died on the Cross, all of Humanity died in Him! If you’re looking for the precise instant – it’s right there! Everything old passed away! Every word in the Old Testament died! Every word (unless pointing directly to Christ, His death on the Cross, His resurrection and the REDEMPTION of Mankind) slipped

beyond that invisible threshold, that point of no return, where it became instantly unfit and dangerous for internal use!

What does this ultimately mean for the vast number of Christians in the world today? The study of the Old Testament and the bringing forward of its thoughts, rules, formulas, guidelines, insights and precepts, is an utterly vain and pointless pursuit. Daily reading and meditation on these words amounts to no more than endless snacking on empty, worthless, dangerous and even deadly spiritual calories.

These moldy, foul and decayed Old Testament expressions, in the mouths of Christians, convey nothing more than a puritanical devotion to their true ambition; self-righteousness and self-advancement. It's an all-out, no holds barred attempt at gaining some imaginary strategic advantage in both this life and the next by playing up to God through the ongoing effort of trying to show one's self approved and ultimately, to become more like Christ.

All of this is in total opposition to the completed works of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross, otherwise known as

. . . the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **13**

Does God Control Everything?

Have you ever heard the phrase, ‘God is in control’?

Sure, you have. It’s the most often repeated phrase you’ll ever hear from Christian leaders. In four simple words it explains everything that could ever happen to you. It’s the quick and easy answer to every challenge good or bad that life has to offer. It brings a measure of instant comfort and solace to every disturbing event and a hefty injection of joy and thankfulness into every unexpected success or windfall. Nothing else in the English language can accomplish as quickly and effectively, what these four simple words are capable of. Yet is it really that simple? Is it really true?

Does God really have total control over everything? This idea is the key component in the manmade invention known as ‘the Christian life’. It is upon this fundamental precept that every other doctrine rests. If God doesn’t

control every incident in every individual life then just forget it – nothing else will make any sense at all. If He doesn't have His hand on the throttle of every event whether happy or sad the world over, then what kind of a God is He? Certainly not one worthy of being worshiped and obeyed!

Let's look further into this fully concocted perception that God is in total control of everything.

Take for example an unfortunate instance where a small boy chases a ball out into the street and is struck by a vehicle. The grieving parents must come to terms with the fact that such an event was just an unfortunate accident. A boy who failed to look was struck by a car that was unable to stop. The parents are Christian and believe the accident must be part of a bigger picture – after all, God is in control of everything and nothing can be allowed to alter or shake that view. God must have known it was going to happen. While He wasn't able to prevent such a thing, He must have allowed it and by allowing it He must have had a greater purpose in mind.

In another instance, a 747 jumbo jet falls uncontrollably from the sky and only a few passengers live to tell the harrowing story. In a TV news interview, a woman explains how God rescued her and that it must have been for a special purpose. Meanwhile dozens of others met

with an untimely death. In reality, the unfortunate event was clearly an accident. The Christian views it in the context that while God didn't cause the incident and while He was unable to prevent the plane from falling, He must have had a greater purpose for each individual aboard whether through their life or their death.

In yet a third instance, an elderly grandfather put two dollars on a lottery ticket and asked God for the winning number. To his utter amazement he won seven million dollars. He believes it was God alone that made the winning possible and he vows to pay for the university education of each of his grandchildren with part of his winnings. In truth, the man's winnings were an accident. With the odds at more than five million to one that he could ever win, there is no other logical explanation. The grandfather believes God directly intervened by answering his prayer for much needed financial assistance. The immovable constant in each of these situations is that God is in complete control.

We've looked at just three simple examples out of so many possible events that take place every day in the lives of countless millions of people. Many instances are far less critical – like a bent fender on a car, a twisted ankle on a wilderness hike, a parking spot at a store entrance in a heavy rain or an unanticipated check in the mail.

Their first thoughts are always the same. Christians regard such results, whether good, bad, big or small, as either reward or punishment for their thoughts, words or actions, since God is in complete control. But how do we know for sure? How much is superstition – how much is reality?

Certainly we know God was in control when He brought the earth into existence; when He placed the sun, the moon and the stars in the sky; when He created all the creatures of the earth; when He created a man and a woman for the first time; when He took His people safely across the Red Sea; when He led Israel through the wilderness for forty years; when He accepted the offerings for sin presented by the High Priest; when He kept His Son alive until the very moment that He, Jesus Christ, had completed the full payment for sin – once and for all time; when He resurrected Christ together with Humanity to sit at His right hand.

We can say for certain that God set life as we know it into motion, and that it continues to operate with cyclical perfection and methodical accuracy surpassing even an Atomic Clock. This predictability allows us to calculate the precise instant the sun will rise and set on any day of the year. We can say that God created new birth among the earth's varied species and that the cycle always ending in death, is repeated again and again with complete reliability.

But life itself has a spontaneous quality; a succession of moments that offer up safety or danger, security or risk. Each of us can make the choice to live either carelessly or carefully – with complete abandon or measured caution. The choice will always be ours to make.

If a person insists on smoking two packs of cigarettes a day, is it God's controlling power that brings cancer across his path? If a man chooses to drink to excess every evening after work, is it God that controls the devastating outcome? If a man enjoys mountain climbing, is God in control at the moment his foot slips causing him to fall from such a high elevation? If an individual has an inordinate love of food and becomes obese as a result, is the heart disease that follows, the result of God's controlling influence? If a man takes a stroll down a dark alley in the worst part of town and gets a knife plunged deep into his side, does God exert any power of prevention?

Still, a happy or unfortunate event can occur while doing the most innocuous thing or even nothing at all – that too speaks to the very nature of spontaneous life.

Is it becoming clearer now, that God is not in total control of everything? If the very idea seems too unpleasant to stomach, the Christian has one phrase that seems to rescue the seemingly dire situation and it goes like this, "And we know that all things work together for good to

them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.” The verse seems to be saying that no matter what happens to you, it will all somehow and in some way work out to your own advantage, somewhere down the road. The verse is implying that God can pull the strings in your favor. Christians think that even as He can’t control individual moments in your life, He can organize a long succession of events so as to produce a welcome advantage, a better position or a happier outcome in your own personal, private future. All you need to do is be patient enough to get there. There is however, one very important proviso. It only works for people who love God with all their heart, mind and soul and are called according to His purpose.

Do you know anyone including yourself, who has succeeded in demonstrating true, perfect, unconditional love toward God other than a man called Jesus, when He took His place on the Cross? Are you aware of any person other than this same Jesus, who could boldly claim beyond any doubt to be called according to God’s purpose?

It was God’s singular goal – to unite all things to Himself. Did you or anyone else have a part in that? Absolutely not! It was Jesus Christ alone, who in surrendering His life as a perfect sacrifice, singlehandedly rescued Mankind out of the power of the ‘Law of Sin and Death’ and into the ‘Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ’, in

agreement with God's plan, established from before the beginning of time.

It's true. All things do work together for good - but not for just one person at a time based on a separate, individual love toward God as Christianity teaches. It's about God's love toward us! It's for everyone, without any distinction! By one Man's obedience (Christ's), all will be made righteous. Through Christ's crucifixion on the Cross, all were justified to God by His blood!

It's true. All things do work together for good – but not because we contributed anything toward His purpose. While we were still enemies we were reconciled. The world was united to God through Christ, our sins not counted against us. For by grace you have been saved through faith – and this not of yourself (but of Christ), it is the gift of God in case anyone should happen to boast.

It's true. All things do work together for good – but not because God orchestrates a long series of little events in your life to satisfy your ambitions and desires. He planned and carried out the greatest singular act of love the world has ever known! Eternal life is your guaranteed possession. Heaven is in your future, whether you believe it or not!

This is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 14

Frightened into The Kingdom

When it comes to ushering people into the Kingdom of God, is there any device or method more commonly used by Christian leaders than fear?

Is it hard to recall how ill and feverish you may have felt when it was explained to you that Hell would be your eternal destination if you failed to decide for Christ right then and there? It is such an obvious mortal flaw, that church authorities might wish to exploit the weaknesses and vulnerabilities of others and apply pressure using this most worldly means to achieve their ends.

How unfortunate it is on the opposite side, that anyone should allow themselves to be so easily influenced as to drop to their knees, take an oath, make a commitment, surrender their will and confess total, undying allegiance,

solely on the threat of a frightening outcome emanating from someone else's sick, cruel imagination.

Let's face it. Whenever the need is present to sell an idea, plan, political agenda, religious concept or consumer product anywhere in the world today, you can be absolutely certain of one thing. The devastating force known as fear will be there!

How does fear exercise its authority in the daily life of average people? They buy a new car, for fear that the old one might break down at the most inconvenient time. They purchase life insurance, for fear they might pass away unexpectedly and leave family members in the lurch. They stash chunks of cash away with each turning of the calendar, for fear they could run short in their golden, retirement years. They take whatever medications their doctor recommends, for fear of any unforeseen, untimely physical peril. They order over the internet any fitness device that promises to bring instant health and vigor, for fear of frailty and dependency down the road. They sign up for the latest hair loss remedy, for fear of rejection by the opposite sex. They tolerate the bullying antics of their boss in the workplace, for fear of losing their job. They'll even go as far as to accept Christ as Lord and Savior, for fear of spending an eternity in Hell!

Pastors and leaders in every capacity within the Christian church have been scaring people into God's Kingdom for hundreds of years! Has it been successful, this tool called fear? Has it ever really achieved its desired goal? Can anyone take credit for saving even one wayward individual in this way? Evangelists too numerous to count, have claimed to have brought many thousands of lost souls back from the brink of Hell using this technique. Is there any truth to it?

Are you kidding?

Of course not!

The very idea that fear of eternal damnation has ever propelled anyone into the arms of God is an utter fallacy bordering on total lunacy! The thought that any person, while supposedly standing on the precipice of Heaven or HELL, can successfully tip the scales of justice in his favor simply by making a mortal decision out of fear, is pure fiction! Yet how can we explain the popularity and fame of so many preachers from centuries past to the present day who used and continue to use this technique called fear, to such great advantage?

Conjuring up dreadful, nightmarish images of God's wrath and judgement in the minds of unsuspecting souls and driving them to their knees in a smothering quagmire of

guilt, shame and remorse, has no doubt added members to the church and money to its coffers but it has never added one, solitary soul to the Kingdom!

The astounding success that fear has enjoyed in every avenue of life, including Christianity, can be attributed to its chief result – performance. Fear accomplishes no greater goal than the urgent need for action. Where it fails so miserably is that neither action nor performance has any redeemable value or benefit where the Gospel is concerned.

Urgency and action have never been considered legal currency where Christ's finished work holds sway. Performance whether by physical movement or mental decision on the part of any mortal individual, has never either sidestepped Hell or unlocked Heaven. Fear, and the performance it induces, does nothing to make Hell more preventable or Heaven more attainable. Not one person can approach the throne of God proclaiming, "Out of fear for my very soul, I have performed in this most acceptable way. I've done the proper thing and made the right decision to gain my eternal acceptance."

Only one man can claim on the basis of His action and performance to have accomplished such a feat. Only one man can claim by His decision, action and performance to have prevented Hell and gained Heaven for all of God's creation. That man was Christ. On His part, the actions He

took in taking His place on the Cross and enduring the wrath and judgement of God once and for all time, made Heaven a reality for every living soul from that day forward. And what was this man's sole motivation for action? What was behind this man's driving ambition to perform? What preceded this man's decision to move undaunted into the crosshairs of God's unbridled anger? Was it fear? Absolutely not! It was love in the highest degree, pure and simple!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **15**

From Christmas to . . . Life ETERNAL

Gordy was a young man who enjoyed weight training. He worked out regularly at a nearby club and had an especially high regard for one particular member. The man that he so respected was old enough to be his grandfather, yet he trained with the vigor and determination of a much younger man and had the strength and the muscle to show for it!

On this particular morning, Gordy was determined to approach the old man. Since Christmas was only a few days off, he would ask him a simple direct question, “Excuse me Sir. Does Christmas have a particular meaning for you?” Turning to see who it was the old man replied, “It sure does, but do you have the time right now to listen?” Nervously, Gordy confided, “Yea sure. I’d really like to know what you think!”

With that the old man began, “Christmas is part of a much bigger story; the dramatic rescue of Mankind from the clutches of sin and death by God Himself with the help of His Son, Jesus. In the days, years and even centuries leading up to the birth of Jesus, the sins and transgressions of Mankind had grown to become enormously great. Animal sacrifices were offered each year by the High Priest to cover the sins of the people but these were never sufficient to actually remove them. The Law was no longer satisfied with this concealment and was now making its demand for full payment – complete debt cancellation once and for all time!”

“There could only be one way to make full restitution for even the smallest sin of one solitary person and that was death. Can you imagine what it would take to cancel the sins of every man all the way back to the beginning of time? The death required would either be all of Humanity amounting to complete and utter annihilation, or the death of one person in particular, deemed to be of equal or greater value.”

The old man continued, “So God, knowing only one way to accomplish this without harming His precious Creation, arranged to be born in human flesh on the day that we still celebrate as Christmas Day. He took the form of a new born baby named Jesus, meaning Savior. God’s amazing plan was that Jesus would grow up to maturity and

then at the end of the ages – at precisely the moment called the fulfillment of time – answer Law’s unrelenting call for justice concerning the massive sin debt of all Humanity. By offering Himself as a RANSOM, He would meet to the fullest extent the just requirement of the Law – utterly exhausting and fully satisfying the wrath, anger and judgement of God once and for all time!”

In the brief moment of silence that followed, Gordy saw his opportunity to ask, “One man did this for all Mankind? God isn’t angry anymore?” The old man nodded agreeably and continued, “Jesus, the Son of God, took His place on the Cross as the singular representative of all Humanity to endure the complete measure of God’s wrath, anger and judgement. With His last breath He proclaimed, ‘It is finished!’ and then He died. In that moment an incredible thing happened – everyone died in Him!

“In that moment, everything old passed away. Like it says in the Bible; ‘One man died for all; therefore, all died.’ Just a few days later, Christ rose from the dead and with that – everything became new! The New Creation was here! All were raised in Him at the instant He was born again. Enmity and strife between God and Man was gone forever. There was now peace on earth . . . good will toward men. Mankind was reconciled; made one with Christ. Sin could never again be added to anyone’s account and all accounts were forever closed. Sin itself was nailed to the Cross.”

“As it says in the Bible, the legal code was abolished. Death was defeated. Undeserved, unmerited favor was released. All were made perfect and complete in Christ. All were made righteous in Him. Humanity was REDEEMED – ransomed for the price in full; Christ and Him alone. HEAVEN was now a certainty for every man, woman and child!”

Gordy couldn't wipe the smile off his face as he listened intently to the old man. He could think of just one more question, “Is there anything I need to do?” A response came quickly, “The Cross was a complete and perfect work. Nothing you can do either good or bad, can add to it or take away from it. The wonderful results of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross are yours for all eternity whether you believe it or not, brought about entirely and exclusively by God and Christ alone!”

Just then, as he had finished saying the nicest, happiest words that Gordy had ever heard, a sobering look spread across the old man's face. “Before I go, let me share with you what you'll soon discover for yourself.”

And so, the old man continued, “The organized church has distorted and misrepresented what took place at the Cross. They've stolen from Christ's finished work to satisfy their own need for money, power and control! The foundation of the Gospel is ‘Christ and Him crucified’, yet

they have put in its place something very different. Church leaders say your eternal destiny depends on just one thing. They say you must ‘believe’ or Christ’s death on the Cross has accomplished nothing! You’ll be forced to spend an eternity in HELL! They say that Christ’s completed work on the Cross apart from believing amounted to no more than the mere possibility of REDEMPTION. They say that an actual, factual REDEMPTION didn’t extend to the whole world in one glorious moment on the Cross. They say that REDEMPTION is a completely personal matter hinging entirely on the individual’s decision to accept Christ as their personal Savior and Lord. They say that in a moment of personal decision, the individual becomes REDEEMED, born again and a New Creation, as simple as the flick of a switch on a radio, television or table lamp. They say that a person can refuse their REDEMPTION with the same flick of a switch.”

He continued, “All of this is an utter atrocity; a pernicious fabrication; an unconscionable, flagrant contradiction to the true meaning of REDEMPTION! At the very moment when Jesus was canceling Humanity’s sin debt on the Cross, once and for all time with the words ‘It is finished!’, there were no believers on earth. All had forsaken Him! Jesus was the ONLY BELIEVER!”

“How can anyone make belief a qualification or condition of REDEMPTION? It was REDEMPTION that

came first before anyone other than Christ ever believed. REDEMPTION is the required qualification for belief. No one can believe unless he or she is already REDEEMED. Thanks be to God through Christ that everyone is REDEEMED!”

Quickly, the old man searched for a way to conclude their conversation. “If a seminary professor, author, leader or pastor was to ever teach the truth that all of Humanity was REDEEMED at the Cross apart from a personal decision, their financial enrichment would dry up immediately. Any hope of working in any ministry capacity whatsoever would be dashed forever. I’m so grateful for one man called Paul, who refused to accept any money in exchange for his revelation concerning the mystery of the Gospel. Since he was beholden to no one, we have the full, unfiltered Gospel truth regarding Christ’s perfect and complete work on the Cross!”

Article **16**

Frustration, Disappointment, Disillusionment, Depression, Burnout & Suicide Within the Christian Church

An Investigative Look into The Cause and The Cure

*Why Hasn't Christianity accepted the Jew and
Gentile as 'One New Man' according to Ephesians: Ch. 2?*

Philip D. Brittan

Introduction

It should be mentioned at the outset of this study, that the author understands the Gospel to be inclusive of every man, woman and child ever born. After spending forty years inside ‘the Christian life’, it came as quite a shock for him to discover that the organized church, under the guise of presenting the Gospel, had actually been concealing it all along! It wasn’t until finally understanding the nature of true and total freedom made real through Christ’s perfect sacrifice on the Cross, that his eyes were opened to its deceptive teachings.

It wasn’t until he understood God’s plan to create ‘One New Man’ in Christ, out of both the Jew and the Gentile (as found in Ephesians 2), that he realized everyone was included – no one was left out. God wasn’t a separatist, a segregationist or a bigot! His love was spread equally across the entire spectrum of the human race from its worst to its best specimens. God’s accomplishment through Christ’s work of REDEMPTION on the Cross was to be in no way, a method of selection. He wouldn’t use the death and resurrection of His Son to pit winners against losers in an endless showdown over who would inherit Heaven or HELL.

No one would find distinction above anyone else. No conditions would need to be met in order to inherit eternal

life. He wouldn't use the threat of a final judgment to scare Mankind into a fearful, legalistic, forced compliance. All men were created equal in the eyes of God, a truth made certain by the wonderful Gospel of Peace. His goal was to unite all things to Himself through Christ, not to chain a vast swath of Humanity throughout the centuries to a humiliated, defeated and destroyed foe called Satan. Everything old passed away and all things became new at the Cross! The wall of separation between Jew and Gentile, believer or not, was brought down by the blood of Christ! Regardless of how good or how evil, we all became One New Man in Christ!

How Can I Be Sure of My Salvation?
How Can I Overcome Temptation?
How Can I Get Victory Over Worry?
How Can I Find Forgiveness?
Is There Only One Way to God?
Why Do Christians Have So Many Problems?
Why Don't My Prayers Get Answered?
Is There a Sin God Cannot Forgive?
What Is Faith?
What Is the Greatest Commandment?

The Problem

A glance at the top ten questions Christians are asking, will tell you a great deal about why so many believers are suffering profoundly in their personal lives. They simply don't know the truth. They're uninformed when it comes to the basic elements of the Gospel. How can this be? It can't be due to a shortage of paid professionals preaching from behind the pulpit. Over two thousand years have come and gone since Christ's perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross. Surely by now, we should have had the truth of the Gospel securely under our belts. What went wrong? What exactly are well paid Bible scholars teaching that's so precarious? What kind of pill are believers swallowing at such great cost to their personal wellbeing? What sort of

toxic brew could cause such debilitating effects and widespread devastation among the sincere and devout?

It all begs yet another critical question. How could such malpractice have been allowed to go unchecked for so long? Any medical doctor knows that if a patient keeps getting sicker, it's time to change the prescription. How can pastors excuse themselves for overlooking the treacherous symptoms staring them right in the face? A close examination is centuries overdue. The damage done may be so far advanced as to be irreversible. Yet an answer must be found somewhere inside the toxic world of Christianity and the teaching they so proudly espouse – 'the Christian life'.

The Cause

We're all familiar with the marvelous invention called the 'pharmaceutical pill'. It brings the promise of relief and freedom to a myriad of mental and physical complaints suffered by countless millions of people, the world over. We can't imagine ever being without it. Regrettably, it almost always brings with it a trail of unwelcome side-effects that leaves the individual worse off than before. Why? It's not natural. It's not organic. It's manmade. It's a factory produced, assembly line product. Its contents are foreign to the God-created human body.

It could easily be said that the religion known around the world as Christianity, has much in common with the pharmaceutical pill. It provides an answer for a particular set of concerns shared by millions, but frequently brings with it more problems than anyone ever bargained for – and for the same reasons as the factory-made pill. Christianity is in every respect, a manufactured religion. God never planned from the beginning that it would ever exist, grow and prosper. It was nowhere to be found when Christ was REDEEMING Mankind at the Cross. Jesus wasn't thinking about Christians when He was paying the RANSOM in full for Man's sin. He made no mention of it when He instructed His disciples to take the Gospel message to the whole world.

There were only two kinds of people in existence before the Cross – Jews and Gentiles. After the Cross, there was no longer any distinction between the two. There was only one new kind of person – ONE NEW MAN in Christ! It says in Ephesians 2: 13-16, “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of the commandments contained in the ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in

one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.”

So, what should we make of this separate and distinct specie called ‘the Christian’? What are they doing here? How can they exist apart from the ‘One New Man’ that God created at the Cross? Are they living and breathing inside a manmade bubble – special and unique to themselves and no one else? How are they earning such disapproval and dislike from the population around about them? Are they winning or losing in their never-ending conflict with a disdainful world that looks upon them with eye-rolling skepticism? Are they succeeding or failing in their ceaseless push against the relentless tide of what they perceive to be satanic motives and ideas? If it was ever part of God’s plan in the first place, wouldn’t Christianity have been a phenomenal success from its very inception? Is it possible for God to ever fail? If, on the other hand, it was Man’s creation, might we very well expect it to be fraught with controversies and ailments of every type and description? Shouldn’t we think it quite normal that Christianity would be caught interminably between the rock of disillusionment and the hard place of unrest? The purpose of this investigation is to ascertain the root cause of the mental and physical challenges that plague the Christian population. If Christianity itself is to blame, then a closer look at the side-effects that routinely attend the Christian life, will tell the story.

There is no doubt that Christianity is in some way and through some means, creating fear, worry, frustration, disillusionment, discontentment, depression, despair, burnout, illness and even suicide, at an alarming rate among so many of its proponents. It's enough that ordinary life should bring its share of heartache and illness without it being grossly exacerbated by the never-ending deluge of lessons in 'How to live the Christian life'! If you doubt this, just take a look at the daily e-mail articles produced by popular Christian authors that are popping up on the computer screens of regular subscribers! Check out the book titles by these selfsame authors that are literally flying off the bookstore shelves! Topics range from "How you can win the battle of the mind" and "Discover how you can beat the Devil at his own game", to "Six easy steps to hearing God's voice" and "Learn how you can get your prayers answered every time!" Who can deny that the church is spending the bulk of its time ministering to the mentally and physically challenged within its own ranks? Pastors' phones are ringing off the hooks with a never-ending chorus of health complaints of every description, pouring in from their parishioners! Even the pastors are sick, suffering, heartbroken, depressed and burned-out!

Manmade Christianity is tearing believers apart from the inside! It's not as some might prefer to think – coming from the outside world. It has nothing to do with the kind of suffering Christians always expect to receive at the hands

of unbelievers. This is something deeply intrinsic! Not long ago, a famous preacher with a worldwide ministry was asked to speak to a group of twelve hundred pastors attending a special weekend convention. He began by asking, “How many of you would leave the ministry right now, if there was something else you could do for a living?” One third of the group immediately raised their hands! Does that not warn us that something within Christianity is highly defective and even destructive? The explanation we’re looking for can only be found in the careful examination of the manmade product itself and specifically – its numerous ingredients. A detailed inspection should reveal if these separate components are in fact genuine, effective and safe for human consumption in any amount. So, let’s look closely at the individual parts, one by one, that when mixed together make up the concoction that Christian leaders continually refer to as ‘the Christian life’, or as we will soon recognize for ourselves as, ‘the manmade pill called Christianity’. Is it healthy or toxic? That’s the question. You be the judge.

The Manmade Christian Pill

Ingredient #1

Christianity teaches a constructed life; a programmed existence. It's quite predictable. It's anything but organic. It lacks unassuming genuineness. Each week in the life of the dedicated Christian involves a certain compilation of disciplines, exercises, thoughts, prayers, duties and expectations – the earmarks of a manufactured life. One week's performance is followed by the next, with the methodical precision of a Swiss watch.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #2

Christianity teaches finding God's unique will for your life. Each day, the Christian must find Him again. Why? God is always moving. He's always doing something new. The believer must keep in step with God's will from one day to the next, so as not to fall short of the mark. God has millions of separate, detailed wills, for millions of totally unique individuals. It's up to each believer, through diligent, thoughtful, prayerful enquiry, to find that perfect will and to stay in the center of it for the rest of his or her earthly life.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #3

Christianity teaches ‘imitation’. The chief goal in the everyday life of the Christian is to think, talk and act like Jesus in every situation or circumstance that comes their way. The energy expended in always considering ‘what would Jesus think, say or do’, is supposed to make believers more and more like Him, so that on their last day, they’ll be just like Him and know Him when they see Him.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #4

Christianity teaches the necessity of following Christ. Although the believer is ‘in Christ’ – he is told he must still follow from behind. How is that even possible? We can’t walk in back of Christ and be ‘in Him’ at the same time. Yet preachers continually and relentlessly subjugate believers, by reducing them to ‘followers’, every chance they get. As long as the organized church has anything to say about it, that’s how it’s going to stay.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #5

Christianity teaches the building of your faith. If you don’t have something, it’s only because you didn’t ask or because you didn’t believe enough. If you’re frustrated, anxious or concerned, it’s your own fault. Ask without any doubt in

your heart and the thing you ask for, will be yours. Oh really? Of course, there's one condition. The thing you ask for must be in complete agreement with God's perfect will for your life.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #6

Christianity teaches constant prayer. There's always another reason for believers to pray. They're taught and encouraged to pray about virtually every single aspect of life no matter how seemingly miniscule or unimportant.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #7

Christianity teaches performance. Faith without works is dead. The believer is judged by his fruits and those fruits are not only seen as personal qualities, but often in terms of selfless actions and tireless giving in one way or another.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #8

Christianity teaches the absolute necessity of meeting together, often several times in a week. If one should hold a different view on such persistent togetherness, Christianity

creates and nurtures the aura of isolation; a sense of distancing and alienation from God.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #9

Christianity teaches that Satan is alive and well and that he's determined to derail your Christian life. You are forced to take vigilant, defensive actions daily, to curtail him.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #10

Christianity teaches that when you make a confession of faith, in that same moment you are made spiritually alive. Your 'old man' dies. You emerge as a brand-new person, an entirely new creation in Christ – a new addition to God's family. It's your 'belief' that makes it all possible.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #11

Christianity teaches that it's all about a personal, one on one, exclusive relationship between you and God. Anything you might think, say or do, and that could in any way be construed as interference with that relationship, will become the reason given for your loss of peace, joy and fulfillment.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #12

Christianity teaches that there are rewards in Heaven to be gotten for perseverance and good works on earth. Crowns will be handed out to any and all that have attained a satisfactory number of meritorious accomplishments.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #13

Christianity teaches that every word in the New Testament spoken by the apostles is perfect, unquestionable and inarguable. While undeniably inspired by God, their words were never declared to be infallible until they were canonized (determined to be so) by the Pope, the head of the Catholic Church, hundreds of years after the Cross.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #14

Christianity teaches that unconfessed sin will remain on a person's personal record to convict them on their last day.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #15

Christianity teaches that only a small group referred to as the 'elect' can be absolutely certain to escape a harsh

judgment on their last day. Strangely, no one knows who these people are.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #16

Christianity teaches that no one was REDEEMED at the time of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross. They say REDEMPTION takes place in the present, at the precise moment an individual pleads for forgiveness and makes the personal confession that Jesus is the Son of God and the Lord of his or her life.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #17

Christianity teaches that a person must completely surrender their personal life to God. They must turn over their ambitions and desires, 'lock, stock and barrel'. They must give up entirely, their position of control over their own life – in every area, bar none.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #18

Christianity teaches that a person must turn over a portion of their yearly earnings to the work of the church. Failure to do so is considered an act of thievery.

Refusal to comply is looked upon as nothing less than robbing God.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #19

Christianity teaches that your 'old man' isn't really dead at all. He's still very much alive! It teaches that an effort must be made every day, to subdue and ultimately kill this constant harasser and impeder of your Christian life.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #20

Christianity teaches that any individual, with, by and through his or her own finite, mortal will, can refuse, reverse, terminate, revoke or undo Christ's completed work of REDEMPTION on the Cross, which was fully and historically accomplished over 2,000 years ago.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #21

Christianity teaches that an overwhelming majority of Mankind, in every generation before and since the Cross, has missed out on REDEMPTION and are continuing, even now, to pay for their own sin by enduring a torturous eternity apart from God, in a place called HELL.

They teach that anyone alive today, who fails to meet the proper requirement of belief and obedience, faces the same most certain fate.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #22

Christianity teaches that it isn't enough to just exist, for one to be REDEEMED. The action of 'belief' is the condition that must be met before anyone can qualify for REDEMPTION, even though the Bible says the Devil also believes – even though there were no believers at the moment Christ was REDEEMING Humanity on the Cross.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #23

Christianity teaches that the world is a terrible, evil place, on its way to Hell. Is it really such an evil world that pays you a living wage, educates your kids, builds your car, cuts your hair, relieves your tooth ache, mends your shoes, provides your food, installs your cable, designs your dream home, repairs your plumbing, fly's you to exotic destinations or performs a multiple by-pass on your blocked arteries?

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #24

Christianity teaches its followers to see everything strictly from Man's point of view. It isn't possible for anyone to see things in the way God sees them. Man's own perspective is the best way to interpret everything God has accomplished for our benefit.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #25

Christianity teaches that sin consciousness, guilt and shame are vitally important, useful and beneficial mental attributes.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #26

Christianity teaches that a believer's freedom must be held in check. Too much is dangerous and unhealthy. Followers need to hold each other accountable and keep a watchful eye.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #27

Christianity teaches that no one's sin was actually removed once and for all time at the Cross. They're only forgiven as they make daily confessions for sin, one at a time.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #28

Christianity teaches that God is in total control of every event and circumstance in every person's life, no matter how tragic, happy, momentous or unimportant.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #29

Christianity teaches that God intended Man to use his special gift of 'free will' to freely choose to follow Christ. God doesn't want robots! Yet it teaches the immediate and complete relinquishing of that same, special gift, when the believer yields his will to Christ as Lord and Master.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #30

Christianity teaches that only believers who participate actively within the local church are true members of God's family.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #31

Christianity teaches its beliefs, doctrines and precepts, through a process known as indoctrination – constant repetition in an environment of agreement and consent.

Spirited arguments and disagreements are often seen as disruptive and unwelcome behavior.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #32

Christianity teaches that failure to fully agree and comply with each and every belief outlined in any church's individual 'Statement of Faith' is justifiable grounds for removal from membership in God's local family.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #33

Christianity teaches a life of complete servitude. Christ took your place on the Cross to rescue you from your sins. The very least you can do in return is to offer up your entire life to whatever He would have you do.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #34

Christianity teaches a life of constant, ruthless introspection, self-examination and self-appraisal.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #35

Christianity teaches that non-believers are only two-thirds of a person. They exist only in mind and body. Their spirits are dead.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #36

Christianity teaches ‘shunning’. This happens when church members are instructed to totally disassociate themselves from certain other members that act outside the bounds of established behaviour. Treated like lepers, they are ostracized – cut off completely from participation in any and all church relationships and activities until they recognize the error of their ways and plead for forgiveness.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #37

Christianity teaches ‘suspicion’. Church members often see themselves as ‘fruit inspectors’ – examining the words and actions of other believers against a template of Christ, Himself. Close scrutiny creates the heightened suspicion that some are not really ‘saved’ as they like to proclaim. This causes alienation within the ranks.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #38

Christianity teaches that marriage vows take second place to obedience to God. The husband and wife are taught to declare to each other that God occupies first place in their lives, ahead of the needs and desires of each other. Each has a higher, separate, personal obligation to God that usurps their partner. This often leads to division and ultimately to divorce, through the breakdown of marriage relationship intimacy.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Ingredient #39

Christianity teaches that anyone who understands that REDEMPTION included everyone, and that eternal life is a free gift to all, is a nuisance and an enemy of the church.

Healthy Toxic Not Sure

Is It Toxic or Not?

Having now examined many of the ingredients in the manmade pill called Christianity, how many did you determine to be healthy? How many did you consider toxic? Which ones could you not be certain of, either way? How many toxic ingredients do you think it would take to make you sick? If your doctor instructed you to take a pill for a particular ailment that contained even one toxic component, would you swallow it? Sure, you would!

Modern medicine is awash with medications that contain toxic substances. Why else do you suppose specific instructions are printed on an information sheet inside every container? Why else does that same information sheet list all the dangerous side-effects that often include sudden death? Why else would it take a board-certified doctor to write out the prescription? Every single day, in every country in the world, countless millions of people consume toxic drugs in the ongoing battle against illness and disease. It's the best that Mankind can possibly do. Whether we're talking about radiation, chemotherapy or any number of other deadly prescriptions written out every minute of every day – there are no other choices. Patients take blood tests on a regular basis in an effort to monitor and control the extent of the damage caused by toxicity. There are no other options available. If it's manmade – it's toxic!

Are we saying that the danger of toxicity that exists for a doctor's patient is there for the believer too? Absolutely! He has no alternative but to take as directed the toxic manmade pill called Christianity. The local pastor is often looked upon as the expert when it comes to the Bible. What he says is likely to be believed whether it's true or not. The pastor is a legally certified prescriber of the toxic 'manmade Christian pill'. It's all he knows! It's all he's ever been taught! Unfortunately, there's no way to test for mental Christian toxicity before it's too late. Even as parishioners may get sicker before his very eyes, the pastor cannot stop prescribing! The pastor himself has taken an oath to consume the same toxic Christian pill that he prescribes, only to succumb to the same inevitable toxic effects! Is there no other remedy available for the believer that's free of the distressing, harmful side-effects of the toxic Christian pill? If there is such a thing and you can't get it from a pastor, where on earth are you going to find it?

The Cure

There is an alternative. There is a remedy that can and will relieve every adverse condition brought on by the toxic Christian pill and with no unpleasant side-effects. What do you suppose it might be? It's called the Gospel! That's right. You heard it correctly. It's called the Good News! Where can you find it? While you won't likely find it in church, you

can read it for yourself in the Bible. Surely, you've heard of the Gospel of Peace! God fully intended as a result of Christ's death and resurrection, that believers would share the Gospel of Peace around the world with every living soul! That's what Jesus told His disciples in Mark 16:15-16, when He said to them, "Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature . . ." Jesus was saying to just go and tell others about the Good News. Share the happy results concerning the issue of Mankind's sin and how it was settled once and for all by Christ's perfect sacrifice. Tell everyone you meet that the enmity between God and Man that had existed for thousands of years was finally over and how it can never return! Jesus went on to say, ". . . whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Whoever receives it as the truth, this news of a new peaceful relationship between God and Man, will have their lives instantly and radically transformed. An enormous weight of guilt, worry and concern would be lifted off their shoulders. Who wouldn't be ecstatic to hear of such a new reality? Way back in the day, they must have thought to themselves – 'Freedom at last!' Perhaps they thought of the Lord's Prayer, where it said, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!" Certainly, they'd be staring into the fulfillment of that verse! Then of course, there's the other side of the coin. Some people would refuse to acknowledge it, no matter how joyous the outcome.

Anyone stupid enough to turn away such an astounding truth, as if it were nothing more than a cheap, fabricated lie, would be trapped regrettably and unnecessarily in their Old Testament ways. Can you imagine how shocked they must have been, to learn that the curtain in the Holy of Holies was rent from top to bottom? They might even have been disappointed to hear that there would never again be animal sacrifices made for Man's sin. And to think that Jew and Gentile would become One New Man in Christ – simply unthinkable! Still, those who would refuse to accept the reality of a New Creation, brought about by Christ's perfect sacrifice for sin, would be condemned by their own stiff-necked stubbornness to live out their lives in complete ignorance of the true condition of peace and freedom that would now exist for all eternity between God and Man.

In Conclusion

Is it not astounding to you, that Christianity rejects the Gospel truth? It pins its hopes for REDEMPTION and eternal security on one sole, distinguishing claim – you must believe! Yet they don't believe the truth that 'One New Man' was the result of Christ's death and resurrection. They don't believe the stunning historical fact that both Jew and Gentile, once entirely separate and distinct races, were brought together as one new creation in Christ at the moment of His death. They don't believe the historical fact

that peace has existed between God and Man for more than two thousand years. They say, “How can anyone talk of peace when nation is warring against nation, all across the face of the earth?” Christian leaders have no clue that the Gospel of Peace refers only to the new and permanent peace existing between God and Man – a direct consequence of Christ’s sacrifice upon the Cross. They’re stuck in a time warp and they’re powerless to extricate themselves!

Leaders, teachers, authors and pastors who occupy the highest places of honor within the organized Christian church, are too self-righteous and haughty to ever admit their horrendous error. They’re trapped inside a defunct, Old Testament life, while in the midst of a bustling, New Testament world. Christian leaders are forcing themselves and their devout followers to live in complete denial of the Gospel truth concerning a New Creation at the Cross. Sadly, it’s making them mentally and physically sick. Their refusal, to believe the radical change that took place at the Cross as a result of Christ’s sacrifice, has condemned them and their parishioners to a self-imposed captivity of a kind that only ignorance can bring. Yet church authorities willingly trumpet their Old Testament pill called ‘the Christian life’ as though it were the true Gospel – the best news ever. They wantonly act as the front men for a disgusting lie, for which they should have to pay dearly.

Since they fail to understand, accept and support the finished works of the Cross, Christian leaders have nowhere to look but ahead. They place all their attention on Christ's Second Coming. Their hopes and dreams are laser-focused on the idea of being raised up to meet Christ in the air. They believe everything in this world is going to HELL. The only thing that gives them any reason to live at all – is the anticipation of Christ's return. Doesn't the whole scenario sound awfully familiar to you? Are we watching a re-run of the Old Testament? Weren't all the heroes back there credited with righteousness because of their immense faith? They needed that faith just to survive. They lived for the privilege of one day meeting Christ and yet every time they awoke to a new sunrise, it wasn't to be.

Thousands of years came and went and yet there was still no Christ for them to see and know in the flesh. This is where Christians still are today. The blind are leading the blind! They're NOT living according to the knowledge and truth concerning One New Man in Christ. They're living by Old Testament faith. One day Christ will appear and lift them out of the awful conditions that they're trapped in on earth. If you didn't know better, judging by how Christians act, you'd swear that Christ hadn't even come the first time! They're still knee deep in guilt and shame. The Devil is still alive and well and running the world. Nobody has been made perfect. No one has been raised in Christ. Confession

for sin must be made every day. There's no permanent peace between God and Man and the list goes on and on!

Imagine how things might have been if the Gospel of Peace had been taken to the world as Christ and God had originally intended. The truth of One New Man in Christ may have settled the fears, worries and concerns of many nations and as a result, many senseless wars might have been averted. Countless millions of lives might have been saved. Today there are many divisions and inequities between individuals according to race, color, ethnicity, education, wealth, religion and gender. Is it conceivable that these high walls of separation might be ameliorated and brought down if only the Gospel of Peace were shared as it truly has existed since the Cross?

Why should anyone have to live without the knowledge of it? What can possibly be gained by keeping it a secret? Is it possible that the expansion of wealth among the Christian elite might be put at risk? Might the possible backlash stemming from tens of millions of Christians finding out they've been lied to, threaten their precious positions of authority and control? What choice does the Christian establishment have? Should they subject themselves to the potential wrath of an angry public by coming clean or should they hold tight to their guns and preserve the status quo?

It doesn't take a vivid imagination to arrive at their most likely choice. All they have to do is keep pushing the lie. Continue to offer the stark, fictional alternative of Heaven or HELL. Get believers to just go out into the world and preach that every man is 'up to his chin in sin'. Get them to tell everyone they meet, that if they don't plead for forgiveness, make Christ Lord and turn their wills completely over to Him, living each day as He and only He instructs, they'll be condemned to eternal punishment and separation from God – forced to pay for their own sin through never-ending torment in a place called HELL!

And there you have it – the 'toxic Christian pill' in its full, horrific splendor and in plentiful supply on nearly every street corner in every city, town and village in the land!

Article **17**

Get Right with God?

Does the expression, “Get right with God!” sound familiar?

It should. It’s yet another of the most oft repeated expressions you’ll hear from Christian pastors and leaders. It can only mean one thing – it’s all up to you! Whether you’re a devout believer, a fence-sitting agnostic or a confirmed atheist . . . if there’s anything wrong between you and God, you and you alone have got to make it right! Be successful and prepare to reap your reward. Fail and brace yourself for the harsh, eternal consequences! Honestly, how does an idea like this ever get off the ground?

Where do Christian authorities get the silly notion that you can make anything right with the Creator of the Universe – God Almighty? Mortal Man has all he can do to make and keep things right with a close relative, a long-time

friend, a next-door neighbour or a complete stranger at a check-out counter. Ask yourself. What can you possibly bring to the table that will make everything A-Okay with God? What personal improvements can you highlight, that will coerce God into liking you more? What persuasive skills can you employ, that will compel Him to view you in a better, more favorable light?

Christian pastors, leaders, authors and teachers will remind you that if you don't think you're right with God, you must work quickly to make it so. You must commandeer the full force of your guilt, shame, contrition and remorse, in an all-out effort to get or regain your much-needed status. You must pray yourself into a right relationship using your deepest, heartfelt admissions and confessions of sinful neglect and misconduct. You have no time to lose. You must get on your knees and if necessary, flat on your face, to explain your inexcusable excesses, absences and abuses, while affirming for the first time or the one hundredth time, your commitment to total surrender and obedience. At this point your legal counsel will approach the bench of Heaven's Highest Court and plead your case. Phew! That was a close one! He got you off the hook. All is well . . . at least until the next offence, right?

What a load of bunk! Want to know the real Gospel truth? No amount of regret, self-aborrence or contrition on your part is going to settle the score with God. No

amount of sanitized, flowery, Bible verse recitation is going to increase your popularity. No amount of sincere, heart-felt prayer rising up through the rafters – is going to lift you one tiny millimeter in His estimation. Not even the repeated proclamation that Christ has already paid for your misdeeds and indiscretions on the Cross – will restore you to your rightful place in the sight of God. How can that be? Because you're already there!

You're **ALREADY RIGHT WITH GOD!**

It has no bearing on what you do, say, think or believe! The finished work of the Cross is thousands of years old. It's a thing of the past. It's ancient history. It included everyone. It locked you and everyone else securely into Christ. The very idea that you ever had to 'make yourself right' was pure fiction in the first place! The whole cockeyed perception that you or anyone else ever needed to 'get right with God' in order to find **REDEMPTION** and a rock-solid eternity in the presence of God, is a despicable invention of Christianity and a sad component of 'the Christian life'!

Looking behind the Cross to the Old Covenant, we can see there was only one law under which everyone lived whether Jew or Gentile. It was called the 'Law of Sin and Death'. No one could side-step its boundaries. Everyone was included regardless of personal belief. The prospect of

sin resulting in death was the depressing and unrelenting condition of the times. Anything short of a sacrifice involving either Mankind in its entirety or one Man deemed to be of equal or greater value – would leave that singular and devastating law in complete control.

Thankfully, when Christ took His place on the Cross to die a cruel and lingering death, He paid Humanity's sin debt in full and for all time. He purchased you and everyone else that was ever born before or since the Cross, out from the 'Law of Sin and Death' and into the 'Law of the Spirit of Life' in Christ.

Sin and death have no place in the realm of Heaven and eternal life. Life in Christ, the immediate consequence of Humanity being altogether and all at once raised in Him at His resurrection, is the eternal and immutable, dominating and controlling force! The need and requirement to 'get right with God', for the purpose of REDEMPTION – no longer exists.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 18

Give and You'll Receive?

Is there any approach used more often by the Christian church to drum up donations, than to say, “It’s more blessed to give than to receive.”?

We all know the expression to be true in our personal lives, don’t we? Yet Christian leaders have taken the idea to new heights. Every week of the year there’s another ministry making an appeal for more money under that same banner. Their regular programs, whether in a local church, on radio or on TV, are interrupted at regular intervals with desperate pleas for additional funds. They’ll be unable to achieve their lofty goals unless you can cough up more mullah.

How do they coax those hard-earned bucks out of your billfold? They convince contributors that they’ll gain even more money in return, as a result of their generosity. They say that when you plant seed in a garden, you can always

expect a harvest many times greater than what you sowed. There's no question about it. Nature attests to the simple fact that a single seed planted in fertile soil will in turn, produce a multitude of seeds after its own kind. A hundred times as many and even more! There's only one problem.

It isn't your garden!

When Christian ministries ask you for money, they leave out one important fact. It's their garden that you're planting seed in – not your own. It's they, who gain the benefit. If you put money in someone else's account, whose assets are going to grow? It sure as heck won't be yours!

Christian leaders claim with acrobatic fervor, that money you send them will grow in your own account. Out of the blue, money will appear in the form of cheques in the mail, gifts from total strangers or mortgages suddenly written off. Hey, no one is denying it can happen. Any of these things can occur for a variety of different and perhaps unexplainable reasons, but not because you gave your last one hundred dollars to a worldwide ministry.

If giving to church coffers could produce a guaranteed return for you, it wouldn't be coincidental. There would be no mystery surrounding it. It would work every time you did it – without fail! Who wouldn't invest in the stock market, if such a thing were true?

Think about it. If gains of ten to one hundred times could be made through the simple act of selfless giving, why wouldn't these same ministries be sending money to you? Why wouldn't they put money in your account, if they were certain to be recompensed as much as a hundred times? They aren't buying their own spiel, that's why!

Christian ministries are content to receive what small amount you and so many others can afford. A single dollar will be accepted with pure delight! Remember – you're sowing in their garden and they'll spend your seed before it ever hits the ground! And what will they promise you in exchange? A bogus claim of vast profits somewhere down the line! P.T. Barnum once said, "There's a sucker born every minute."

Sure, there are a lot of good reasons for giving, but one of them shouldn't be – getting a lot more in return.

Article 19

Give Your Life to God?

If there's one Christian doctrine that casts a shadow over everything else, it's this – the requirement to turn your life over to God.

Sure, it all begins with the simple expression of belief, but it can't be allowed to end there. That's just the front door. You haven't really stepped inside. You're not 'in' until you declare to have placed your heart, soul and mind under Christ's complete control. Christianity makes the claim that without this crucial step of submission, there can be no obedience, no growth, no wisdom, no love, no joy, no discipline, no direction, no help, no fellowship, no restoration, no healing, no success, no relationship and no reward. But they aren't unique in this regard.

Every major religion and every cult (is there a difference?), makes the very same demand and promises the

same results. So where does it come from, this so-called requirement to turn over your life?

It comes from the Christian narrative that says, “God can do more with your life than you can. You’re no good at it. You weren’t created to handle it. Left to your own devices, you’ll mess it up. Poor decisions will haunt you at every turn. Money will slip like silt through your fingers. You won’t have two pennies to rub together. Cruelty and reckless inattentiveness will crush every meaningful relationship. You won’t have a friend in the world. Negative thinking and personal neglect will ravage your mind and body. You’ll become sick to the point of death. With nowhere else to turn, you’ll wind up on Christianity’s doorstep. In desperation, you’ll dump the catastrophe called ‘your life’, into the lap of the Creator of the Universe.”

Church leaders teach that unless you reach the end of your rope, unless you hit rock bottom, you’ll never need God enough to completely turn over your life to Him. Only utter failure, abject brokenness and woeful self-loathing can drive you to seek a new beginning as a ‘born again’ Christian with no past – only a bright, uncharted future with God leading you every step of the way. Oh really?

Don’t think for a moment that this is what is meant by the Gospel. Jesus didn’t go to the Cross so you could hand your life over to Him; so He could lead you in every

decision no matter how big; so He could control every aspect of your life no matter how trivial; so He could excuse every wrongdoing you'll ever commit; so He could change your behavior; so He could alter your circumstances; so He could make you a replica of Himself.

Let's be clear about one thing. There's no verse anywhere in the Bible that states you must place every facet of your life – the 'whole enchilada' – under His complete control. It isn't there! Besides, you don't possess the power or authority to make it happen. Look here! Christ gave His life for you, way before you ever had a chance to give yours! The decision was never yours to make in the first place. He put you into Himself for all eternity and you're stuck there.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **20**

God Can't Love You . . . Until You Love Him?

If there's one thing we can know for certain about God – it's that He loves His creation.

Every time a new born baby finds its way into this world, there's a Mom or Dad mystified by the wonderful new invention that's staring them right in the face! Listen to Christian leaders, pastors, authors and teachers and you'll get a starkly different impression. They'll tell you that as miraculous as this new baby is – it's born in sin. They'll remind you that the genealogy of this tiny creature begins with Adam, the first man to fall under the temptation of Satan – the first man to bring sin to the entire world. They'll tell you that the spirit of this baby is dead and that throughout its growing life it will attempt to avail itself of every evil and vile thing. They'll warn you that without strict adherence to Bible doctrine and without total devotion to

ongoing study and teaching in a community church setting, you'll fail miserably as a parent and your child will suffer irreparable harm.

Christian leaders will tell you that to refrain from a life of complete devotion to God and to exist apart from the organized church, is to live outside the love of God. They'll tell you that a life outside the church is a life fully removed from God's family. They'll tell you that unless you and your loved ones confess belief in God, you'll all spend an eternity in HELL! Doesn't this sound like segregation to you? Segregation is the forced separation of certain people from other people, organizations or communities, based on the lack of certain specified qualifications.

Perhaps you thought that the concept of segregation was becoming more and more antiquated – more and more a relic of the past. Not so! The organized church actively practices segregation and has done so for many hundreds of years!

Any individual, who does not confess total love and devotion to God, is separated from the group called 'believers'. A man or woman, boy or girl, who declines the opportunity to make a confession of faith, is placed beyond the boundaries of those who claim to be made alive in the Spirit and instantly becomes the object of discrimination. Anyone who fails to declare that they have become a 'new

creation' is still part of God's 'old creation'. He or she is nothing more than a walking dead person with no destiny apart from an eternity spent in HELL!

The important thing is to know where God stands concerning this matter of segregation. He has nothing to do with it! God DOES NOT JUST LOVE the people who love Him back! God, by His very nature, is inclusionary. If He couldn't and if He didn't love His enemies, none of us could have ever come to recognize and understand His incredible saving grace. Isn't that wonderful to know? God is LOVE. One certain, objective and verifiable truth about God, is that He is the absolute and all-encompassing definition of that word. Every man, woman and child is His own special creation, regardless of what they might choose to believe or what duties or rituals they might choose to perform. How could God ever reject such a miracle at any juncture in his or her uniquely special life?

God's Son, Jesus Christ, represented everyone when He took His place on the Cross! Christ died a perfect sacrifice for believers and unbelievers, rich and poor, cruel and kind, young and old, healthy and sick, tall and short, wise and foolish, drunk and sober, outgoing and shy, honest and corrupt, hard-working and lazy and anyone else you might choose to consider.

Truth be told, it's the organized church that relentlessly pushes the idea of 'Heaven for the few and Hell for the many' from one generation to another – from one century to the next! It's religious Man's own idea, that God requires belief, devotion and love before He can love anyone back; before He can REDEEM them; before He can place anyone in Christ.

The whole silly notion is taken directly from the deceptive playbook of Christian leadership. God doesn't need to be loved. God loves even His enemies – unconditionally! The whole despicable idea that there is a wall of separation between those that love God and those that don't – is a fictional creation of Christian authorities. It's no more than a feeble attempt to project upon God the desperate, petty and fickle human need to be loved before we can love anyone else! All of Humanity has been rescued by Christ's perfect and complete work of REDEMPTION upon the Cross. There can be no greater demonstration of God's love toward Man whether friend or foe.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **21**

God Doesn't Make Apples 'One-at-a-Time'

Did you ever stop to think about how God makes apples?

Well, if there's one thing we know for sure – He doesn't make them 'one-at-a-time'!

God only creates something – once.

This fact has been evident from before the beginning of time. It's well documented in the first book of the Bible. The heavens, the earth, aquatic life, animal life, birds life, plant life and the creation of Man, were in each instance, the result of creating something – just once.

So how do living things perpetuate themselves, if God doesn't do it Himself, one-at-a-time?

Living things are self-perpetuating as a result of God's miraculous invention called, 'the seed'. Regardless of which form of life, it's the 'seed' that guarantees the survival of life as we know it. You may not have given it much thought, but you knew it all along, right?

So where do we go with this?

It's a commonly taught doctrine of Christianity, that when a person comes to understand the Christian faith for the first time, they become, in that same moment, a – 'New Creation'. Christian leaders teach that the 'old self' dies and they instantly become something that has never existed before. They teach that God brings about His 'New Creation', one-person-at-a-time. The earth has a population of roughly eight billion people, yet in order for God to bring His 'New Creation' into being, He must use a slow, tedious, laborious, antiquated process of 'one-person-at-a-time'? C'mon now – really?

Not a chance!

This violates God's proprietary invention, known as the 'seed'!

When God created Adam and Eve (two separate species, created each after their kind), was it not their ‘seed’ that populated the earth? When Adam was made in the image of God, was it not Adam’s ‘seed’ that made it so, for everyone else that was to follow? When Adam chose to go his own way in the Garden, wasn’t it his ‘seed’ that spread the consequences of that decision to the rest of Mankind? And leaping forward – what about Jesus? Wasn’t He the Last Adam? Wasn’t He the first person of God’s ‘New Creation’, following His death and resurrection? And wasn’t it He who said, “Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat (seed) falls into the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.”

So, wouldn’t it be likewise His ‘seed’, planted in His death, that would spread the reality of the ‘New Creation’ to every life that would ever live, whether before or since the Cross?

You bet it would!

Just as all of Humanity was born through Adam’s ‘seed’ (the old creation), it must be equally true that all of Humanity was ‘born again’ spiritually at the moment of each child’s conception, through Christ’s ‘seed’ (the New Creation).

The ‘seed’ is God’s universal principle of multiplication! The apostle Paul knew it to be true when he stated in 2 Corinthians, “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”. He knew that if even one man was in Christ, that God had accomplished His eternal purpose to unite all things to Himself, through spiritual re-birth, made possible by you guessed it –

the ‘seed’ of Christ!

How do we know this for sure?

Well, Paul had no idea if anyone else was in Christ when he made the statement. He was only certain of one thing – that he was in Christ! Yet, this was enough. It was all he needed to know. Now he could make the bold claim that if he was in Christ (as bad as he was), everyone else was too! This is what he meant by, “The old is gone and the new is here!” He understood the principle of the ‘seed’. This is why he stated later, that from now on, he would see no one strictly from an earthly point of view (even as he had viewed Christ in the past). From now on, he would see everyone he met as a ‘New Creation’, raised in Christ!

Isn’t it odd that Christian leaders refer to the tithe as a ‘seed’? They say that if you give ten percent from your fruits of labor, it will multiply itself back to you as much as a

hundred-fold. Hey, Christianity is no stranger to the principle of the 'seed'. Your giving will yield so great a harvest, that you'll hardly be able to contain it! Some preachers go as far as to say that everything that finds its way into your hands, is a 'seed' intended to multiply to your benefit. Yet, the principle of multiplication through the 'seed' of Christ, in all its splendor (2 Cor. 5:14, "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, therefore all died."), is strangely and conspicuously lost to their consciousness. To put it bluntly – God's principle of multiplication through the 'seed' has been left to rot on the parched, dry earth. And in its place? A manmade substitute called simple, grade school addition!

Church leaders keel over with excitement when a single, solitary individual, in the moment he declares his belief, becomes in their estimation – 'Born Again' – a 'New Creation'! In raucous celebration, an entire church gushes when just one soul is added to the fold.

Leave it to manmade Christianity, to trample under foot, God's incredible power of multiplication through the planted "seed" of Christ (rescuing Mankind all at once!)

Count on manmade Christianity, to abandon the greatest 'life sustaining' force known to both God and Man (the 'seed'), preferring instead to adopt the rudimentary process of counting souls on their fingers and toes!

Listen up – because you can take this to the bank!

Christ didn't endure the Cross to rescue Mankind, one-person-at-a-time! He wasn't resurrected to witness Christian leaders celebrate new birth based on each person's 'confession of faith', one-at-a-time!

IT'S TIME TO GET REAL!

His 'seed' produced an instantaneous, spiritual re-birth of Humanity spanning every generation going all the way back to Adam and all the way forward to eternity! We're in the midst of an ongoing achievement so grandiose, so numerous and so inclusive, as to be impossible to fathom!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **22**

God Is Done with Man

Are you wondering what could possibly be meant by such a title? Are you thinking, “How can this possibly be true?”

As simple and direct as this declaration may be, it certainly isn't understood within the organized Christian church. God relied heavily on Man in accordance with His Old Will or Testament but it's not so any more. Not since He separated time from eternity with Christ's perfect sacrifice upon the Cross, has He needed Man's obedience and co-operation.

The last things that God did; in allowing the death of His Son Jesus upon the Cross; in receiving Christ's RANSOM on behalf of every man, woman and child; in approving Christ's singular payment for the removal of sin once and for all time; in securing the REDEMPTION of

Mankind to a 'rock solid' eternity in Heaven; all were accomplished without the advice, assistance or agreement of mortal Man.

God is finished in His dealings with Man! There's nothing left for Him to do. His will concerning Mankind is complete. The placement of all Humanity into His Son, Jesus Christ, at the precise moment of His death on the Cross; the raising of us all in Him at the moment of His resurrection, to sit for all eternity at God's right hand; the humiliating defeat of Satan, once and for all time; the installation of grace, in the same place that judgement had once occupied; the making of Jew and Gentile into One New Man in Christ; these momentous achievements have changed forever the course of Man's destiny! What can anyone possibly add to this? Yet the steady stream of useless claptrap flowing from leaders, teachers, authors and preachers in exchange for the working man's hard-earned cash, is without end! The books, CD's, DVD's, paid seminars, weekend retreats and exotic cruise ship vacations, altogether constitute an economy large enough to finance a small country and all its inhabitants!

Christian leaders imagine that they have the inside track on God. They know how He thinks, works and acts. They're quick to tell others what God expects of them, claiming a virtual monopoly on His desires, wishes and needs as it relates to their obedient followers. They know

everything there is about what makes Him happy or sad, disappointed or encouraged, angry or forgiving. They know precisely what you should do to live happily ever after with God. What a bunch of bunk!

They are oblivious to the fact that God stopped making laws, giving orders and expecting results, over two thousand years ago! What did we ever do to get stuck with this elitist bunch of ‘know-it-alls’? What crime did we ever commit to inherit such a stubborn, bossy, self-righteous group of eggheads? Honestly, they don’t know where God ends and they begin. They don’t know enough to just let God rest!

In truth, when it comes to the Gospel, it’s as straight forward as this. God did the perfecting and the finishing – Man just does the ‘telling’. Do you think you can handle it? Can it get any easier? Yet this would appear just too basic, too straight forward to satisfy the religious ruling class.

Christian authorities have flipped this truth on its head for their own selfish purposes, teaching instead that God is still leading and instructing, while Man is still jumping through hoops. The organized church continues to drag the ways of the past into the future on the faulty premise that God is frozen in His ways. They instruct their followers to listen carefully to God. Your success in this life depends on getting it right. You can be just like Daniel, Moses, David, Joseph or Nehemiah. He’ll tell you exactly what to do, just

like He did those great heroes of the Old Testament. He'll instruct you precisely where to go, every day for the rest of your life. God will point the way, showing you the path you should take, the people you should know and the activities you should engage in.

These leaders teach that God has His own will concerning every aspect of your life, from the spouse you choose, the house you buy, the car you drive, the job you apply for, all the way down to the socks you wear! If you don't listen closely and if you don't follow God's instructions to the letter – watch out! Your life could take on the calamitous appearance of a fifty-car train wreck!

In a universe made up of dedicated followers controlled by domineering Christian leaders – God is still directing and you're still dancing to the music, like a puppet on a string! If it wasn't so sad, it would be a hilarious joke. This fallacious and fictitious storyline, propagated and sustained relentlessly by religious authorities – is pure, unadulterated insanity!

Why can't these men be content with the Gospel? Their teaching couldn't be more diametrically opposed to the truth. Jesus told His disciples to “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel.” Simply translated, we should just tell the person next to us, the simple Gospel truth. If we did this one simple thing, who wouldn't know?

We don't need costly radio transmission, cable TV networks and the internet, all under the ambitious command and control of wealthy and famous evangelists. We aren't supposed to be followers, studiers, memorizers, thumpers, teachers, creators, builders, sellers, actors, performers and doers. We're just supposed to be tellers. We aren't supposed to be training pastors by the hundreds and building mega churches in every city and town. Just tell others what Jesus Christ accomplished on the Cross for the benefit of every man, woman and child that has ever been born. Just tell them that God has reconciled the world to Himself through Christ, not counting their sins against them.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **23**

Grace; Just What Does It Mean?

How long has it been since you've heard the word grace?

It's not a commonly used word and yet from time to time it shows up usually in reference to elegance, poise or finesse. Skaters, dancers and acrobats can keep their audiences spellbound as they perform their various intricate manoeuvres with incredible precision and phenomenal grace. Does the word have any other application?

It can also refer to a period of no accounting – a time of no consequence – a brief span of amnesty or freedom from a watchful eye or from prevailing rules and regulations. How is this so? How does this device called grace, find its application in everyday life?

Many businesses offer their employees tiny allotments of unsupervised time during work hours, referred to as grace time. This means that employees can arrive late or leave early from work, with no fear of note-taking, consequence, judgement or retribution. But don't get the wrong idea. The brief respite rarely exceeds five minutes. Even so, it means a great deal to employees and goes a long way in creating feelings of goodwill toward their workplace bosses.

Grace has yet another application within a country's legal system, as individuals with criminal records can apply for a pardon – a total and complete release from any connection at all to their criminal past. Upon the execution of such a legal procedure, there remains absolutely nothing on the books that can in any way point to a person's previous unlawful activity.

So, is there anything more to it? Is this the end of the story where grace is concerned?

Grace is by no means finished. It does have yet another source and another application. While we can't expect to find it coming from our fellow man in any but the most meager amounts, it does flow freely and in an inexhaustible abundance from a higher entity – namely God Himself.

Grace takes on the most grandiose proportions and the greatest of all implications when we see its full implementation upon Mankind by the Creator of the Universe. When God considered Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross to be sufficient RANSOM for the final release of all Mankind from the harsh and unyielding grip of sin and death – Humanity became in that singular moment, the beneficiary of the greatest outpouring of unmerited favor, love and affection the world would ever know.

In that moment and all at once, a fierce, unrelenting and mighty torrent of REDEEMING love, as wide as the east is from the west and as unfathomable as the oceans deep or the mountains high, spread across the face of the earth at lightning speed. It touched every soul into every past and future generation. Think about it! The Son of God became the PROPITIATION for all Mankind. He took upon Himself the complete measure of God's wrath, anger and judgement – once and for all time!

By His perfect work of REDEMPTION upon the Cross, all of Humanity was purchased away from Adam's original sin of unbelief and given without a hint of deservedness or merit, the very righteousness of Christ! Through His ATONEMENT, Christ, in His death and resurrection, united every man, woman and child to Himself and placed them all at the right hand of God for all eternity.

Is this not grace in the most astonishing of proportions?

Is this not grace as only God Himself could discharge it?

How can anyone make the argument that God's grace comes to just a few in every generation? Christian leaders routinely teach that the gift of eternal life is reserved only for those who walk the narrow way. What? Who are they trying to kid? Only one Man (Jesus Christ) ever succeeded in walking that narrow path! And at the end of that path lay a Cross, a crucifixion, an agonizing death, the full payment for sin and the dramatic rescue of the whole human race!

Can even the most admired, most famous evangelist of our time, accomplish such a thing? Of course not! It's pure, unadulterated self-importance and self-righteousness that would allow anyone to think they're successfully walking the narrow way and attaining Heaven because of it! There exists only one explanation for the wonderful gift we've all received (an eternity spent with God in Christ) and that would be . . . GRACE . . . AND ONLY GRACE (the unmerited, undeserved favor of God upon all Mankind)!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **24**

Greater Love Has No Man

How often have we heard Christian leaders preach on the verse, “Greater love has no man than this: to lay down his life for his friends.”?

Again, and again, preachers stress the point that this is the greatest possible expression of love. They teach that Jesus exemplified this when He gave His life upon the Cross. The implication here is that you need to be His friend. If you aren’t one already, you need to become one – and fast! You must get onside with Him by whatever means available. You must do whatever Christian leaders deem necessary, so you can claim to be one for whom Jesus died. “Greater love has no man than this . . .” they shout from the housetops! Oh really? Do you think for one minute, this

is the full extent of God's love as demonstrated by Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross?

If we look closely at Romans 5, starting from verse 6, we get a starkly different view. It's here that we encounter the full degree of God's love, extended even to the lowest, meanest, most vile members of Humanity. "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Wow . . . this is where it's at! This is the true measure of God's love for us! On the one hand, we have Man's love and its obvious limitation of "You must be my friend before I might die for you". On the other hand, we have God's love extended to the ungodly – everyone without exception.

When Christ died, He completed the purchase of Mankind. When He paid for our accumulated sin, He bought us wholesale in that same moment. Every sinner, every enemy, every soul alive or dead became the property of God under the new Dominion of the 'Spirit of Life in Christ'.

Now, it says in verse 6, ". . . when we were still powerless . . ." Still powerless? Could this word 'powerless,'

be significant? You bet it could! It can only refer to our lack of knowledge and understanding. It could only mean that we were unable to help ourselves. Talent, wit, cleverness, ability, education, connections, belief or doctrines – could never set us free! At the Cross, Mankind was at his lowest ebb. We were at a loss for answers and clueless as to what would happen next.

Everyone was in the same predicament. Money was useless; religious standing irrelevant; faith unimportant. No one stood taller or shorter. No one ranked better or worse. Humanity could only wait helplessly to discover what must have taken place at Christ's death and resurrection. Yet what else can we learn from the curious phrase, “. . . when we were still powerless . . .? Just this; we weren't going to remain that way. No sir-e-e! All were suddenly REDEEMED! All were lifted up in Him to sit at God's right hand!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **25**

Great News for You, Believe It or Not

How did you happen to find this letter?

Whoever you may be, stumbling upon this important piece of paper is no accident and it's sure to put a smile on your face. Have you noticed how there seems to be no end to the bad news hitting the airwaves, printed media and the internet these days? Would you like to hear some really good news for once? How about news that positively impacts your life every single day from now on?

If you're thinking this might be one of those religious tracts that explain how you're going to HELL unless you plead with God for forgiveness and devote your entire life to acts of generosity and selflessness, **YOU'RE WRONG!**

If you're thinking you'll have to get on your knees, surrender your precious freedom and participate in a

phoney, hypocritical Christian life in some local church –
ABSOLUTELY NOT!

This wonderful news doesn't require you to believe, think or do anything at all. You can still just be yourself. You can still live your life in the exact same way you have always chosen to. This news is about you and for you but it doesn't need your participation in any way. What you're about to hear has already been done. It's already complete. It's already historical fact. It's called the finished work of the Cross. It's called the Gospel!

Who doesn't know about Christmas and Easter? Honestly, is there anyone in the free industrialized world that has never heard of these two most important days?

On Christmas day, the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, God's own Son, was born and thirty-three years later on Good Friday (Easter), He was crucified. When He died on the Cross as a perfect sacrifice, He changed the course of Human history forever. Whatever Man had done wrong was completely and forever erased. God accepted Jesus Christ as a RANSOM – payment in full for Man's sin. Upon Christ's death, all of Mankind was declared forever righteous in Christ.

The Bible says that Christ died for every man, woman and child that has ever lived. It goes on to say that as a

consequence, every man, woman and child actually died in Him, in the moment of His death on the Cross. As it happened, just three days after His death, Christ rose from the grave to sit at the right hand of the Father. In that same moment, all of Humanity rose in Him, whether living or dead. **YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT. THE GOOD NEWS IS . . . IT'S STILL TRUE, AND NOTHING CAN CHANGE IT!**

The Good News is that all of Humanity has an absolutely secure destiny. Every man, woman and child conceived and born before or since the Cross, was, still is and always will be, bound for Heaven. There's no way to stop it. You can live in peace and freedom knowing that God has nothing against you. No matter what mistakes you might have made, God keeps no individual accounts. Every act of wrongdoing, from the very slightest to the most egregious, has been both completely forgiven and forever removed due entirely to Christ's singular **RANSOM PAYMENT** upon His death on the Cross.

God is at peace with His creation in spite of Man's own acts of inhumanity that persist in varying degrees to this very day. The punishment of the wicked isn't somewhere in the future. It's already behind us in the wrath and anger endured by Christ in the torturous hours leading up to the Cross. It's behind us in the utter rejection and total abandonment He had to contend with upon the Cross!

You might ask, “Should the worst criminals throughout history escape God’s punishment?” Many of us are quite understandably anxious to see our modern society’s lowlifes pay a heavy price for the injury, anguish and the pain they’ve caused so many. We mustn’t forget however, that the laws of the land enforced by the judicial system in back of it, are chiefly responsible for bringing wrongdoers to justice. Once these offenders have paid their full debt to society, they’re allowed to go free to once again enjoy the full panoply of life’s privileges.

While God has ordained that the world’s prevailing legal systems by means of a legal code, settle any outstanding violations to the satisfaction of their citizens, for many – it isn’t nearly enough. There are some among us who yearn deeply for a penalty without end, crossing even the boundaries of this mortal life.

Christians, as a religious group, find great comfort and solace in their belief in the eventual certain judgment, punishment and eternal torment of the wicked in a God-forsaken place called HELL. Truth be known, they’re overjoyed and ecstatic about such a future prospect and cling to the thought every day. Much to their chagrin – IT SIMPLY CAN’T HAPPEN AS THEY SO DESIRE!

God’s wrath, anger and judgement were exhausted entirely on Christ at the Cross! God accepted Christ’s

perfect sacrifice as payment in full for Man's misdeeds! God's entire judicial system involving at its very core the legal code itself, was fulfilled at the Cross. It was set aside in favor of an entirely new governing system or dispensation referred to as Grace; the unmerited, undeserved favor of God upon all, regardless of how good or bad.

Whether you choose to believe it or not, it's still

. . . the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **26**

How to Be Born Again

Have you ever received a pamphlet explaining just how you can make yourself ‘born again’? Would you have ever believed that it was even possible?

Well it is according to Christian pastors, teachers, authors and leaders! Just follow these simple, basic steps from one to five and presto – it’s done! It works like this. Step one; God is perfect and all powerful, yet He wants to be personal with you. Step two; God loves you and created you specifically to know Him personally. Step three; you are lost and separated from God because of sin, so you can’t know Him personally. Step four; Jesus Christ is God’s only provision for your sin. Only through Him can you know God personally. Step five; confess your sins and receive Jesus Christ into your heart by faith, inviting Him to be your

Savior and Lord. Only then can you know God personally and experience His love. This is when you experience New Birth.

It's just perfect isn't it? After all, the step by step approach is how we humans learn to do just about everything! Follow the proper procedure in the correct order and you can learn to bake a cake, dance the cha-cha, paint a picture, play the piano, win your mate, raise a child, write a book, fly a plane or for that matter, perform open-heart surgery! Is it any wonder that someone would try and figure out how you could be born again and then develop a series of logical steps complete with helpful diagrams, enabling you to reach that goal? It says in the Bible that a man must be born again to enter the Kingdom of God, so there just has to be a way! God wouldn't tell us that we had to do something unless He knew we could figure out how to accomplish it, right? In a nutshell that describes the very nature of Man. We're always thinking of a way to reach our desired goals on our own terms – by our own wits! It's called living in the flesh! At the very core, our search for how to do it is pure, unadulterated opposition to God, His design, His purpose and His will. Out of this opposition flows the desire for self-promotion; the irresistible urge to gain credit and recognition.

What if the new birth was already accomplished by God in Christ, before you or anyone else ever made a

confession? What if that new birth, the New Creation, was starring every person right in the face but they just couldn't see it, didn't know enough to see it or then again, didn't even care to see it? Wouldn't it be just like God to do it all Himself knowing as only He does, Man's penchant for high achievement through self-effort and the exercise of personal faith? Surely if God left anything undone at the Cross, religious 'Christian Man' would pick up the ball and run with it all the way to the finish line for the big touchdown – eternal life in HEAVEN as only righteous, godly 'Christian Man' could ever have it!

Are you ready to hear some plain Gospel truth? There are no actions or steps that you can take whether combined with your faith or not, that will make you instantaneously born again or a New Creation. There is nothing you can do by the action of your will or the effort of your faith that can bring about your own personal REDEMPTION or your own personal removal of sin. It's nothing but wishful thinking and an outright lie. It's NOT stated anywhere in the Bible. The Gospel truth, accept it or not, is that only ONE MAN was ever born again and that man . . . was Jesus Christ! The Bible clearly states that He died for every man and in doing so – every man died in Him. All of Humanity was united (joined together) with Christ at the moment of His death on the Cross. This is where the removal of your sin and everyone else's took place.

This is why the Bible says, “The world was reconciled to God through Christ. . .” Three days later, Christ rose from the dead and was born again. Mankind, while joined to Him in His death, rose together in Him – when He was born again. All of Humanity had their sin forever removed and all were REDEEMED. All were purchased from the sovereignty of the Law of Sin and Death and placed under a new sovereignty or dominion called the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ. All of Humanity abides in Christ at the right hand of God the Father.

There is no truth to a separate, personal, one-at-a-time REDEMPTION! No such thing as separate, personal, one-at-a-time, removal of sin! This disgusting and despicable interpretation amounts to nothing less than thievery of the Gospel truth, in league with bigotry towards our fellow man!

Article **27**

If . . . The World's Most Conditional Word

It's a small word, isn't it? Who would ever think that such a word comprising just two letters could cause such widespread devastation? More than fifty generations have come and gone since the Cross of Christ and that incredible little word 'if' continues to bring heartache, pain and misery to countless millions! Was it really meant to be this way? Was the amazing accomplished work of the Cross, the Good News and Glad Tidings to all, really meant to be forever pursued and diminished by this most miniscule of words . . . 'if', all the way from the Cross to this present day and beyond?

It has been said so many times by Christian leaders, "There are only two kinds of people in the world, the saved and the unsaved; those that are going to Heaven and those

that are going to Hell.” Leaders, teachers, authors and pastors say, “Only believers are going to make it to Heaven!” Yet they’re quick to say that it isn’t God’s fault. After all, it isn’t His will that any should perish. God is kind, loving and merciful. So, whose fault is it if so much of Humanity is on the fast track to Hell? Preachers everywhere say, “Man alone is to blame! Everything hangs on a simple personal decision. It’s his free choice, pure and simple, that brings either Heaven or Hell upon himself! If each person would just meet one simple condition – believe – their eternal destiny would turn on a dime and eternal life would be theirs for all time!” If Man would just believe. There’s that word ‘if’ again. It’s the most conditional word in the English language! Preachers and teachers say, “You can be REDEEMED right now ‘if . . .’” They say, “You can change your eternal destiny right now, right this very moment ‘if . . .’” They say, “You can be completely forgiven on the spot, ‘if . . .’” How can such a tiny word wield such power?

Well wait just a minute! Are you ready for some really good news?

Take a closer look. There’s no ‘if’ (condition) in the most powerful words in the Bible! There’s no ‘if’ in the word REDEMPTION. There’s no ‘if’ in the word ATONEMENT. There’s no ‘if’ in the word RANSOM. There’s no ‘if’ in the word PROPITIATION. And just what

does each of these powerful words refer to? Each of these words speaks of the decision that God made with, in, by and through His Son, Jesus Christ, to rescue all of Humanity from the clutches of sin and death. These words both individually and collectively, refer to the complete, perfect and unconditional work of Christ upon the Cross.

These words tell us that over 2,000 years ago, Humanity's legal record of sin was completely paid for, forever removed and never to return again . . . unconditionally. These words tell us that God's anger, wrath and judgement was once and for all time utterly and totally satisfied in the death of His Son Jesus upon the Cross . . . unconditionally! These words tell us that enmity between God and Man has forever ceased . . . unconditionally! These words tell us that Jew and Gentile, whether believers or not, have become ONE NEW MAN in Christ – unconditionally! All of this was accomplished without you or anyone else. No person was ever consulted or asked to give their consent. No amount of faith, belief, confession, commitment, submission or surrender on your part could have ever made this possible. All this was accomplished without that two-letter word . . . 'if'.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 28

Images of the Cross; Vain Symbols

Is there anything more sacred to the believer than the Cross? It represents agony, suffering, the end of the ages, the fulfillment of time, full payment for sin, complete removal of guilt, total freedom from the law, instantaneous oneness with Christ, the delineation of everything old from ‘all things new’, the REDEMPTION of Mankind, the guarantee of an eternity in Heaven and the accomplished will of God. Can any other word bring to mind so much Gospel truth and so quickly? No way! Clearly, there has never been and there will never be a more definitive ‘wall of separation’ between the past and the future, than at this place called – ‘the Cross’. It’s the undisputed, undeniable center piece of Human history!

While the Cross carries such incredible importance, was it proper for Christian authorities to turn this place into a

visual symbol to be put on and in every Christian church across the face of the earth? As if that isn't enough, artists have depicted the Cross in any number of settings and backdrops on canvasses large and small. Jewellers have fashioned it into an infinite variety of shapes and dimensions to be placed on a mantle or worn around the wrist or the neck. All of them sold for personal gain. There is no limit to how Mankind can continue to replicate 'the Cross' in an endless variety of images, even though it has ceased to exist in its true form for more two-thousand years!

What was the special significance of the Cross, before Christ was ever on it? It was nothing more than a cruel and detestable instrument of death. It meant nothing other than a painful, excruciating departure! So . . . what importance should the various physical art forms or images of the Cross continue to have? The awful contrivance accomplished its dastardly work on none more significant than Christ – the Son of God! It was designed to kill and it succeeded. Then it became empty – vacant. We don't have that Cross anymore. No one saw any religious value in it at the time. No one sought to keep it for future generations to view and admire as a key element of worship. All these manmade crosses, images of worship that we see strewn across the land, are just powerless, vain and useless symbols!

Some say that these artistic replicas of the Cross have a special meaning because they depict Christ as no longer on

it? Does an empty image of a cross mean that Christ was raised? Not at all! Thousands of people had been crucified. It only meant they were dead! Now an empty tomb – that's different! This was the proof that Christ was raised. The tomb had significance because until Christ, every dead person stayed there! As incredible as it was, that Christ was raised from the tomb – we don't see images of a tomb atop church steeples. We don't see it as etchings or paintings, hanging on sanctuary walls. We don't see it formed from precious metals and draped from someone's wrist or neck. How come? Why hasn't the church made it a staple of religious worship as they have the Cross?

To be blunt – tombs are depressing, scary places. While it is without a doubt, exciting proof that Mankind was raised together with Christ from death unto new life – a tomb just doesn't lend itself to mass marketing. There's just no way to make a tomb look good. Do you know anyone who ever took a picture of the headstone on a grave, to keep as a precious memento? Probably not! Even though we're certain that the spirit of that person is no longer there, to cherish such an object of remembrance would seem universally distasteful.

Like it or not, manmade images of the Cross are here to stay. Just as each country has a distinctive flag, an important symbol of their proud existence – the Christian church has its crosses, an instant reminder of all that they

hold to be true. Their crosses distinguish their brand from every other world religion – manufactured in every font from traditional to modern and in every size from towering to miniscule. Their crosses are still being sold through wholesale and retail outlets for monetary gain.

But really now . . . was the Cross ever meant to be copied and sold? Was the Cross ever meant to become a religious, corporate ‘logo’? Was the Cross ever meant to be part of a Christian service, at the foot of which, people should reverently kneel? Was the Cross ever meant to be hung on a wall as a work of art?

These replicated crosses, in all their imagined glory, are just silly idols – vain substitutes for the one, true Cross.

Article **29**

Is It Christ's Faith . . . Or Yours?

Have you ever wondered by whose faith it was that you were REDEEMED at the Cross?

It is routinely taught by Christian leaders, teachers, authors and pastors, that it was your faith combined with God's grace that resulted in your being RANSOMED by Christ on the Cross and rescued from the very clutches of sin and death. They teach that without your personal faith, the completed work of the Cross is ineffective, inoperative and not even applicable to you.

If we take a closer look at the verse most commonly referred to in answer to this question, we will be able to come away with a clear and unequivocal understanding. Ephesians 2: 8-9 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast."

It is abundantly clear that ‘grace’ has saved us! The verse begins with “For by grace you have been saved . . .” Grace alone has REDEEMED us! We have been purchased by the blood of Christ, to a most certain and secure destiny – an eternity spent in Heaven! It goes on to say, “. . . through faith . . .” This REDEMPTION took place through a thing, a device, a medium, a conduit, a method, a delivery system or however else you may wish to describe it, called faith. Immediately following this declaration are the words, “. . . and that not of yourselves. . .” Here we have the ‘disconnect’ – the complete and definitive separation of you or anyone else from the previous reference to grace, REDEMPTION and faith.

Mankind, either whole or in part, has nothing to do with any of these three elements!

Next, we have the words, “. . . it is a gift of God . . .” in an obvious reference to grace, REDEMPTION and faith being free to all with no strings attached, no obligation implied and no qualifications required.

Finally, we have the words, “. . . not of works lest anyone should boast.” Christian leaders don’t consider our faith to be works. If we know works to mean any contribution made by us toward grace, REDEMPTION or faith as it relates to this gift of God, then we must realize that any attempt to add our own personal faith, would

unquestionably be works. If our faith is required, then grace and REDEMPTION aren't free!

When we think about faith and whether it's yours or His, consider when Christ was in the Garden of Gethsemane. He was pleading with God, "Abba Father, all things are possible with thee; remove this cup from me: howbeit not what I will, but what thou wilt." Was it your faith that brought Him even a brief moment of comfort and solace?

When Christ was being so cruelly beaten along the narrow way leading to where the Cross would be placed with Him upon it, was it your faith that eased His pain even in the slightest degree?

When Christ was left alone and rejected upon the Cross to die as a RANSOM, securing the REDEMPTION of Mankind once and for all time, was it your faith that to any extent saw Him through His darkest moment?

Of course not! It was Christ's faith and His alone – that carried Him through the most horrific ordeal of death upon the Cross! It was Christ's faith and His alone – that brought victory over Satan, sin and death on behalf of and for the benefit of all Humanity! It was Christ's faith and his alone, that saw the perfect, finished work of the Cross completely banish judgement, punishment and eternal damnation while

at the same time unleashing God's unmerited and undeserved love, favor and eternal security upon all Mankind!

Let's be clear about one thing. Your own so-called faith has brought you absolutely none of the comfort, peace and joy you experience from the Gospel. If you understand it and consider rightly that it belongs to you, don't for one second think it was your faulty faith that brought the Gospel home to you. Your so-called faith has made nothing real – nothing true! It was all true before you came along!

Don't be quick to pat yourself on the back when someone assures you that your pathetic belief and your flimsy faith have brought you eternal life. It wasn't your faith being tested on the Cross that brought **REDEMPTION** to your sorry soul! It wasn't your faith found creditworthy that made **RECONCILIATION** a reality for all Mankind! All you did was understand the truth. Even if you didn't understand it; even if you didn't believe it; **REDEMPTION** can't just go away! How can you undo Christ's historical, finished work on the Cross? It's yours whether you believe it or not!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **30**

It's A Wonderful Life

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine a life of total freedom. What does it look like to you?

No doubt you're as relaxed as you've ever wanted to be. Peace and tranquility are your constant companions. You make all your own decisions for better or for worse. You aren't living in anyone's shadow. No one is pulling the strings of your life. No one can manipulate you through feelings of guilt or shame. You bring your own brand of honor, integrity, dependability and guts into each and every situation, wherever you happen to go. The power of individual freedom of thought goes with you into every controversy or predicament. Your life is directly in front of you and you can live it any way you choose. Whatever life has taught you, it's yours to apply as you see fit. Can you think of anything else you'd like to add? Go ahead. It's your life!

It all sounds pretty good, don't you think? Sure, it does. But we must never forget that the independence we enjoy today is the direct result of the brave men who fought and willingly gave their lives to secure our democratic way of life in two world wars. In the second place, we need always to remember that real freedom had its true beginning over two thousand years ago when a man named Jesus, the Son of God, gave His life as a perfect sacrifice for all of Humanity, on the Cross. In that moment, sin was nailed to the Cross, never to rise again. The great tempter, Satan, was forever humiliated, defeated and destroyed, never able to derail Humanity from its intended purpose ever again. All of Mankind was REDEEMED. Every man, woman and child, before and since the Cross, was brought back into right relationship with God, safe and secure for all eternity. No longer are we descendants of Adam on a collision course with judgement, death and HELL. From that earth-shaking moment of sacrifice on the Cross, every soul, whether living or dead, was given a new beginning, a new genealogy.

In the 'blink of an eye' we all became direct descendants of Christ!

This is the wonderful life. This is the Gospel life. Every person is a New Creation. Jew and Gentile brought together and united into ONE NEW MAN. A perfect wedding of Christ with Humanity that no man can put asunder! Nothing can undo this incredible work. The God of the

Universe who was able to hang the moon and the stars in the sky, found no hardship in rescuing Mankind. It was always His plan from before the establishment of time itself. Just how did it all begin?

Adam, God's first created man, unknowingly brought sin into the world as he ate the forbidden fruit. Satan, God's sworn enemy, tempted Adam with the idea that the fruit would transform him into God's perfect likeness. Adam had no idea that he was already just like God and proceeded to eat the fruit in violation God's direct command. Adam's individual capacity, for self-determination through free will, was exposed then and there in the face of God. And what was the immediate consequence? The original sin of disobedience, through unbelief, was instantly ascribed wholesale to the rest of Mankind, with no exceptions.

Opposition to the will of God through self-will, while powered by unbelief, terminated any possibility of spiritual communion. Any future hope of 'oneness' with God was for all intents and purposes – dead in the water. A despicable, unseen enemy had effectively dismantled God's unique relationship to Man with the devastating efficiency of a giant wrecking-ball! Man's disobedient, self-directed will, sent the entire race on a death spiral careening out of control to a most certain and dismal fate . . . eternal separation from God. Satan had unarguably achieved his most sought-after and highly prized objective!

For thousands of years, animal sacrifices in an earthly tabernacle could only conceal man's persistent sin of unbelief. Until in God's estimation we had finally reached the 'end of the ages' and 'the fulfillment of time' – this covering for sin would have to suffice. The appointed time would surely arrive when the ultimate price would at last be paid and sin in its original form, vanquished for all eternity.

As you know by now, it took another Adam, Jesus Christ alone and rejected upon the Cross, to correct Man's eternal trajectory. It took God's own Son and His perfect sacrifice, to deliver Man safely to his new eternal home. And just where would that be?

Unity and oneness in Christ – forever seated at the right hand of God!

Christ, as the only believer on earth while nailed to the Cross, became the RANSOM – the payment in full for Man's unrelenting sin of unbelief.

What was the result?

Unbelief could never again be billed to Man's account.

Any attempt to bring such a claim against Humanity, would be immediately dismissed as 'double jeopardy' (because Christ had already paid the penalty).

To eliminate the possibility of any indictment in the first place – the legal code listing every possible infraction, was abolished and Heaven’s court of justice, dismantled piece by piece.

Unbelief could never again keep any man, woman or child from an eternity spent with God in Heaven.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **31**

It's All About . . . the Money

Should it cost a lot of money to make the Gospel known to the world?

Think about it. Where do you see the price-tag listed on anything that God and Christ accomplished at the Cross? God's decision to offer up His Son, as a perfect sacrifice, certainly came at an exorbitant cost but not in terms of money, greenbacks, bread, cabbage, loot, smackers, clams, dough or however else you might choose to describe it. The finished work of the Cross, known as the Gospel, was absolutely free even as Christ was uttering His final words, "It is finished!" and such should be the case even now, over two thousand years later!

It should have been enough that one person would simply pass it to another and another and another until the truth of our REDEMPTION, our freedom in Christ, became known to every living soul. How did it happen that money should ever become part of the equation? The completed work of the Cross is the legal inheritance of Humanity. Should anyone be forced to pay for what is deemed to be rightfully theirs already? How is it possible that telling the simple truth of REDEMPTION would become so astronomically expensive?

You've probably heard the expression 'bait and switch'. Marketers often use this technique to sell products and ideas that bring a much higher price than the customer is initially willing to pay. They entice the buyer with what seems like an unbeatable deal on a lower priced item, only to bait their interest in something far more appealing and you guessed it, far more expensive! What has this got to do with the Gospel, you ask? As blunt and as harsh as it may sound, clever marketers have been selling their version of the Gospel for almost as long as it has existed!

So-called 'men of the cloth' have been sucking hard-earned money from the wallets of innocent men and women with the raw efficiency of a Hoover vacuum, while offering one simple explanation over and over, "It takes money and lots of it, to send the Gospel around the world!" What a load of hooey! If they were selling the Gospel, that

would certainly be awful enough, but if you look more closely, you'll see that what they're selling isn't really the Gospel at all!

Here's the 'bait and switch'. It's called Christianity. You think you're getting the Gospel but instead, you're getting an overpriced knock-off. You're getting a manmade invention; a worldly religion; a slick, fabricated product called 'the Christian life'. And it's all being perpetrated in the name of God and Christ. You're told that it's the Gospel, but in reality, it's something you never bargained for – a slipshod substitute, a total 'lemon' full of errors and mistakes!

Christian leaders are raking in profits from memberships, rules, regulations, surrender, obedience, commitment, sacrifice, guilt, sin, shame, contrition and remorse and it's rolling in by the truckload! Innocent followers are buying it up like there's no tomorrow! Sincere believers suckered by wolves in sheep's clothing are taking the bait – hook, line and sinker! Teachers, preachers, leaders and authors are funding their lifestyles on the backs of the duped masses.

It's a booming industry making the people at the top, wealthy beyond belief. If Christianity were to sell shares on the stock exchange, the price would go through the roof.

But they won't unleash it to the public. They want all the money for their greedy selves!

You might ask how it ever got this way. Well, it all started with the Catholic Church. For the first fifteen hundred years after the Cross, they owned the entire Christian franchise operation, lock, stock and barrel. Their leader, the Pope, was declared to be Christ incarnate and under him, a clever system was devised to sell forgiveness and eternal security to any and all that had the sufficient sum of money required to pay for it. Every function they performed had a hefty price. In short order, the Catholic Church became the wealthiest organization on earth and remains so to this very day.

In the sixteenth century a man came along by the name of Martin Luther. He rebelled against the high price of forgiveness. He protested against the exacting of money in exchange for eternal security and became the father of the Protestant Revolution. He along with many followers made a clean break from the Pope and his massive and corrupt money-making machine. Many smaller denominations rose up to fill the vacancy resulting from the split. Each formed a separate hierarchy that desperately needed new found money of its own. The leaders, teachers, preachers and authors working within each new Christian sect received pay that was commensurate with their ability to persuade new converts to enter their ranks. Fierce competition developed

between the disparate groups. Many preachers became wealthy and famous as recompense for their clever ‘fire and brimstone’ oratory. One such preacher would deliver a sermon on Sunday and then on Monday, sell copies to the public at large, raking in considerable profits.

So where do we stand today? Nothing has changed. In fact – it’s gotten worse! To start with, there are many more denominations requiring a great deal more money than ever before. Many Christian preachers, leaders, authors and teachers are fabulously wealthy, using their fame to receive free services and their status to reduce or eliminate taxation. They’re taking the Bible which is free to all and putting a price on it with each new book, sermon series, CD or DVD they manufacture! It’s a scam of absolutely astronomical proportions! The ‘bait and switch’ that had its introduction in the early Catholic Church, spread like a virus through Protestant denominations and is operating at peak strength today.

The shame of it all lies in the fact that the real Gospel, the one that Jesus asked to be taken throughout the world, has for all practical purposes, never been told. His request was so simple. Just go into the world and share the good news of peace between God and Man. But instead, what did we get? We got dos and don’ts. We got musts and must nots. Christianity isn’t selling freedom for freedom’s sake; it’s selling abject slavery! Their product isn’t truth and

knowledge; it's faith and hope. Their slick invention isn't peace and tranquility; it's fear and uncertainty. Their glossy product isn't perfect and complete; it's always under construction and with more to come. Their clever creation isn't the Gospel; it's just . . . 'the Christian life'. All you're getting is a frustrating, disillusioning, disconcerting factory-made look-alike, complete with all the destructive side-effects.

But isn't that just the way?

When you take a manmade pill to fix an ailment, you often wind up with three other problems you never had before. It's no different with Christianity – it too is a manmade pill. It fixes absolutely nothing and yet with each sermon, the pastor hands out more and you feel even worse. You can tell him that it's not working but your plea is wasted on a deaf ear. All he understands is what he's been taught. All he can offer is what he's being paid to give. If he stops prescribing, his paycheques stop coming!

Can you see now that Christianity is all about the money? Without money the entire Christian franchise, Catholic Church and all, involving at its core dozens of separate and distinct denominations, would fall into receivership overnight. Thousands of buildings that lie dormant all week long, with the exception of twice on Sunday, would be put on the auction block for a quick sale.

Wealthy, big name preachers on radio and TV would vanish as quickly as you could snap your fingers. The complete manmade phenomenon known as Christianity, together with their proudest achievement and greatest legacy, ‘the Christian life’, would cease to exist.

What could possibly remain after such total devastation? Go ahead and take a wild guess. If you’re thinking ‘the Gospel’ – you’re right! If Christianity were to come crashing down around us like the fragile house of cards that it is, the one thing we would still have is the only thing that ever really mattered in the first place – the **REDEMPTION** of Mankind. It’s free. It requires no money to sustain. It needs no buildings. It needs no costly, theologically trained preachers. It needs no expensive, mega ministries to propel their founders to unimaginable heights of fame and fortune. The Gospel has need of nothing, because it was completed and put to rest over two thousand years ago with Christ’s perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **32**

It Was All About ‘Me, Me, Me’?

Don't you just love singing the great hymns of old? Keeping a dry eye is next to impossible. Many would agree that nothing today comes even close to what the writers of centuries past were able to pen. Yet who can deny that their inspirational works seem to dwell on the benefits to one's own 'self', to the virtual exclusion of Christ's true accomplishment – the REDEMPTION of all? Here's just a small sampling of titles that should make the point clear enough: Jesus Loves Me, Precious Lord – Take My Hand, Oh How I Love Jesus, Abide With Me, Just As I Am, All The Way My Saviour Leads Me, Take My Life And Let It Be, I Surrender All, He Touched Me, Pass Me Not, Love Lifted Me, Make Me A Blessing Today, It Is Well With My Soul, My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less.

When one considers the enormous impact that Christ's death on the Cross had on Humanity, doesn't this nearsightedness seem puzzling? Must it always come down to 'me, myself and I'?

The explanation is simple. Christian leaders have turned the focus of the Cross away from the REDEMPTION (purchase) of Mankind. They've created a narrative involving a personal work of salvation – putting you at the center. He took your place. He died for you. He bought your sin. He made Heaven your eternal home. It was you that He cared about. Forget the rest of the world. You can't vouch for them. All you can attest to – is what He's done for you. Your OK, so what else matters?

Guess what comes next?

Christian leaders will introduce you to the flip side of 'it's all about me'. It's called – 'it's all for Him'. The fun is over. It's time to pay the piper. You're in for a lifetime of servitude. You're told to surrender your hopes, dreams, desires and ambitions; to die to your 'self' every day; to do whatever God requires you to do; to commit the rest of your life to Him; and it doesn't stop there! Remember the words of that beloved hymn that says, "Jesus paid it all. All to Him I owe." Leaders will make this your life's mantra. Vacillate even a tiny bit and they'll remind you, "If you were

the only person on earth, Jesus would have gone to the Cross just for you!” Oh no! How do you resist that?

Did God really sacrifice His only Son for such a selfish end? Uh-uh! The real Gospel is the REDEMPTION of the Human race. Sorry – but Jesus wasn’t thinking of you on the Cross. He was PURCHASING every person who would ever live! He became the sum total of a brand-new creation called ONE NEW MAN! So why limit your perspective to ‘me . . . me . . . me’? When you sing “Rock of ages cleft for me”, know that everyone else has been placed in the same Rock, alongside you. When you sing, “Jesus loves me, this I know”, consider that He loved every other person in every generation, with the same love. When you sing, “All the way my Saviour leads me”, realize that God has brought you and everyone else, living or dead, to Himself in Christ!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **33**

Jesus Christ Judged Guilty For Sins of Mankind

Is this not an amazing fact? Jesus took upon Himself the accumulated sin of all Mankind. God declared Him guilty in the stead of every man, woman and child, going all the way back to Adam and as if that wasn't enough, God literally made Him to 'be' sin!

At the moment of Christ's death upon the Cross, Jesus Christ **ACTUALLY WAS SIN!** Imagine looking up the word 'sin' in the dictionary and instead of finding a lengthy definition, you find just one word – Jesus. How incredible would that be? Wouldn't you be glad to know that the word had nothing to do with you? Well that's exactly what happened. Jesus became sin. Sin became Jesus. For a brief time, they were one and the same. Thankfully we know the story didn't end there, as sin died in Christ once and for all,

NAILED to the Cross! Christ, having canceled the sin debt upon His death, triumphantly rose to take His place at the right hand of God in HEAVEN. Is that not the definition of a happy ending if you've ever heard one?

How was it possible that Jesus, so loaded down with sin (the result of thousands of years of Humanity's unbelief and disobedience beginning with Adam) was able to escape an eternity in HELL?

Christian leaders tell us that HELL is the price to pay for sin and yet the most sin laden man in all of human history (the one man to be legally 'MADE SIN' in the place of all Mankind), rose to sit with God in HEAVEN! Uh-oh! How do you suppose these leaders will side-step this most obvious contradiction?

One explanation might be that Jesus only carried Mankind's sin to the Cross. He was never stained by it and He was certainly never guilty of it. Another explanation might be that because He was God's own Son, it would be preposterous to think He could spend more than a few days in HELL. The Son would simply have to return to the Father. God wouldn't have it any other way! A third explanation might be, that Jesus just took the sin of Mankind and 'dropped it off' in HELL, at the time of His brief visit there and was then able to ascend to the Father, pure and spotless!

The Gospel truth stands in stark contrast to any of these three explanations.

God, acting on His authority as Supreme Ruler and Judge, would have had no choice but to send Christ to HELL for all eternity if it had been a requirement of the Law. God upheld the Law at the Cross. He sentenced His Son to death on the Cross to satisfy the demands of the Law. How hard would it have been to ship Jesus straight to HELL and keep Him there forever, if it was actually part and parcel of those demands? There is no doubt about it. The Law made no such stipulation. An eternity spent in HELL was NOT included in the payment for sin.

The two methods acceptable for full payment of sin involved either the death of all of Humanity, all together and all at once – OR – the death of one special person deemed to be of equal or greater value. Of the two options, we know that God chose the latter. If He had really wanted to, He could have terminated Humanity on the spot. Of course, we know that He chose differently. He decided instead to rescue Mankind at the expense of His own precious Son, Jesus. As a result, the Law was fully satisfied. It could never require another death. Mankind's sin account was marked 'paid in full' and subsequently – closed forever!

So how do we get from all this, that any man, woman or child who fails to make a confession of faith will have to

pay for their own sin, by enduring an after-life of eternal separation from God in a place called HELL?

It makes absolutely no sense.

In the first place, any one individual would have a miniscule number of sins on his account compared to Christ – and yet He was spared? Where would the justice be in that?

In the second place, Jesus was actually deemed to ‘be sin’. He took into Himself all the sin that existed in the world. The world was now emptied of it and even the word ‘sin’ itself, had no further meaningful application.

In the third place, a person would never be permitted to pay for their sin debt with their own body, because it wasn’t considered to be the legal medium of exchange. Only Christ’s body was the proper, bona fide currency for sin, because of His perfect, uncontaminated blood.

In the fourth place, there wouldn’t be any place or kiosk in HELL that could be licensed or authorized to receive such a payment for sin.

In the fifth place, as we mentioned earlier – He had His opportunity to dispense with Mankind altogether by

pronouncing it 'guilty as charged' but He chose to charge His Son instead.

In the sixth place, the legal code was abolished upon Christ's death, so there would be no point of reference upon which to pronounce any charge against any man, regardless of the severity.

There you have it.

The whole matter concerning sin, death and Hell is out of your hands and beyond your control – and so it is with REDEMPTION! Jesus paid Humanity's sin debt (over 2,000 years ago) and in the very same moment – purchased us out of the 'Law of Sin and Death, into the 'Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ'. You don't have the power and authority to revoke it, whether you choose to believe it or not.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 34

Jesus Wasn't God's 'Plan B'

We hear it all the time, don't we? Christian leaders, teachers, authors and preachers talk about Christ's birth, death and resurrection as if it were God's 'Plan B' – His 'go to' plan in the event Adam should fail. We're supposed to believe that it was this Adam, in the Garden of Eden, that represented Humanity's best first chance at eternal communion with God. The future of Mankind would hang in the balance as long as Adam was at destiny's helm. If he showed himself skillful in his maneuvering, he could keep our vessel afloat. If on the other hand he should decide to change direction, he might run us aground, taking himself and every other human being ever to be born, to a deep and desolate grave. For the sake of a countless multitude of souls, he must never weaken, never grow weary and never

stray from God's charted course. He must remain obedient to his final breath.

Over and over again, Christian leaders drive home the idea that if Adam had just performed as he should have; if he had just followed instructions to the letter; if he had just guided our ship of fortune with endless, robotic conformity, never having slipped in the Garden; the necessity of being 'born again' in Christ could have been avoided altogether.

If Adam and everyone born after him could have skippered Humanity's ark with unwavering compliance, never crossing God from one generation to the next, ours would have been a life of ease and plenty in the company of our Maker –without ever the need of a Saviour. Hooray for 'Plan A'! Oh really? Uh-oh! It was never destined to be! Subservience was never included in our DNA! God never built it in, so how could we live it out? To suggest that we wouldn't offend God sooner or later, is so naive! We were designed to test boundaries and explore freedom. A little-known feature called 'self-determination' was included in the prototype. Knowing this . . . was Adam's choice in the Garden, really a catastrophic failure? Not at all! Adam was only performing as he was made to. But hey, don't dare tell Christian leaders that! They regret Adam's decision. For them, it was a catastrophic fall, ending a life of blissful ease. Ever since then, they've been struggling to get it back through slavish submission and lock-step obedience.

Look! God had a plan to unite all things to Himself through His Son, Jesus, long before Adam ever existed. It's foolish to think He would ever need a . . . 'Plan B'! If it wasn't for Christ bringing Humanity to its death in the same instant as His death on the Cross, and if it wasn't for His resurrection and our being raised in Him in less time than it takes to blink – we would have remained just an image, a shadow, a copy, a type of Christ. Try as we might to think, talk and act like Him while pointing in His direction – we could never have abided in Him. We would have been forever on the outside looking in. Thankfully, it was God's 'Plan A', Christ on the Cross, that put every man, woman and child ever born, on the inside of Him looking out for all eternity!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **35**

Judgment After Grace?

If there's one thing Christians know a lot about – it's judgment. They study every verse in the Bible that has anything at all to do with punishment. They attempt to live their lives largely from the perspective of avoiding this dreaded possibility. Their main firewall of protection is their personal belief, but it doesn't end there. Whatever else it takes in the way of discipline and perseverance is never too much, when it's weighed against the awful prospect of an eternity spent in HELL. Of course, in their better moments, when they aren't consumed with walking the treacherous tightrope of righteous behavior, they turn their attention to a vast landscape crowded with unbelievers and the horrific destiny that awaits them.

No one understands the persuasive nature of eternal punishment better than those holding leadership positions within the organized Christian church. Fear of judgement is a commonly used tool designed to drive the innocent masses of Humanity to their knees. Who hasn't heard the question posed by so many Christian leaders, "If you were to die today, can you say for certain that you would go to Heaven?" If the individual waffles even slightly in response to this most damning question, the pointer on the 'Hell-O-Meter' suddenly springs southward and glows 'red hot'! As if a gun were pointed right at their head, the respondent has no choice but to reply, "Well no – not exactly." Of course, the next question is, "Wouldn't you like to know for sure?" The respondent answers obediently, "Well, I guess so." What follows is the most disgraceful display of ignorance and abuse that you could possibly imagine!

The Christian leader bluntly informs the innocent listener that if he should die today, he's going straight to HELL with no in-flight meals and no stop-overs along the way. Like it or not, he's up to his chin in sin! Everything he's ever done wrong is permanently recorded in big, bold, black lettering and will be there to accuse him when he takes his final breath. Some preachers even go as far as to say that a huge 3-D, IMAX theatre screen will be there to reveal his or her every indiscretion for all to see regardless of how bold or how slight. At this point, the poor listener has only one option – plead for forgiveness and hand over

the control of his life to God – lock, stock and barrel. Any failure to comply will result in a one-way ticket to the most nightmarish destination imaginable. We're talking about a fiery furnace so hot, that it makes the blast furnace at the local foundry feel like an ice-cold Frigidaire! This most miserable of scenarios exactly as described, is played out somewhere in the world countless times every day. An innocent life is made to feel fearful of a most terrible judgement and left with no alternative but to comply with Christian demands.

It's a lie!

The whole sickening procedure makes a disgusting and disgraceful mockery of Christ's suffering and death upon the Cross! How dare you, Christian leader, to tell anyone that their destiny is HELL unless they follow your phoney instructions to the letter. How dare you force anyone to plead for mercy and beg for forgiveness only because it must be done according to your own perverted blueprint. How dare you tell anyone that they must hand over complete control of their life in lock-step conformity to a lifeless template based strictly on doctrinal teaching. You're spitting on the Cross every time you make such a demand! Enough with your incessant drum beat of awful decrees. It's all no more than a despicable scam – a shameful and fraudulent crime! Every person regardless of what they might believe, is forgiven and sinless as a result of Christ's

perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross and NOT because they make a desperate plea. Sin was effectively removed from Humanity when it died in Christ on the Cross – never to return again!

Any preacher or church leader, in any capacity whatsoever, who tells a person that they must surrender their life completely over to God, should be slapped silly! To begin with – it isn't even possible.

There's no method or procedure by which a person can voluntarily turn over their life. It's a 'pipe dream' – a vain imagination! No one can place their life outside the bounds of their own control. It's preposterous to even contemplate such a thing. Unless we're talking about an extreme cult that utilizes severe mind control techniques along with sleep and food deprivation to completely dominate the thoughts and actions of its subjects – it has never and will never be done. It's altogether beyond the realm of possibility.

To make someone think that they can live a life of true, complete, daily surrender to God and to push them in that direction, is nothing short of serial maltreatment and abuse of the worst, most despicable kind! The merciless struggle will always be met with disappointment, frustration and disillusionment. The eventual outcome will always be anxiety, stress and mental break-down leading to every kind of sickness and disease known to man.

Christian leaders, if you wish to live in bondage to the fear of retribution, constant confession of sin and slavish dedication to daily surrender, that's your own choice. You have no business however, telling others that judgment follows grace any more than cruelty follows kindness or indebtedness follows a gift. You should be reminded that the 'fulfillment of time' met the 'end of the ages' at the Cross. It was at that precise moment that God unleashed the full force of His wrath, anger and judgment once and for all time and to the greatest extent possible upon His own Son, Jesus Christ. God has nothing left over to throw at Mankind, even if the Law could somehow allow it – which it can't. The demands of the Law were fully met by Christ's death upon the Cross on behalf of every man, woman and child that has ever lived, before or since that moment. The sin debt was paid in full, the account forever closed and the legal code totally abolished. Christ's death on the Cross effectively purchased Humanity's release from the controlling legal system at the time known as, the 'Law of Sin and Death'.

The once prevailing legal system built around a judge, a courtroom, an advocate, a defendant, a plea of guilty or innocent, an application for mercy, a final decree of punishment and a death upon a Cross – is over. The Judge has dropped the gavel for the last time. It can never happen again. The condition of sovereignty, as it had existed uninterrupted from the time of Moses, all the way to the

Cross, has been transferred to a new and different legal entity. A wholly unique and special Dominion called the 'Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ', has shaken and destroyed the status quo. A dispensation ruled only by 'grace' (the unwarranted and undeserved favor of God) has been unleashed upon all Mankind. The 'Law and Sin and Death' is dead and gone.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **36**

Not a Christian Any More

How have Christian leaders persuaded so many believers that they must call themselves a Christian in order to truly partake in the inheritance of eternal life?

What do you suppose it would take to turn this long-standing manmade order of things completely on its head? What would it take to proclaim to others for the first time, “I’m not a Christian anymore!” or “The Gospel is all I need!”? What would it take to openly confess, “I renounce any association whatsoever with Christianity because the leadership has either no idea what the Gospel is, or they purposely and stubbornly strive to avoid it!”?

Just how much do you suppose it would take in guts and determination, to turn down forever the label of Christian or ‘follower of Christ’ and in its place, embrace a title of your own choice like for instance; New Creation,

leader in Christ, Ambassador in Christ, lover of the Gospel truth, participant in grace, Gospel Lifer, Gospelite or what have you? Can you hear the chatter within tight Christian circles, as the news spreads ‘faster than a hair piece in a hurricane’ that you are openly declaring yourself to no longer be a Christian?

Christians or followers of Christ have earned for themselves such a bad reputation. Is it any wonder that a normal, thoughtful, fully functioning person, might just want to be known by another moniker altogether? Followers of Christ haven’t existed since Christ’s perfect sacrifice on the Cross except in their own dull, drab, unenlightened imaginations. At the moment of Christ’s death, all of Humanity was in that moment deemed to have died in Him. From that time forward and even as Christ was raised from the dead, Mankind was safely and securely contained in Him for all eternity. Any possibility of following Christ was lost to the far greater honor and privilege of being carried inside Him, to that glorious position in Heaven known as the right hand of God.

Followers of Christ, even as this expression would aptly suggest, are stuck in the past. They’re living an Old Testament life in a New Testament world. As if completely unaware of their position inside Christ, they struggle day in and day out to follow Christ to the minutest degree, a little to the right – a little to the left. They’ll do whatever it takes

to somehow stay atop the imaginary footprints that trail His misty, illusive presence, so as not to lose their way in such a dark and dismal world. As followers, they voluntarily assign themselves to a life of trivial pursuit. They seek to fill their bellies with nourishment that can only be gotten from those relatively few within the ranks of Christianity with the appropriate credentials, looked up to and revered as leaders, teachers, authors and pastors. This handful of self-proclaimed leaders and instructors in the skillfully crafted art of the Christian life, stand atop the pyramid of clamoring souls anxious to receive just one more, tiny morsel of life-giving sustenance.

The so-called leaders of this limitless domain, see the fruits of their labor every waking day in the form of cash money from book sales, CD and DVD sales, conventions and tithes that flood in from parishioners who dutifully fill churches in communities big and small across the land. For Christian leaders in every category from famous to obscure, it's just too good to be true. They can hardly fathom how easy it is to stand beneath the Christian mantle of empty religion; support the generally accepted Christian doctrines; teach the wholly manufactured Christian life; tell repeated stories from the Bible that bolster Christian rules and obligations; conveniently sidestep the completed works of the Cross and the REDEMPTION of all Mankind and then; watch the money flow freely down like a crushing monsoon supplying their every need and then some.

Is it any wonder that someone with a brain in their head might just decide to step away from this mindless crowd? Is it hard to believe that upon knowing his or her true position in Christ, an individual might just break free from the endless, guilt ridden and tiresome march of Christianity, to find rest in the full accomplishments of Christ upon the Cross?

Is it hard to conceive that a person might just want to step off the burdensome treadmill of ‘constant learning and becoming’, to find peace and tranquility in the finished work of Christ’s perfect sacrifice otherwise known as

. . . the wonderful Gospel truth?

Article **37**

One New Man in Christ

Honestly, is there anything more misunderstood among believers than the concept of ‘One New Man’?

It’s a simple enough idea. It’s clearly explained in Paul’s book to the Ephesians. Yet it continues to be mistakenly interpreted and wrongly taught. To compound the error surrounding this astounding work of the Cross, it is seldom if ever taught in the first place. Can you believe that according to Christian leaders, authors, teachers and pastors, we should still be waiting for this ‘One New Man’ to make his debut? It hasn’t happened yet? It’s so typical of Christian authorities to take Christ’s finished works and propel them far beyond our reach and comprehension.

It’s common practice to link the benefits of Christ’s perfect sacrifice intended for us in the here and now, to an event considered far more important – His ‘Second

Coming'. As captivating as the thought of Christ's Second Coming is, nearly sixty generations and more than two thousand years have come and gone since the Cross and not one solitary person has ever been so fortunate as to cast their eyes upon it. In stark contrast, Christ's accomplishments on the Cross are carved in stone. They're here for all eternity. They can be enjoyed to the fullest right now. So why don't we take a closer look at this 'One New Man' and see how it so miraculously benefits us?

Let's examine some key quotes from Ephesians 2 starting with, "And you were dead in your trespasses and sins". Next, we read, "But God being rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (for by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, . . ." "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God: . . ." "Therefore, remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh . . . were at that time separate from Christ . . . having no hope and without God in the world." "But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, . . . that in Himself, He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, and

might reconcile them both in one body to God through the Cross, by it having put to death the enmity.” “So, then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household . . .”

So, there you have it; a thorough examination of what is meant by ‘One New Man’ and how it applies to every person that has ever lived, before and since the Cross, whether they happen to believe it or not.

Now we know that Christian pastors, leaders, authors and teachers say that these verses apply only to those who have made a personal confession of faith and no one else. But we can see for ourselves that Jew and Gentile without any such confession, were brought near through one thing only – the blood of Christ!

We can see that He made both groups into one, with no mention of belief being a necessary requirement. We can see even as we look to Ephesians chapter 3:6, this absolute confirmation; “to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. . .” No mention is made of having to believe.

Can you think of anyone who might be currently dead in trespasses and sins, the same way that you once were? It shouldn’t be difficult. We all know people who profess no

interest and no belief whatsoever in God or Christ. Some boldly proclaim to be atheists. Yet how should we think of them? Should we continue to insist that they're steeped in sin, unreconciled, unredeemed and on their way to eternal damnation in a place called Hell? Instead, go back to Ephesians 2 and put those same souls in the verses that applied to you when you thought you were dead, like this, "While they still remain dead in their trespasses and sins, God being rich in mercy because of his great love with which He loved us . . . has made them alive together with Christ and raised them up with Him and seated them with Him in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus." Did you find it hard to do? Is there a part of you that is appalled at the thought that these verses apply equally to other people who you consider to be still dead in sin? Do you continue to hold that these verses only apply to you and your fellow believers?

If we're ever going to understand God's love, we must come to grips with the awesome truth that God has made provision for all of His creation, through Christ. We must step outside the borders of religious doctrine and look truth squarely in the face. Once that wall of separation comes crashing down, you'll gain an insight into God's love that you never had before. You'll see everyone you meet as God's precious possession!

Article **38**

Preachers Still Teach ‘Sin and Death’

[Starting with Romans 7 and verse 8] “But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin is dead. And I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive, and I died; and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; for sin, taking the opportunity through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me. So then the Law is holy and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. Therefore, did that which is good become a cause of death for me? May it never be! Rather it was sin, in order that it might be shown to be sin by effecting my death through that which is good, that through the commandment, sin might become utterly sinful. For we

know that the Law is spiritual; but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.

For that which I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. But if I do the very thing I do not wish to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that it is good. So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which indwells me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the wishing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. For the good that I wish, I do not do; but I practice the very evil that I do not wish. But if I am doing the very thing that I do not wish, I am no longer the one doing it, but the sin which dwells in me. I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wishes to do good. For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind, and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”

All of this writing had to do with Paul's historical description of life in general, prior to Christ's victory over sin at the Cross; first before the Law from Adam to Moses and moving next to the period between Moses and Christ's crucifixion. Paul goes on to describe his liberation from Sin and Death, resulting from Christ's perfect sacrifice. “Thanks

be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the 'law of God', but with the other, with my flesh the 'law of sin'. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the 'law of the spirit of life in Christ' has set you free from the 'law of sin and death'. For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."

So, having looked closely at Paul's discourse in chapter seven, we can see where Christian leaders and preachers have gotten it so wrong. Bad teaching has left Christians stranded in a state of perpetual bewilderment over the idea that they don't do what they should and they do what they shouldn't. They live every day in a constant battle with their flesh; their old, wretched selves. This is an undeniable admission that Christianity is NOT in agreement with Christ's accomplished works on the Cross. Christian pastors, leaders, authors and teachers are still living in the Old Testament. They're swamped in sin, guilt and shame. And they're teaching this garbage to their followers! Paul clearly states that he has left his battle with the flesh by saying, "Thanks be to God through Christ Jesus our Lord!" He knows that the Law of Sin and Death (man's legal state

prior to the Cross because of Adam) has been replaced by the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ (Man's new legal status after the Cross because of Jesus Christ's perfect sacrifice). How tragic it is, that Christians are still living under 'Sin and Death' not by choice but by teaching. They've been solidly indoctrinated into this mistaken view!

“For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did:” Is this not the most wonderful news you've ever heard? God accomplished what Man trapped in his contrary nature never could! It didn't stop there. It goes on to say, “. . . sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh. . .” This is the most brilliant part of God's plan to rescue Humanity. Jesus had only the appearance of sinful flesh. He only looked like sinful flesh. His flesh was always in total agreement with God. His appearance was exactly the same as Man. His nature was completely different. In Adam, all of Mankind was locked into an adversarial position with God, in constant discord and stubborn opposition. It doesn't even stop there. Paul goes on to say, “. . . and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the requirement of the Law [death] might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh [in opposition to God] but according to the Spirit [total agreement with God and His completed works].”

“There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” Christians repeat this line over and over to themselves, yet they never adopt it as reality. They can never get beyond the illusion that they’re still trapped inside their sinful bodies, unable to ever escape – unable to ever comply as they think they should with the will of God. They don’t get that they’ve been set free. They can’t get a handle on God’s point of view. They flatly turn down any chance to live on the front side of the Cross. Yet at this point Christians are quick to say that even this pathetic daily struggle to subdue their ‘old man’, applies only to people who have accepted Christ as their personal Savior. Everyone else is left out and completely ignored. This is where they insert their doctrine of two creations, old and new, living and co-existing side by side. How mistaken they are!

In the First Adam, all of Humanity was caught in the unrelenting grip of a universal law; the Law of Sin and Death. No one lived outside of this law. It was the governing legal framework of every living soul, whether Jew or Gentile. It was not until Christ’s perfect sacrifice on the Cross, that Mankind was released from the Law of Sin and Death and in the blink of an eye transposed into a new Dominion; the ‘Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ’. No single individual’s decision could ever bring again into existence, the old law that God had fulfilled and caused to expire. Jesus Christ condemned sin in the flesh and killed it

on the Cross! A new, universal, legal and binding framework called ‘the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ’ immediately took its place over all Mankind. “Freedom for the sake of freedom” was the resounding call that echoed across the landscape of Humanity.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **39**

Redemption; What Does It Really Mean?

What an amazing word!

There's no other word like it. Many would agree that it's the most powerful word in the Bible. It clearly refers to the purchase of all Mankind made possible by the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ upon the Cross. However, if you should choose to believe the common interpretation taught by Christian leaders of every denominational stripe, you would have no choice but to come away with a much lower opinion. You would be left with the distinct impression that its meaning was in fact woefully deficient and desperately weak. REDEMPTION . . . it only happens if you believe in you heart and confess with your mouth. REDEMPTION . . . it didn't really happen for everyone at the Cross over 2,000 years ago. REDEMPTION . . . it wasn't solely the result of

Christ's perfect sacrifice for the sin of all Mankind upon that Cross. REDEMPTION . . . it wasn't just God's and Christ's idea from conception to completion. REDEMPTION . . . it didn't purchase every life from the most noble and admired to the most disgusting and vile.

To understand REDEMPTION in the light of Christian teaching is to literally cut it off at the hips! REDEMPTION the way the church teaches it, depends completely on you. God came only half way and now you must reciprocate as if to somehow meet Him in some nebulous place in between. Think about it. Doesn't this sound to you like a 'fifty/fifty' proposition? C'mon now! Is the Creator of the Universe really just a 'fifty/fifty' God? If you should fail to do your part, are you really supposed to think that Christ's purchase made at the Cross can never reach you personally? Are you really supposed to swallow the fanciful notion that without your personal decision to believe, you'll miss out completely on any chance at a secure, eternal inheritance in a place called HEAVEN? Christian leaders think so! They say it will be your fault entirely. You'll have only yourself to blame. If you fail to jump through the hoops exactly as prescribed, there will be no recourse left to you but to pay for your own sin. You'll be forced to go it alone and attempt to REDEEM yourself by the only other payment option available to you; an eternity spent in HELL with no chance of parole.

What a joke!

What a pathetic explanation and interpretation of the most wonderful event ever to take place in all of human history!

To say that an eternity made secure at the Cross by an historical, legal transaction strictly between God and Christ, requires each person to believe and confess – is to draw a completely unsound and unjustifiable conclusion. One has to be living in a total dream world, to think they must approve, accept, receive or believe that REDEMPTION has taken place, for it to actually become a completed, historical event in a person's life.

Even in the simplest of human terms, if a higher authority such as a court judge declares a person to be pardoned from a past crime, it takes effect immediately. The freed individual neither has to believe or confess anything for it to become a reality. The judge alone makes the determination. Even if the pardoned individual fails to receive notification, the pardon takes full effect from the moment the judge places his official signature and stamp upon the document.

In another instance, if a higher authority such as Revenue Canada or the IRS informs an individual that he or she owes \$1,000 in unpaid taxes, it becomes a reality

whether it is received or not – with no requirement whatsoever to believe or confess. All that remains is to either contest the amount through the proper channels or pay the bill.

In yet another case, if a higher authority such as a policeman was to stop an individual on a side street and issue a ticket for running a stop sign, the offender would bear no requirement to believe or confess but only to either mount some kind of rational defense or pay the fine.

In every situation, when dealing with a decision made by a higher authority including God, there is never the requirement to first believe it or confess it in order for it to become reality. The only logical case that can be made for the necessity of having to believe, is that it informs the mind as to what has truly taken place. In regard to any particular historical event, an individual has the clear freedom of choice to either believe something or deny it.

How often have we heard Christian leaders recite Romans 10 and verse 9, “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.” They teach that this word ‘saved’ refers to your being **REDEEMED** in the moment you first believe – deliberately blurring, confusing and falsifying its correct meaning.

REDEMPTION doesn't happen to you right now, just because you decide to believe it and confess it! It's a completed work – the result of Christ's perfect sacrifice upon the Cross over 2,000 years ago.

To be clear, REDEMPTION is NOT what is being referred to in this verse! The 'saving' mentioned here refers only to the rescuing of the individual from a possible lifetime of ignorance that could result from not having a true understanding of REDEMPTION, as it pertains to every man, woman and child born before or since the Cross.

Article 40

Righteousness Came to All

[**R**omans 5: 6-21] “For when we still were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners [unbelievers living in opposition to God], Christ died for us. Much more then, having been [as unbelievers] justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we shall rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received [finally understood and agreed with] the reconciliation.”

“Therefore, as by one man, sin entered the world, and death by sin, and thus death spread in all men, because all sinned – (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Never the less, death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him to come. But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man’s offense man [all] died, much more by the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, have abounded to many [all]. And the gift is not like that which came through the one man who sinned. For the judgement which came from one offense resulted in condemnation [to all], but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification [to all].”

“For if by the one man’s offense death reigned by the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as by one man’s offense judgement came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so by one Man’s righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man’s disobedience many [all] were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many [all] will be made righteous. Moreover, the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin has reigned in death, even so grace might reign

through righteousness to eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.”

How can Christian leaders justify their position in the light of these verses?

How can they adamantly insist that only believers are reconciled; only believers are justified; only believers are made righteous in Christ; only believers possess the free gift of eternal life?

While we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son. While we were sinners, we were justified by His blood. By one Man’s righteous act, the grace (unmerited favor) and the free gift (eternal life) came to all men. By one Man’s obedience, all will be made righteous. It couldn’t be any plainer.

Paul goes to great lengths through persistent repetition, to drive the truth of the Gospel (the Good News) home to his readers. Christ died for the ungodly. No one measured up. Everyone was a loser when it came to justification, reconciliation, righteousness, REDEMPTION and eternal life, apart from Christ. No one came anywhere near to qualifying. If Christ didn’t REDEEM everyone – He couldn’t REDEEM anyone!

Belief isn’t the antidote for Man’s failure!

Belief never was and never could be the cure-all for Mankind's woes!

Christ's REDEMPTION of Humanity by His death on the Cross was the only eternal elixir, regardless of a man's personal persuasion.

The only excuse that Christian leaders have, for pushing their agenda of entitlement by and through belief, is exclusivity – that sense of having arrived, of having finally made it, of having passed the scrutiny of Almighty God.

Insisting on man's own belief or faith as the qualifier for the free gift of eternal life is nothing more than 'works', under a different name. You imagine that somehow your belief slips beneath the radar undetected. You think your faith can never be construed as 'work'. But it came from you! Your personal contribution to REDEMPTION and eternal life in whatever form, whether mental, physical or spiritual – is your own effort, no matter how vigorously you deny it!

Your faith never made you triumphant over the enemy. Your victory was won by Christ alone, at the Cross.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **41**

Satan Is Humiliated, Defeated & Destroyed

Does this sound like good news to you? Does the knowledge that Satan is defeated, humiliated and destroyed put a smile on your face?

It should!

It's one very important part of the finished work of Christ upon the Cross. It's one critically vital piece out of many that have everything to do with His perfect and complete sacrifice on behalf of all Mankind. As you might know, in the Old Testament, Satan was forever testing God's people. He would criss-cross the face of the earth in search of someone to torment or as he might put it – 'sift', an idea similar to a process used to separate wheat from chaff or gold from sandy soil. He would have to ask God

for permission before he could proceed to antagonize anyone at all. If God was to allow such a thing, He would make certain stipulations regarding the type and severity of any such afflictions and Satan would be required to stay precisely within those confines.

God's people throughout the centuries were beset again and again with challenges and set-backs. We can only assume that Satan had a great deal to do with such trials and tribulations. Would he have a continuing part to play in the refining of human character? What was to become of him, in his duly authorized role as God's appointed adversary to the 'apple of His eye' – the Jewish nation of Israel? As good fortune would have it, after many thousands of years of disappointing and lack-luster performance on the part of God's chosen people, the Devil's days were numbered. Satan's unique job description as 'God's character builder and refiner', would soon be terminated and he along with it. Satan wasn't living up to expectations, pure and simple. God's chosen ones were still in constant rebellion. They just wouldn't put their trust completely in Him, preferring instead to go their own way and do their own thing at every turn. No one was making the grade. Israel was an abject failure.

It was time for the ultimate solution!

As God had already determined from before the beginning of time, He would make not just Israel, but all of Mankind – perfect! That’s right . . . spotless, blameless and righteous to boot! He would bring His own Son into the world as a helpless baby. At the appointed time, that Son, Jesus Christ – a mature, fully grown adult, would make His way to the Cross. He would put away the sins of Man for all time and through His own death and resurrection, cause Humanity to die and be re-born in Him.

While the Devil would have no doubt been instrumental in getting Christ to the Cross, he would have no idea it was to be his last assignment – no idea that he and his cohorts would soon be locked away in a place made exclusively for him. Satan doesn’t bother anyone anymore!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 42

Slaves of Righteousness

“**W**hat shall we say then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?” “For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin – because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.” “You have been set free from sin and have become slaves of righteousness.” “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” [Excerpts taken from Romans 6]

It's a fascinating idea, this concept that is God's own invention called 'slavery to righteousness'! Before Christ's intervention on behalf of all Mankind at the Cross, we were direct descendants of the First Adam – God's first created human being. We know the story all too well. Adam's decision to go it alone in the Garden of Eden sold us all into the slavery of sin. When Adam ate from the Tree of Good and Evil, his objective was to become just like God. He may have seen this action as a shining opportunity. It was something he could accomplish on his own. Something he could achieve with very little effort. Something he could certainly be proud of. Something Eve could be proud of too. Something that even God might praise him for. Who could be offended at the thought that he, Adam, the first man that God had ever created, might just want to improve himself? Who could find it objectionable that he might want to promote himself to a place of complete and absolute likeness with God Himself? Adam made only one critical miscalculation. He was already the very image of God. To be tempted by the idea and then to follow through with it, was enough to commit the as yet unpardonable sin called 'unbelief'!

God could easily see that Adam's unbelief, together with his special gift of self-determination, would yield itself continually to self-effort, self-promotion and self-righteousness. In the moment the offense took place, God called it 'sin'. Since He had to know that it would re-occur

with the miracle of every new birth, He justly assigned the offense to every man, woman and child that would ever live. The sin of unbelief, in combination with independent will, would become the joint hallmarks of Mans' character. From this first instance of unbelief, self-effort and self-promotion, all of Mankind would become slaves to sin!

Now let's 'fast forward' some thousands of years into the future, to the precise moment of Christ's death on the Cross. The Son of God was sent on a mission that only He could accomplish. And what was that mission? As the Last Adam, Christ would buy back all of Humanity from a devastating, chronic and seemingly incurable hereditary disease called 'sin'. It was a detestable inheritance bequeathed to every living soul as rightful, legal heirs of the First Adam. How could such a cure be administered? How could such an antidote be delivered and applied, both instantaneously and simultaneously to every soul, living or dead? How could such a remedy reach into every generation, from Adam all the way to eternity? Only God in His infinite and unfathomable wisdom could devise such a plan!

In the first place, God took the sin disease belonging to Humanity and placed it upon Christ. He literally 'became sin' and effectively dragged it to its death once and for all time, right there on the Cross. In the second place, Christ's death as the Last Adam united Him permanently with

Mankind; encapsulating every man, woman and child safely within Himself and effectively canceling the First Adam's lineage of legal inheritance. By reconciling all of Humanity in His death, Mankind was released from any and all legal obligation to the Law of Sin and Death. In the third place, by virtue of Humanity's precious position inside Christ at the moment that He rose to sit at the right hand of God, He effectively brought to life a New Creation that was born again in Him! It was here that Man became a 'slave of righteousness'.

This New Creation has a lineage beginning with Christ. Adam no longer exists other than as a mere shadow or type, pointing to the Son of God. No one has a history that goes further back than the Cross! Every man, woman and child has a family tree with just two names on it – God, in Christ! This New Creation was powered by a new mainspring, God's new 'First Man' – Christ Himself!

The awesome, ceaseless, eternal heartbeat of Humanity was now the 'Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ'! We were caught in the eternal grip of Christ's righteousness, amidst the strangest, most wonderful, twist of fate! Free as the wind, to be, think, say and do as we please, we find ourselves unable to escape His glorious attributes. What a delightful paradox!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **43**

Stick to The Script

Certainly, it's true that each person should and must discover the Gospel truth for themselves. Whatever is required, whether it be agreeable to others or not, must be done – in order to achieve that necessary breakthrough.

It's not enough to just listen to others. It's not enough to just follow the leadership's playbook. At some point, it's no longer enough to just as the saying goes, 'stick to the script'. There comes a time, if you're determined enough to examine closely the verses in-between the ones that pastors and leaders routinely teach – when you're going to discover that indisputable, undeniable, life-altering truth called the Gospel or the 'Good News'! You're going to unmask once and for all, the incredible nature of the work that Christ accomplished on the Cross! You're going to step into

freedom and the atmosphere of grace, like you've never known it before!

Getting there, getting to that final unveiling of Gospel truth, isn't going to be your biggest challenge. As you gain deeper and deeper insight and knowledge concerning Christ's perfect sacrifice, you'll be assailed with discouraging thoughts, words and actions from others. You're going to hear sincere believers plead with you to 'stay on track'. They'll suggest that you drop what you're doing, cease in your continuing discovery and return to your old thoughts and ways – as if that's even possible.

There will come a time when fellow believers will have little or nothing to do with you. Your church may even, not so politely, invite you never to return again – but not until they label you an agitator, a Universalist and perhaps even a heathen. Then the tables will turn, and you'll have little time for them. If you so desire, you might even choose to label them as self-righteous, pretenders, imitators, fakers, hypocrites, bigots, segregationists, exclusionists, separatists, club-goers, busybodies, do-dads or what have you.

Well, none of that controversy really matters anymore. You're on your own. Your knowledge of the Gospel is light-years ahead of the watered-down, manmade drivel the organized Christian church is spreading. You don't even want to call yourself a Christian anymore! Their teaching is

so full of errors and omissions that you disavow any affiliation with them – period! You’re convinced there’s really no point in setting foot inside a church ever again except for perhaps Christmas and Easter. You’re not even excited about that, since the Gospel truth isn’t even shared on these two most special occasions. There’s really only one glorious path for you to take.

Continue the wonderful, ever expanding discovery of the ‘Good News’ – while enjoying its total, liberating freedom every moment of every day.

Welcome to . . . the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **44**

Take Up Your Cross?

In Mathew 16 and verse 24, we read the words, “Then said Jesus unto His disciples, ‘If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.’” Based on the content of this verse, it sounds possible doesn’t it? You could follow Christ just by doing as He was about to do. If it wasn’t easy, it was at least conceivable. Wouldn’t you agree? It seemed, for the moment, that to follow Christ was as simple and straightforward as ‘taking up a cross’. The idea must have struck a favorable note with Christian leaders, because they’ve been instructing their followers to take up their crosses with alarming regularity for hundreds of years. But let’s be honest. Has anyone ever really done it? Has anyone ever really – ‘taken up their own cross’?

Don’t kid yourself!

No possible way!

There was only one real Cross!

Only one man would ever pick up that Cross!

Only one man would ever endure a torturous death, on that Cross!

Only one man would bring REDEMPTION and eternal life, once and for all to an entire human race as a result of that Cross!

To suggest that anyone else could ‘take up their own cross’ and achieve such a result even if just for themselves, was entirely beyond the realm of possibility from the outset! Yet it’s true that for centuries, men have been picking up and carrying their own imagined crosses. That’s right – imagined! They’re not real crosses at all. They’re just figurative crosses. They’re not made of rough-hewn lumber. They’re only products of the mind. How so, you ask?

For one man, his cross is a nagging partner. For another, it’s a harsh, demanding job. For another, it’s a throbbing pain that never goes away. For another, it’s a debilitating disease that’s sure to take his life one day. For another, it’s the ongoing, daily struggle to put to death his old, unregenerate self. For another, it’s just living ‘the

Christian life'. These are all seen as crosses. These are all the kinds of ordeals that Christians believe are in some way similar to Christ's. These torments, while viewed as crucifixion-like in severity, are supposedly wrought by God to bring them ever closer to the image of Christ.

What a load of tripe! To think for one second, that any of these common challenges of life can be extrapolated to mean 'crucifixion' in any real sense of the word, is pure poppycock, through and through! It's an insult of horrendous proportions. Nothing less than spitting on the Cross that Christ was crucified on! To suppose that you or anyone else is following Christ through one of these absurd, fictitious crosses of perceived, personal affliction – is the vile product of a vain, fruitless, ignorant imagination and nothing more!

O.K, so if taking up your own cross isn't possible, then what could Jesus have meant by saying it? It was an impossible saying – and for that very reason! It was as if He was making the point, "Hey, if you think you can follow me, take up your own cross and see how far you get." "Sure, if you want to get where I'm going on your own steam, then grab your own cross!" Truth is . . . He would do it alone. Only He was eminently qualified. If anyone ever thought they could follow Jesus through the trial that was yet to face Him, they would have another thing coming. They would be up for a rude awakening! They would find themselves

shrinking from the challenge and denying Him at every turn, just as the written record so aptly states. History was not about to repeat itself for any other human being. Destiny was not about to set an appointment for anyone other than – the Son of God! God’s plan was to unite all of His precious creation unto Himself through Christ – and this He did. While many might have thought themselves ‘called’, then and even now, only ONE was ever CHOSEN. Only one man was ever ordained by God to accomplish this otherwise insurmountable task. Only one man would ever take up His Cross!

What important lesson can we take from all this? Resist the religious precept that says failure to take up your cross will separate you from the love of God. It was Christ’s CROSS . . . that for all eternity brought you together in Him! Turn away from the Christian doctrine that says, unless you take up your cross, REDEMPTION and eternal life will always lie beyond your reach. It was Christ’s CROSS . . . that made your REDEMPTION a sure thing! The next time a ‘believer’ looks you in the eye telling you to take up your cross, remember that it was Christ’s CROSS . . . that made you sinless, blameless and forever righteous in Him!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **45**

The Biggest Theft in History

We've all heard stories of brilliant forgeries, incredible cons and amazing heists involving huge amounts of money in all its various forms whether currency, precious metals, works of art or jewelry of every description. Yet you probably haven't heard anything about the greatest, most successful, most underhanded and despicable theft in the history of the world. We're talking about a sting so clever and so diabolical that to this very day it remains virtually undetectable under our very noses. For centuries its perpetrators have gone unpunished. Its inestimable stolen cargo remains unreturned and for what reason? It can only be the result of willful participation on the part of successive generations of complicit individuals bent on perpetuating the same crime!

What incredible swindle do you suppose we're talking about? Might it just be the removal of precious and accomplished works from the Cross – the very Cross that Jesus Christ Himself was crucified on? What value would you place on the completed works of REDEMPTION, ATONEMENT, FORGIVENESS, RECONCILIATION, PEACE, FREEDOM, ETERNAL LIFE, REMOVAL OF SIN, IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS and of course – the NEW CREATION ('ONE NEW MAN' in Christ)? Utterly incalculable! Altogether, these fully accomplished and forever completed gifts to Mankind constitute the priceless birthright of every man, woman and child that has ever lived, on either side of that day.

At the foot of the Cross over 2,000 years ago there were no believers, no Christians, no churches, no crosses atop towering steeples, no seminaries, no denominations, no statements of faith, no celebrity authors, no talented worship leaders, no mammoth widescreen monitors, no booming sound systems and no ambitious, strong-willed pastors. All that existed was Christ, God's own Son, alone and rejected upon the Cross. All that existed was one, singular representative of Humanity – the solitary recipient of all the wrath, anger and judgment of God, tasting death for every man. All that existed was an offering fully acceptable to God, securing once and for all the complete buyback of Mankind from the clutches of sin and death to the sublime and inexplicable freedom of life in Christ. All

that existed was the completed mission – wholly designed and orchestrated by God and Christ alone. All that existed were the words, “It is finished!”

So, begins the dastardly and despicable work of separating the valuable achievements of the Cross from their rightful owners. Just what would it take to abscond with the finished works of Christ? The best news you’ll ever hear is that it can’t really be done. There is no way to alter the eternal reality of Christ’s accomplishments on behalf of every man, woman and child that has ever lived. All that Christian leaders, teachers, authors and pastors can do is to alter our perceptions. All they can do is to affect our thoughts. All they can do is to keep us from seeing God’s point of view. All they can do is to convince us that we must seek qualification through ‘belief’ in order to become a valid member of God’s extended family. All they can do is to persuade us that Christ’s perfect work on the Cross isn’t finished. All they can do is insist that we respond to their teaching with complete and undoubting compliance. Now to say that all they can do is to affect our thinking is to in no way diminish the catastrophic extent of their horrendous crime.

To make someone think that they must qualify to be an heir to the long-ago accomplishments of God’s own Son on the Cross, is to blatantly pilfer the precious peace, comfort and freedom that comes from the absolute certainty of

eternal security. No one has to decide to become an heir to their rightful inheritance! No one has to believe, pray, invite, confess, commit, give, surrender, die, become or obey to receive what is rightfully theirs by birth! When Christ rose from the dead to sit at the right hand of the Father, all of Humanity rose in Him. Every man, woman and child from that time on was to be born again in Him. Each was to become a direct descendent of Christ – a rightful heir to eternal life in Heaven by new birth.

Christian leaders, instructors, pastors and authors routinely teach about a parallel creation. They teach that the New Creation that took place at the moment of the resurrection actually didn't happen then and there at all. They teach that the New Creation occurs one at a time for each person in each new generation; as they make their personal confessions of faith; as they confess their sins; as they plead for forgiveness; as they invite Christ into their hearts; as they surrender their lives to Him; as they die to themselves. They teach that this new parallel creation actually lives in the world among and beside the old creation made up of unbelieving Jews and Gentiles. They teach from a perverted stance, that only believers are God's special and preferred people and how fortunate they are to have met the key qualifications for eternal life!

They conceal the fact that all things old passed away and all things became new at the Cross. They conceal the

fact that the Gentiles who were once far off, were brought near by the blood of Christ – that the work of the Cross is ONE NEW MAN IN CHRIST and that this was fully accomplished at the Cross. They conceal the fact that the whole world was reconciled to God in Christ, their sins not counted against them. They conceal the fact that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. They conceal the fact that one righteous act (Jesus Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross) resulted in justification and life for all people. They conceal the fact that the Lamb of God took away the sin of the world. They conceal the fact that Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.

To plunge this heinous crime still deeper into depravity, they proceed to tell us that God's will wasn't fully accomplished at the Cross – that the work of the Cross isn't even finished to this present day. They tell us and expect us to believe that God has millions upon millions of separate, personalized, meticulously engineered plans and goals for millions upon millions of people who are as distinct and as individual as the stars in the sky. This has caused incalculable worry, concern, stress, heart-ache and anguish for legions of sincere believers, as they desperately seek to discover this so-called perfect will that God has created just for them and them alone. There is only one antidote for this whole cloth fabrication created by Christian leaders! They need only to know that God's perfect will was to place them

into Christ and that this – has already happened! It was fully accomplished at the same time that all of Humanity was united to Christ in His death upon the Cross and raised (born again) together in Him at His resurrection.

The height, depth and breadth of the fraudulent and horrific deception perpetrated by Christian leaders against successive generations of innocent men, women and children – is truly inestimable. A full restitution of comfort, joy, peace and security is far beyond the realm of possibility.

A simple declaration by church authorities, that God's will was fully accomplished and that all are REDEEMED through the finished work of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross, would go a long way toward putting back what has been found missing for those still alive today and for future generations yet to be born.

Article 46

The Christian Life – Powered By ‘Self’

Everywhere you look within the cloistered circles of Christianity, you can see and hear the devastating, negative effects of the life they’ve been persuaded to lead.

Step inside the doors of any church and you’ll sense, first hand, the spotty clouds of gloom that hang precariously over so many solitary Christian lives. Marketed far and wide as an ‘intimate relationship with almighty God’, Christianity, expressed in the day to day life of the average follower, is fraught with tension, frustration, uncertainty, insecurity, disillusionment and an ever-present sense of alienation from the very One they seek so earnestly.

But does it really need to be like this?

After all, didn't Christ give us the Gospel of Peace – the Good News?

Sounds simple enough, doesn't it?

You don't need any diplomas or degrees to understand it for yourself and to share it with others. Just go out and tell people that God has made peace with Mankind!

Tell them that God has reconciled every man, woman and child into Himself. Tell them that God is no longer holding their sins against them – that those sins were in fact paid for and removed once and for all time at the Cross. Tell them that sin was nailed to the Cross and that the legal code was abolished forever. Tell them that eternal life is an irrevocable gift – free and without preconditions or requirements of any kind or description.

How can this be so, you ask?

It was God's will and purpose from before the beginning of time to unite all things to Himself. Of course, that includes every single one of us without exception. It was God's will that He should accomplish all this by the perfect sacrifice and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. Yet the overwhelming emphasis that the church places on sinful living, the imitation of Christ and the daily failure of each and every soul to make the grade by performing to the level

of God's expectations, is so much more than a misinterpretation – it's a disgusting and despicable deception! The preaching of an undefeated Satan in cahoots with a robust, unbridled sin nature that must be quashed repeatedly from one fleeting moment to the next – pummels every ounce of peace, joy and freedom residing deep within the believer's heart, into a dry, shriveled, lifeless, good for nothing pulp!

Is the unfortunate state of the Christian life strictly a modern phenomenon?

Absolutely not!

There hasn't been a single century going all the way back to the death of Christ upon the Cross, that hasn't been contaminated with shameful abuses committed by the Christian church. For fifteen hundred years the Catholic Church had a total monopoly, a complete stranglehold on the burgeoning Christian brand. They soon became the richest organization on earth by far (and remain so to this very day), exchanging forgiveness and an eternal place in Heaven for what they deemed to be an appropriate sum of money. Cruelty, harshness, torment, chastisement, judgment, shunning, expulsion and complete excommunication were among the commonly used tools directed at the honest and sincere believer who, after calling himself a Christian, failed to live up to expectations.

Christian leadership while thriving and prospering on the manna of manmade doctrines and precepts, brought little more than doubt, fear, anxiety, grief, guilt, shame, regret, remorse, depression and even illness upon its devout adherents.

Even with the daring entry of Martin Luther and his Protestant revolution, the historical end result was no more than a clean break from the oppressive rule of the Pope. New Protestant denominations quickly sprang up; each with their own hierarchies and bureaucracies; each with their own doctrinal variations; each with their own internal squabbles; each with their own insatiable need for money, power and influence. It is only too clear that in the very midst of the wrangling and infighting that is the hallmark of ‘Christianity’, church leaders throughout the centuries have neglected to take the true message of the Gospel of Peace to the world as it was originally commissioned to do! The true intent, along with the eternal achievements of Christ’s sacrifice upon the Cross, have never been brought by the organized Christian church into the intense, revealing light of day – for all to enjoy. The mystery of the Gospel, as Paul understood it, has never been clearly articulated by the collective church hierarchy toward those who could have so greatly benefitted by it in their mortal lives, through so many successive generations.

So here we are, well into the twenty-first century and still, the organized Christian church is propping up the same old demons that it has welcomed and entertained since its very inception. Still, those in leadership continue to use the same time-tested and devastating tools of harsh discipline that proved so effective in ages past. Still, they are content to peddle their influence and favor in exchange for money. Still, they fail miserably to spread the truth of the Gospel, preferring instead to devote their time and effort to the limitless expansion of their distinctive brand of world religion called – ‘Christianity’.

Leadership at every level continues to profit from the clever and insistent marketing of its manmade doctrines and precepts to the world at large, in complete neglect of, and to the utter exclusion of, their original God given mandate – to ‘go into all the world and preach the Gospel’. Where is this Gospel of Peace, you might ask?

It’s right back at the starting gate!

Still back at the Cross!

With the exception of some early effort put forth by the apostles, it has never been swiftly advanced. It has never been launched further than you can throw a stone! How can it be? This Gospel of Peace was after all a gift to Humanity of the most grandiose proportions, leaving no one behind

and forever changing the ground game by unleashing a torrent of love, peace and freedom, never known before!

If the organized church was to ever decide to pick up and run with this life-altering Gospel, they would first have to determine among themselves how to own it, control it, copyright it, brand it, package it, distribute it and then sell it. There could never be a pathway to accomplish this. Peace and freedom aren't for sale. Their only alternative would be to ignore it, preach around it, abandon it to a shadowy, neglected corner of religious orthodoxy or deny that it even exists in the first place. They would instead choose to continue pushing their stalwart performers which are their cherished, almighty doctrines and precepts, proven to be utterly controllable, totally predictable and easily marketable.

To what end?

Just look around for yourself. Obedient Christian followers are still marching lock-step in endless circles around a harsh and waterless terrain – forever thirsting and never finding what it is that can once and for all time bring lasting peace, freedom and fulfillment in both this life and the one to come.

Innocent believers, choosing to call themselves Christians, have given up more than they could ever have imagined. And just for the fleshly honor of becoming card-

carrying, dues paying members of 'God's family' within the local church, an honor so easily revoked should they not attend with sufficient regularity or should they happen to stray from doctrinal purity.

New converts continue to enter the ranks of Christendom every day. They wholly surrender their precious gift of 'freedom for freedom's sake'. They willingly take upon themselves the arduous mantle of endless pursuit. They step unaware into an onerous life of vain servitude amidst the endless, numbing drum beat of a torpid, manmade religion called 'Christianity', sold as 'a life of personal intimacy with God' while in truth – created, powered and sustained by 'self'!

Article **47**

The Christian Life Isn't the Gospel Truth

Today there are many people living the so-called 'Christian life'. From one day to the next, they live in their own special, constructed world. It's a life seemingly all together with and yet wholly apart from, those they live among. As a strange new creation planted among old, bygone relics, they see themselves as the living among the dead, the rescued among the perishing, the wise among the foolish, the hopeful among the despondent, the selfless among the covetous, the seeing among the blind, the pure among the wicked, the faithful among the infidels, the winners among the losers and the Heaven bound among the Hell bent.

Each week, the loyal followers look forward to meeting others of their own kind, in buildings of every type, size and

shape dotted clear across the land. They sing wonderful hymns of praise, listen intently to their pastor preach and then, walk back out into a confused and chaotic world on a frenzied path to Hell. Until the next time they meet, they enjoy their daily devotions with the glow of the rising sun; their bent-kneed prayers, petitions and confessions of sin beneath a shimmering, star-filled sky; a four part CD series on how to get their prayers heard and answered by God; a glossy, new, bestselling hardcover book on 'The End Time Judgment'; their favorite celebrity Christian mentors on HDTV; a weeknight home study group culminating in coffee, cookies and cake; and all of this topped off with a midweek get-together over an 'all you can eat' breakfast or lunch.

Those who live the Christian life are taught by their leaders, teachers, authors and pastors, that at the precise moment of confession of sin and profession of belief, their 'old selves' die and they become brand new creations. Strange as it may sound and in spite of having been told they are totally regenerated, they spend the rest of their lives mired in sin, guilt and shame. They confess their sin from moment to moment and ceaselessly pummel their 'old man' in a desperate yet vain attempt to snuff out its last, despised, despicable breath. This nonstop, restless pursuit, to subdue and ultimately kill their 'old man', is the cause of severe discouragement, poor self-esteem, personal neglect, stress, addiction, broken relationships, weight gain, panic attacks,

high blood pressure, heart disease, autoimmune disorders, depression, mental illness and even suicide!

Adding to the Christian Lifer's distress, is the teaching that other than Christ's resurrection and the forgiveness of sin upon each new confession, nothing much else was really accomplished at the Cross. They're never taught that they're born righteous as a direct descendant of Christ – the Last Adam. They're never told that they were raised in Christ and made perfect in Him. On the contrary, the Christian Lifer is taught that everything important is yet to be done, somewhere out there in a nebulous, uncertain future. As though chasing the proverbial carrot dangling from a stick, they're kept in constant pursuit, forever hoping, forever wanting and much to their perplexing and seemingly endless chagrin – never arriving.

As if all of this isn't enough, the Christian Lifer is taught that their main goal in life is to become like Christ – a vain and unattainable mission from the very outset. No greater compliment is more flattering to a Christian Lifer than to be considered Christ-like in even the tiniest, most miniscule way. All that they endeavor to accomplish in this life is seen through the viewfinder of, 'Is this what Jesus would do, say or think?' To become more like Christ is the single, driving compulsion of their day to day existence. Christian Lifers measure themselves and others by the same sliding scale of Christ-likeness and are quick to notice any

deficiencies or apparent reversals in all whom they meet. They ask themselves, “Is my surrender like His?”; “Is my commitment like His?”; “Is my suffering like His?”; “Is my love like His?”; “Is my sacrifice like His?”; “Is my faith like His?”; “Is my holiness like His?”; “Is my righteousness like His?” and on it goes. The daily struggle of Christian Lifers to see themselves transformed into the very image of Christ is no more than a vain, self-absorbing exercise in self-importance and self-righteousness!

Adam in the Garden of Eden, sought to be God-like by eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Where did it get him? Where did it get the rest of Humanity? His decision to seek self-importance through God-likeness brought the hereditary disease of universal sin into the world for the first time. Every solitary member of Mankind would be infected with this deadly plague from the moment of their conception in the womb. This unyielding scourge would pass unabated from one generation to the next, right up to and until Christ’s perfect sacrifice on the Cross. By this singular act of God’s grace, Adam’s hereditary gift of imputed sin was miraculously lifted and Christ’s righteousness immediately took its place – charged to Man’s character without deservedness or merit, once and for all time!

Why can’t Christian Lifers get it?

Why can't they see that we're already like Christ? In fact, it's so much better than that. We're made perfect because we're actually – 'in Him'!

No amount of acting on the part of believers is going to make them more like Christ!

Let's face it – it's the Christian Lifer's daunting determination to act like Christ that brings so much public ridicule their way.

Nothing appears more hypocritical to the world than someone attempting to act like someone they're not. If there's one thing the world knows – it's how to spot a fake. No matter how nonchalant and natural the Christian Lifer tries to be, they come across like cheap knock-offs compared to Christ Himself. Yet they wear the unceasing barrage of mockery, derision and scorn upon their heads, as though it were a crown of honor and authenticity. All the while, they're imagining how similar their suffering must be to Christ's on the way to the Cross. How ridiculous! How absurd! Yet they rarely see themselves totally without a defense, quickly resorting to the nuclear option – the pronouncement of HELL and damnation upon all who refuse to heed their admonitions. The use of this despicable device drives their listening audiences even further beyond their sphere of influence – many perhaps never to be reached again!

If this description of the Christian Lifer seems all too real, you might be pleased to know that there is another way to live. There is a tranquil, healthy, normal alternative to the so-called Christian life. Did you ever think you could let it all go, relax and just be yourself? Did you ever think that you could just live in the Gospel truth – a completed work of the Cross that doesn't require your constant and persistent effort? Living in the knowledge of the Gospel places you in a world where everyone is a New Creation regardless of race, creed, color or religion. No one is above or below anyone else. Special diplomas, degrees and titles mean nothing. All are made equal in Christ. No one ever needs to confess sin again – it's gone – taken away once and for all time, at the Cross! No one needs to doubt their eternal destiny in Heaven. All fear is gone! The love of God is complete and lavished fully upon every man, woman and child that has ever lived. Believe it or not, it has been this way for over 2,000 years!

As Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5, “we are convinced that one (Christ) died for all, and therefore all died.”; “So from now on, we regard no man from the worldly point of view. . . .”; “. . . if anyone is in Christ, the new creation is here!” Paul is clearly saying that he sees everyone from now on, the same way he sees Christ – as raised from the dead. If just one person is raised in Christ, then all are raised in Christ! The New Creation is here! This is all we need to share with others. As true ambassadors, we can share that all are

REDEEMED by Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross, their sins forever removed. Those that were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ – ONE NEW MAN IN CHRIST (Ephesians 2:13).

Every person you meet is raised in Christ just like you – they just don't know it yet. And how can they unless we tell them?

Can it get any easier than this?

With Christ's perfect sacrifice came the REDEMPTION of every man, woman and child! You don't need a special course or a pastor's permission to share the simple, honest truth. In 2 Corinthians 5:18 and 19, Paul says, "that God was reconciling (uniting) the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them." Does this sound like 'HELL and damnation' for any member of Humanity, or worse yet – for the vast majority? All are REDEEMED by the blood of Christ.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **48**

The Christian Way to Redemption

(Sadly, it isn't the Cross)

What

you **must** do.

You **must** believe.

You **must** confess your sins.

You **must** plead for forgiveness.

You **must** invite Christ into your life.

You **must** surrender your will daily to Him.

You **must** make Him to be your Lord and Savior.

Congratulations; you are now . . . REDEEMED!

You are now Born Again . . . a Brand-New Creation!

You **must** resist your will every day, for the rest of your life.

You **must** confess your sins every day, for the rest of your life.

You **must** live in continual obedience to God for your entire life.

You **must** follow Jesus and become more like Him every day.

You **must** persevere unceasingly to attain eternal life,

in a

place

called

'HEAVEN'

Article 49

The Cross. . . Changed Everything

The organized church is doing everything it can to remain relevant in the world today. Clearly and undeniably, it is dropping in popularity and losing members with each and every passing week. The only constituents that Christian leaders hold within their manipulative grasp are the ones that step through their doors every Sunday without fail. Everyone else is beyond their reach – outside their sphere of influence. How will they ever replenish their numbers?

The only way left to attract anyone new is to construct mega churches with high steeples that can be seen for miles around; claim to participate in world-wide ministries that feed, clothe and educate the desperately poor; sponsor raucous musical performances that mimic the sounds and sensations of the secular world or; create books, CD's or DVD's that entice the curious with the possibility of a

personal relationship with none other than the Creator of the Universe, God Almighty. Is there any good news to be had in all of this? You bet there is! If you're outside the church – stay there! Avoid the pain and anguish associated with the rigid doctrines and the fabricated gospel that is the hallmark of the organized Christian church. Need more good news? Everything God wanted to accomplish has already been done at the Cross.

The Cross . . . changed everything!

Let Christian leaders teach whatever fictional doctrinal formulations they so desire, but be it known – they can't change the finished work of the Cross! Let them preach guilt, shame, justice, wrath, punishment, eternal damnation and HELL. It doesn't become true just because they teach it – just because they have the diplomas and degrees that would seem to confer upon them the right to do so! They're earning a good living teaching such things. The church hierarchies that rule over every denomination will see to it that they live in comfortable dwellings and raise their families with all the privileges and entitlements that modern society allows. Preachers, teachers, authors and leaders earn their keep by enthusiastically supporting church doctrine whether their heart is in it or not. How can they be trusted as long as they're on the payroll? Let's face it – they're never going to bite the hand that feeds them.

Arm yourself with this simple truth. The Cross . . . changed everything! Never let yourself forget it. The Cross was where Satan was defeated, humiliated and destroyed. The Cross was where your eternal destiny was made secure. The Cross was where you were united to Christ in His death. The Cross was where Christ paid for removal of your sin, once and for all time. The Cross was where you were made blameless and guiltless. The Cross was where you and everyone else were made righteous by His righteousness alone. The Cross was where you were bought from 'Sin and Death' and placed under a new authority called 'the Spirit of Life in Christ'.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **50**

The Doctrine of Parallel Creations

Christian leaders are great promoters. They can make the most unbelievable things sound possible and even true. Since they demonstrate no genuine obligation to the Gospel, they are completely untethered to its simple universal truth – the perfect and completed work of Christ upon the Cross for the benefit of all Mankind. Christian leaders are as free as the wind to drive home their core doctrines, enabling them to strengthen and consolidate their brand while increasing their reach and influence. Keep in mind that the Christian brand has been thousands of years in the making. Only through the unrelenting and steadfast use of various time-tested techniques of indoctrination has Christianity been able to evolve into its present state. It declares itself to be a relationship, not a religion. God is a very personal God. He has a unique plan for each and every

day of your unique, individual life. Christianity assumes its dominance as it brandishes its claim of ownership over the Cross, God, Jesus Christ, the Bible, Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, believing, faith, truth, prayer, marriage, family, morality, decency, evil, sin, forgiveness, Heaven, Hell and even. . . the Gospel.

One of the most curious inventions for which Christianity owns the patent, is the ‘Doctrine of Parallel Creations’.

No, they don’t call it that, but how can it be anything else? This is the fantastical idea that the New Creation has been living side by side with the Old Creation ever since the Cross and right up to the present day! Christian leaders unapologetically instruct their obedient followers on this incredible fiction and it is happily received, lived out and acted upon with pure joy and enthusiasm. Christians actually believe that they are plucked out individually, one by one, as God’s special New Creations immediately following their personal confessions of faith. They are the rescued, the chosen, the preferred and they love and are captivated by the whole idea of it. They anxiously devour the concept that anyone who isn’t a Christian is just a damned relic of the Old Creation – sheer music to their tingling and enchanted ears! They alone have been lifted into God’s adoring and loving arms, while the rest of the Humanity, the Old Creation, remains cast off, alone,

rejected and left with only the grimmest expectation of an eternity spent without God in a fiery furnace called HELL. This is Christianity's wonderful and glorious tale of two worlds.

Are you ready for the plain and simple Gospel truth? Do you honestly think you can handle it?

Here it is – ready or not!

Everything old passed away at the Cross. Why else do you suppose that everything before the Cross is called the Old Testament? Why else would everything after the Cross be called the New Testament? Could it be that everything really was made new? Do you think that God might have been trying to tell us something? There simply was and is, no Old Testament following the Cross. All of Humanity really was made new at the moment Christ was resurrected.

The Bible tells us that Christ died for every man and therefore, every man died in Him. Every man, woman and child was joined to Christ – in His death. What did Christ die to?

The Bible tells us that He died to sin and in doing so – all of Mankind in that very moment was made forever dead to sin! But what happened next? Christ rose from the dead

and in that same moment, all that were dead in Him rose to new life and were born again in Him.

The Bible tells us that by one man's (Adam's) disobedience, all were made sinners and by one Man's obedience (Christ's) all will be made righteous!

Can it be any clearer?

Now perhaps you're disappointed and even angry at the thought that unbelievers or non-Christians all around you share your same appointed destiny – a life of eternal security in a place called HEAVEN.

Maybe you're saddened and dismayed at the thought that God loves His enemies just as much as He loves you. The Bible does say after all, that while we were still enemies we were reconciled to God in Christ. The Bible does say after all, that Christ gave Himself as a RANSOM for all.

Say what you will, you just can't argue with

. . . the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **51**

The Doctrine of Personal Acceptance

The Christian Church has many doctrines, one of which might be called, ‘personal acceptance’.

This doctrine maintains that unless an individual personally accepts or receives his REDEMPTION by means of a direct appeal – he can’t get the eternal benefit of it.

Just how does a person apply for REDEMPTION, you might ask? Is it anything at all like applying for unemployment insurance, a health insurance card or a driver’s license? Well, surprising as it may seem – there are a lot of similarities. When an individual begins to understand the truth concerning Christ’s accomplished work on the Cross and the wonderful gift of REDEMPTION, Christian

leaders tell him that to receive it, he must make a formal request. He's told that this gift isn't automatic. Just because it's free, doesn't mean that it's already his. He learns that he must submit the required information. How does he go about doing this? Where does he pick up the correct forms? Is there a mailing address or an internet website? Can he fax or email his application to the appropriate authorities? Can he send it by 'overnight express mail'?

As humorous as it may sound, how do we really begin the process that will qualify us to receive our official, duly signed and authorized REDEMPTION certificate?

According to the organized Christian church, the interested party involved must make the following list of personal declarations and commitments.

Firstly; he must attest to his unwavering belief in God and Christ, His only Son. Secondly; he must ask for forgiveness from each and every sin he has ever committed. Thirdly; he must confess Christ's lordship over his life. Fourthly; he must turn his practical, day to day life over to God's total, absolute control. Fifthly; he must surrender all the rights of ownership with regard to his personal ambition, desire and will. Sixthly; he must agree to continue asking for forgiveness in regard to every new sin, no matter how small or inconsequential. Lastly and perhaps most importantly; he must commit himself to complete,

consistent obedience to whatever the Spirit of God tells him to do – every day for the rest of his life!

Does all this sound like a pretty tall order to you?

Do you think anyone can successfully apply for and receive such a thing as eternal life in Heaven, based on such onerous requirements?

Can anyone you know pull out of their wallet, a shiny, plastic ‘REDEMPTION card’, that can fully attest to such an amazing accomplishment?

Then of course you have to ask yourself the blaringly obvious question, “If eternal life is a free gift, how come there are so many strings attached?” It just doesn’t sound good enough to be true. It sounds down right fishy and with good reason. Would you accept a gift from anyone that came with such a list of obligations? Of course, you wouldn’t! You’d have to be a fool – a complete idiot, to sign on to such a thing! In like manner, demanding that a person comply with specific requirements or obligations in order to receive REDEMPTION (the free gift of eternal life), is highly suspicious at the outset. It has the earmarks of a scam!

Bottom line – it’s a doctrine made out of whole-cloth; a worldly enticement used by the church to gain members, money, power and control.

Let’s face it – the bar is set way too high for anyone to ever qualify in the first place. No one has ever believed enough. No one has ever recalled every sin they’ve committed in their past, so as to have them each erased. No one has ever succeeded in making Christ the absolute Lord of their life. No one has ever given God complete control of every aspect of their life. No one has ever handed over their personal ambition, desire and will. No one remembers to ask forgiveness for every new sin they’re committing each day. No one has ever been obedient to perform everything they believe God has asked them to do. No one has even come anywhere close to meeting these obligations. No one ever will. The very thought of compliance with these demands is, in and of itself, a vain and fruitless expression of self-righteousness at its worst!

Christian leadership world-wide, continues to push to the hilt its manmade doctrine of ‘personal acceptance’. They proudly parade their list of necessary prerequisites for REDEMPTION. They tell their newcomers, “Confess that you believe. If you refuse . . . you’ll go straight to HELL.” They say, “Confess your sins. If you refuse . . . you’ll die in your unrighteousness.” They say, “Confess that Jesus is the Lord of your life. If you refuse . . . HEAVEN will remain

beyond your reach.” They say, “Confess that you’ll turn your ambition, desire and will completely over to Him. If you refuse . . . you can forget about ever inheriting eternal life.” They say, “Confess your complete obedience to Him. If you refuse . . . you’ll be found outside of His perfect will.”

Look, no one is suggesting that REDEMPTION was free. The cost was enormous – the life of Jesus Christ, God’s only Son! He had to believe. He had to commit. He had to confess. He had to surrender. He had to obey. He had to be guilty. He had to ‘become sin’. He had to die. It was Christ who applied for REDEMPTION on behalf of every man, woman and child that has ever lived. It was Christ who had to meet God’s careful scrutiny. Thankfully for us, God accepted Christ’s perfect sacrifice as payment in full for all the sins of Mankind. Thankfully for us, God accepted Christ’s application for REDEMPTION! It’s yours whether you believe it or not – no strings attached.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **52**

The Gospel

‘Christ and Him crucified’ is the one true foundation.

All of Humanity was REDEEMED through Christ’s ‘paid in full’ RANSOM on the Cross.

There are no pre-conditions or requirements whatsoever placed on any individual for REDEMPTION.

REDEMPTION isn’t a choice – it’s a fact.

The sting of death (sin) is completely removed – it died on the Cross.

Jew and Gentile are ONE NEW MAN in Christ.

God's love was released upon all Mankind through Christ's PROPITIATION (removal of sin; banishment of wrath, anger and judgement; release of unmerited and undeserved favor) on the Cross.

All of Humanity died in Christ at the precise moment of His death on the Cross.

All were made alive in Him at the moment of His resurrection. This is the New Creation!

Everything old passed away when the 'fulfillment of time' and the 'end of the ages' met at the Cross.

All things became new at the Cross.

Eternal life is a free gift to all, brought about through Christ's own personal decision, faith and submission on the Cross.

All prophesy and law was fulfilled (brought to successful completion) at the Cross.

Satan was humiliated, defeated and destroyed. He cannot derail God's accomplished eternal destiny for Mankind.

Adam's disobedience brought sin to all.

Christ's obedience removed sin and brought righteousness to all.

Every person going all the way back to Adam, was and is no longer born in sin, but born righteous in Christ.

Mankind is no longer a direct, spiritual descendant of Adam.

Humanity's spiritual genealogy, because of the Cross – begins with Christ.

Only one Man was ever 'born again' – Jesus Christ.

Mankind was altogether and all-at-once reborn and raised up in Christ, at the moment of His resurrection.

From the moment of conception, every individual contains the incorruptible, immortal Spirit (seed) of Christ.

There is no longer enmity between God and Man. This is the Gospel of Peace.

All are made free for the sake of freedom itself.

Christ's accomplishments on the Cross were both perfect and complete.

Christ, as the singular representative of Humanity (the Savior of the world), took upon Himself – ONCE AND FOR ALL TIME – the charge, the conviction and the punishment for every kind of sin, including the sin of unbelief.

No charge can ever again be brought against Mankind, because the Legal Code was abolished.

Christ met to the fullest extent, the just requirement of the Law; death on the Cross.

Christ, in the precise moment of His death on the Cross, purchased Mankind out of ‘the Law of Sin and Death’ – into ‘the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ’.

God’s eternal will was plain and simple – to unite all things on earth and in Heaven to Himself, through Christ – and this He did!

Article **53**

The Grumpy Gospel of Christianity

Even after the Last Adam and a New Creation, all of Humanity is still born in sin.

Christ's finished work on the Cross is really nothing more than 'Christ rose from the dead' and 'forgiveness of sin for the moment'.

The sin of the world (past, present and future) was NOT really nailed to the Cross over 2,000 years ago.

Satan is still alive and active, interfering continually in the believer's life.

If Jesus tasted death for any man, it could only have been for a believer and no one else.

Nothing actually passed away and nothing really became new at the Cross.

The Gospel is any story or idea from the Bible that a minister chooses to preach on.

REDEMPTION is only for believers – even though THERE WERE NO BELIEVERS at the time REDEMPTION was taking place on the Cross.

The world was NOT reconciled to God through Christ and people's sins are still being counted.

The Gospel of Peace (the removal of enmity between God and Man) never happened at the Cross.

Jews and Gentiles did NOT become ONE NEW MAN at the Cross.

The Old Testament is still legally binding today.

Without 'belief' an individual cannot possibly be REDEEMED.

Even the Devil believes . . . so believing alone cannot guarantee anyone's REDEMPTION.

All law and prophecy DID NOT find its total fulfillment in Christ's death and resurrection.

Believers and unbelievers alike must face the unpleasant prospect of a Final Judgment.

There is no absolute certainty that a believer will escape a harsh, cruel punishment.

A person must claim to be CHRISTIAN to be considered a child of God.

Many obedient believers have been predestined to become vessels of destruction.

Only the 'elect' can be certain to escape God's judgment, but no one knows who they are.

The believer's only hope of certain REDEMPTION is to be obedient in all things until the very end.

Jesus Christ upheld the Law at the Cross and brought it's full force, including the Ten Commandments, into the New Testament.

The legal code was NOT abolished at the Cross. "Where there is no law, there is no offense", just isn't true or applicable after the Cross.

The Gospel (Good News) was never intended for the vast majority of Mankind that has been predestined for HELL.

A person can decide for him or herself NOT to be REDEEMED, in spite of Christ's completed work on the Cross.

God can only love those who love Him back.

While we were still enemies (unbelievers, combatants), we were NOT reconciled to God in Christ.

Jesus paid the RANSOM just for 'believers' at the Cross (even though there were no believers).

Unbelievers will pay for their own sin by handing over their bodies to eternal damnation in HELL (even though there is no legal provision for such a payment apart from Christ).

"Every knee shall bow; every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord". Yet in spite of this universal confession, a wide swath of Mankind will fall upon a horrible and eternal destruction in a place called HELL.

HELL was specially designed for unbelievers and NOT just for Satan and his angels.

Jesus Christ only carried the sins of Mankind. He was blameless. He never actually ‘became sin’. He was never declared to be guilty in Man’s place.

Guilt and shame are important, positive and vitally necessary attributes for the obedient Christian.

A new confession must be made every time a believer sins.

Unconfessed sins will remain on the record, condemning believers in the Final Judgment.

Jesus paces back and forth in Heaven’s courtroom. He advocates individually for millions of believers one at a time, following each and every sin, even though . . . He sits motionless at the right hand of the Father.

‘Believing’ is the only foundation upon which REDEMPTION can become true for a person.

Christ only made REDEMPTION a possibility at the Cross – NOT a reality. Its final completion is up to you.

SIN through Adam alone, reached ALL (belief was not a requirement). Righteousness through Christ alone, reached NO ONE – unless and until they ‘believe’.

Despite Christ's RESURRECTION and the birth of a New Creation in Christ – Humanity still remains the direct descendent of the First Adam and the legal heir to his original sin of unbelief and the disobedience.

Tithing will open the windows of Heaven and rebuke the Devourer.

Refusing to tithe is stealing from God and will unleash a curse on believers.

Obedience to the perfect will of God is a requirement of the believer for eternal life.

God has millions of separate, individualized, perfect wills for millions of individual believers.

Each believer must earnestly seek out from one day to the next, that perfect, individualized will of God for their life, so as to remain in a state of perfect obedience till their final breath.

A series of crowns (rewards) await the believer in Heaven, whose actions and accomplishments in the name of Christ while here on earth are found deserving.

Article 54

The Helmet of Salvation

Just what is this wonderful thing called the ‘helmet of salvation’?

Listen to most preachers and you’ll get the standard spiel about how this is a necessary piece of battle garb and how you’ll need it in your daily fight against the attacks of the Devil.

Wait a minute!

Wasn’t Satan humiliated, defeated and destroyed at the Cross?

Then why do we need a shield to cover and protect our minds? Why should we have to keep putting it on with the dawn of each new day?

The simple answer is . . . we don't!

We're talking about a completed work of the Cross – not an object you can take on or off according to your own whim. That would make no sense at all. Then what are we supposed to make of the idea? Just own it. It already pertains to you. You're wearing it right now and it can't come off. It came with the blueprint of all your original equipment, in the precise moment of your conception. What exactly is it then? It's your REDEMPTION – signed, sealed and delivered the very day that Jesus Christ died upon the Cross, purchasing Mankind once and for all from the 'Law of Sin and Death'.

The 'helmet of salvation' is your birthright. When Jesus Christ removed the sin of the world through His perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross, every vestige of the old creation descending from Adam suddenly passed away. It died then and there and none of it can ever return! With Christ's resurrection, Humanity was given a brand-new origin – a fresh new start. The chalkboard of human history was wiped clean. Mankind was no longer made 'like God' but was now made 'in God' at the precise moment that Christ was born again. He was to be the beginning and the end, the first and the last of an entirely new creation never seen before. Every man, woman and child that would ever live, whether before or after the Cross, would be clothed in immortality at His resurrection – forever contained in Him

and seated permanently at the right hand of God. We are all Christ's legal descendants and as such, we are all the rightful heirs to everything He has accomplished on our behalf. Of these, REDEMPTION tops the list. It belongs to you and everyone else, whether you should choose to believe it or not.

It's permanent. It's is secure. It's guaranteed!

Have you ever wondered just what your eternal fate might be?

Have you ever felt uneasy about your ultimate destination?

Christian leaders have had a field day with this entirely fabricated, manmade quandary. Generation after generation of God's REDEEMED have endured restless days and sleepless nights over this concern, due entirely to the erroneous teaching of Christian leaders on the topic of Heaven or Hell. Persevere in selfless works and pure motives and a Heavenly reward awaits you. Persist in evil thoughts and egregious deeds and your payday will consist of an eternity spent in a fiery furnace called Hell. They teach that your final resting place whether good or bad, whether a 'believer' or not, depends entirely on your behavior. Anyone can see why good behavior might be a worthwhile objective. Which parent doesn't want their children to be well

behaved? Which child wouldn't want their parents to do the right thing? Which pastor doesn't want his parishioners to act uprightly and which parishioners wouldn't want their pastor to perform in just the same way? Good behavior certainly appears to have its merits. Bad behavior would certainly seem to be a leading indicator of a sad outcome. There's only one problem. Good or bad behavior . . . isn't why Christ went to the Cross!

Thankfully, your 'helmet of salvation' has nothing to do with your behavior. You can be the shining knight on a white stallion, or the meanest low-life your town has ever known, yet it makes no difference. Behavior just isn't part of the equation. Think about it. If your actions could have any influence at all on your eternal salvation, then why did Christ have to go to the Cross at all? You could just get it by yourself. His personal sacrifice would have been to no purpose. The whole event would have been in vain. C'mon now! Your thoughts and actions have absolutely nothing at all to do with your salvation. REDEMPTION doesn't require your belief, conviction, effort, productivity, performance or behavior.

The plain fact is that your REDEMPTION was rigged!

It was a set-up, pure and simple, from before the beginning of time.

When it comes down to this matter of REDEMPTION, your arraignment can never be requested. Your contrition won't ever be expected. Your co-operation will never be necessary. Your apologies will count for nothing. Why? Simply this – the issue of guilt, judgement and punishment concerning every member of Mankind, was settled once and for all when it was placed upon Christ at the Cross over 2,000 years ago. While no one would dare to suggest that you do this, you could go out into the street and kill someone and your REDEMPTION would still be a done deal. Sure, you'll serve a life sentence for first degree murder in a high security prison with no chance of parole, but your REDEMPTION will still be untouchable and immoveable. It will always remain rock solid.

So, what does it mean when the Bible says to 'put on the helmet of salvation'? Well, we've already established that you can't put it on or take it off. All you need to know is that you have it, it's done, it's complete and it's permanent. That helmet is your REDEMPTION – your one-way ticket to Heaven. It's irrevocable and it's paid in full.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **55**

The Magic of Believing

It's just that simple isn't it? Just believe in Jesus and you're totally set for this life and the one beyond.

Church pastors and leaders continually insist that believing is the key essential ingredient. It's the one necessary condition and the singular qualification for entrance into Heaven. They say, "No man can be REDEEMED unless he first believes!" They say, "It's not scriptural to tell an unbeliever that he's going to Heaven just because of Christ's perfect and complete work of REDEMPTION on the Cross!" They say, "Don't you dare mention inside this church that unbelievers have an inheritance in Heaven!" They say, "Talk to me privately if you must, but never share publicly on this church property that 'ALL ARE REDEEMED AT THE CROSS' – or we will use all the force at our disposal to stop you cold in your tracks!" Church pastors and leaders work tirelessly to make

sure that the true message of 'ALL ARE REDEEMED AT THE CROSS' never meets the light of day. If it ever did, they would be exposed as both liars (concealers of the truth) and thieves (robbers of the finished works of the Cross) no matter how well meaning they might be.

How do we know for certain that unbelievers were included in Christ's wonderful work of REDEMPTION on the Cross? Quite simply, everyone who ever claimed to be a believer up to the very moment of Christ's death on the Cross – suddenly disappeared! They were nowhere to be found. They took off in every possible direction, not wanting to be identified with Him in any conceivable way. As Jesus spoke His final words, "It is finished!", He was abandoned by all the so-called believers to a place of abject misery, anguish and desolation. At that most crucial moment in history, Christ was THE ONLY BELIEVER ON EARTH! Yet how can we be so sure of ourselves that Christ was the only, solitary believer at the very moment He was REDEEMING Humanity from His place on the Cross? In John 12 and verse 37 it says, "Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe Him." The people were simply not able to believe Him. They couldn't believe even if they had desperately wanted to, in order to fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah who said, "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" The prophet goes on to say, "He has blinded their eyes and

hardened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn – and I would heal them.”

All of this becomes crystal clear when we read in Romans 11 and verse 32, “For God has concluded them all in unbelief, that He might have mercy upon all.” How can we not see now that it was God’s intended plan from the very beginning of time, to give Christ’s perfect and complete work of REDEMPTION undisputed pre-eminence over belief? Every person was strategically placed into unbelief so that God could fully extend His mercy to all while keeping for Christ alone, the exclusive qualification of BELIEVER. It is conclusive and undebatable that God’s full intention here was to place Mankind into a universal, pandemic condition of unbelief so that no one could claim belief as their own personal, distinguishing qualification for REDEMPTION. What’s more, if believing was the key qualification for REDEMPTION, why would another verse say that while we were yet enemies (unbelievers and combatants) we were reconciled (united) to God in Christ? Why would yet still another verse state that the whole world was reconciled to God through Christ, their sins not counted against them? Verse after verse peels completely away the contention that eternal security hangs on just one thing – belief. Even John 3 and verse 16 makes no reference to ONLY the believer having everlasting life. Surely believers can enjoy the prospect of everlasting life to which

no one would dare to argue – but to assume that the word ‘ONLY’ is anywhere in the verse, is preposterous!

Is the idea hurtful and reprehensible to you, that God would plan from before the beginning of time to rescue the lowest, ugliest, meanest, cruelest, vilest members of Mankind?

Is it so outrageous and beneath you, to think that He should accomplish this by placing their guilt and ours squarely upon His Son, Jesus Christ, to be paid in full once and for all time on the Cross over 2,000 years ago?

Like it or not, this . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **56**

The Manufactured Christian Life

Not a single day goes by that believers aren't bombarded with instructions on how to live their personal lives.

Whether it's through the medium of books, CD's, DVD's, radio, television, the internet or the pastor of your own church, the message is universally the same; "Here's what you need to do to live the Christian life."

What drives this incessant flow of meaningless twaddle?

When Christian leaders, teachers, pastors and authors need more money, they disappear to the seclusion of their private offices, studios and dens to begin once again – the

enriching labor of manufacturing a clever thing called the 'Christian life'. In their own unique way, they each draft an elaborate series of 'must dos'; a good-looking consumer product that promises a better, closer, more personal, more effective, more rewarding relationship with their loving God.

Regrettably, the substance of their clever constructions bears no resemblance to the true Gospel message!

What are just a few of these 'must dos'?

For starters, we must become more Christ-like; surrender our lives to Him every day; discover God's perfect will for our lives; stay in the center of His will every living moment; follow Christ and His example each and every waking hour; meditate on the word day and night; listen closely to the Holy Spirit; come against the work of Satan; anxiously await Christ's second coming; love God with all our heart, mind and soul; tithe regularly to open the windows of Heaven; warn all unbelievers of an eternity spent in HELL; internalize the scripture through memorization; devoutly search for wisdom; accept the chastisement and discipline of God; discover our spiritual gifts and use them selflessly; hold ourselves accountable to fellow believers; obey all of God's laws; show ourselves approved in everything we do; act righteously in every

situation; live an exemplary life . . . and the list goes on and on!

Every time we encounter a must-do, we're coming face to face with the authors and inventors of the manufactured Christian life.

The never-ending list provides the infinite supply of raw material necessary for these imaginative thinkers to cleverly design and sculpt their lucrative, heaping piles of glossy product and eloquent speech. If it's working according to plan (and it always does!) the continuous lava flow of information in all its various forms, will keep us spending, giving, watching, reaching, worrying, trying, learning, hoping and doing – for the rest of our lives. All the proof you need is as close to you as a book shelf, a corner table or the stand beneath your wide-screen TV. Even a quick, cursory glance will likely reveal a Bible commentary by a celebrity Christian preacher; a new book on the End Times by a bestselling Christian author; a shiny teaching DVD along with an encouraging letter from the leader of a worldwide ministry asking for your continued monthly support.

Just where does all this inventive manufacturing knowhow have its genesis? Consider first, that all of today's self-proclaimed experts had to start somewhere and that somewhere is . . . a Christian university staffed by stiff,

controlling, indoctrinating, know-it-all professors whose primary concern is making a living. Now consider that all the graduates (the next batch of leaders, pastors, teachers and authors) enter the workforce and spend the rest of their productive lives regurgitating all that they have learned from years of intense exposure to mind numbing doctrines for the singular purpose of – making a living. Need we say more?

Let's face it, these young upstarts are good! Right out of the gate they bring considerable innate leadership ability. They're bright, talented, ambitious, clever, charming and persuasive. On the flipside they're often harsh, cruel, vindictive, stubborn, judgmental, two-faced and dictatorial. Upon consideration of these attributes, it's to our great disadvantage that they focus their skill and ability over their entire working life upon the innocent masses. It's to our immense misfortune that they foist upon Humanity, whether by oratory skill or writing acumen, their preconceived biases and deeply imbedded doctrines. It's to our ongoing and incalculable affliction, that for the express goal of making a living – they bring virtually no intimate, personal knowledge of the Gospel truth to the people they are so intent on reaching.

The 'Christian life' is a completely manmade, wholly constructed and contrived life from the top down. It begins with 'you must believe', and it ends with 'you must

persevere’. The entire machine runs on money without which, it would quickly collapse.

The apostle Paul had the right idea when he refused to accept any money for his ministry work. He used money from gainful employment to fund his own ministry and limited his preaching to the simple Gospel truth; Christ crucified! Paul understood the mystery of the Gospel like no one else. He knew that all we needed to know was accomplished on the Cross, ONCE AND FOR ALL. He taught others that when Jesus Christ said, “It is finished!” – it truly was.

What a stunning and welcome contrast to the mesmerizing parade of fabricated ‘must-dos’, verbal drivel and written gobbledygook that flows from the creative, money seeking minds of today’s self-proclaimed Christian authorities.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **57**

The Ministry of Reconciliation

[2 Corinthians 5: 14-21] “For the love of God controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. Therefore, from now on we recognize no man according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet we know Him thus no longer. Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things have passed away: behold, new things have come.

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and he has committed to us the word of

reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Who can deny the importance of this word ‘reconciliation’?

Is it possible for anyone to miss the grand scale of its meaning? To begin with, it was accomplished solely and entirely by God, through Christ’s perfect sacrifice on the Cross. It was God who while wielding His enormous, matchless love in the direction of Mankind, took complete control of the contentious issues that included enmity, friction, disagreement, separation, sin debt, judgment, punishment and eternal life. In the midst of that control, Paul had no choice but to arrive at the wonderful conclusion that one died for all and therefore . . . all died. It can only mean one thing. At the precise moment of Christ’s death, all of Humanity died with Him and in Him! This singular event changed everything in the twinkling of an eye. This most rudimentary idea turned human logic – upside down!

Is it any wonder that he should advise those that have been raised to new life in Him, that they should live for a greater purpose than pure selfishness?

Paul now makes his next logical determination. He will never again view any man according to the flesh. From now on, he sees no man saddled with an unpayable sin debt; no man facing the anger, judgment and wrath of God; no man without the free gift of eternal life; no man tethered to Adam's original act of disobedience through unbelief; no man made only of the dust of the earth; no man alive outside of Christ. Paul sees every man according to the Spirit. Every man, woman and child that he encounters from this moment forward, will be seen not as a life in the flesh, but as a life in the Spirit! He has no alternative but to acknowledge the fact that any man in Christ is a brand-new creature such as has never existed before! Paul knows that he too has become part of this entirely new paradigm in spite of his despicable, criminal past. He sees the writing on the wall! Everything old has passed away and new things have arrived! Eternity has made its presence known and there's no possibility of ever returning to the status quo!

All of this was orchestrated by God, who as we all know, reconciled us to Himself through Christ. Isn't it nice to know that you don't have to reconcile yourself? Aren't you relieved to hear that God did all the work and absolutely nothing is required of you? He reconciled you back to Himself. He united you to Himself. Nothing can ever separate you from Him. It's just that simple. And in the very next breath He gives you a ministry. Can you believe it? God gave each of us a ministry called – the 'Ministry of

Reconciliation'. You're in business. You're a full-fledged, full-time minister. You don't need a degree or a diploma from any manmade college or university. Once you understand that God has reconciled you and everyone else to Himself, you have all the knowledge you'll ever need and you're ready to go! Just get a lapel pin and a bumper-sticker that says, "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself . . ." and your ministry will burst out of the gate with lightning speed!

Did you know that you even get a special title?

No ministry is complete without a leadership title or position. Your title conveys to all your true authority. It's your license to share the good news and it's wrapped up in one word – Ambassador. This word is conferred upon you by God alone, not by some college dean or some high-sounding church official. Sounds pretty distinguished doesn't it? You bet it does! You're free to share this good news of reconciliation with anyone you choose. Whenever the moment seems right to you, go ahead and tell that man, woman or child that because of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross, they've been permanently joined together with Him. Their eternal future in Heaven is forever secured. That because of Christ's payment in full for sin once and for all time, there are no trespasses on their record. They've been wiped clean as a whistle. Nothing they do, no matter how bad, can ever change it!

Don't let anyone tell you that reconciliation is hard work, that only preachers can do it or that it must be accepted before it can be effectual in anyone's life. God didn't need anyone's belief, acceptance, agreement, approval or permission for reconciliation to take place. We don't need to reconcile ourselves. As verse 18 says, it was "God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ . . ."

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **58**

The New Testament Starts Where?

Maybe you've never wondered where the New Testament actually begins. How hard can it be to figure out, since every fresh addition dating all the way back to the invention of the printing press starts with the very first words of Mathew – correct?

How easily persuaded we are and how effortless it can be to settle on a thought or an idea, considering it to be factual and forever beyond dispute. The process of adopting an idea as undeniably true and requiring no further investigation is called, 'indoctrination'. The operating principle behind this insidious force so often used by Christian pastors and leaders is exactly what? Repetition – pure and simple! Repeat the idea often enough to a teachable, open and receptive mind and the end result

becomes predictable – an undebatable, unquestionable fact, never to be revisited again.

Now let's take another look at the part of the Bible called the New Testament. A testament is a will. A will is a personal and private declaration of assets, containing specific instructions as to their distribution to those mentioned as rightful heirs. It becomes effective only after the death of the author or testator. Knowing this, where do you suppose the beginning of the New Testament really is? At what moment does the New Testament or New Will take effect? This would be precisely at the moment of Christ's death upon the Cross. It was at this moment that everything old passed away and everything in an instant – became new. It was at this juncture that all of Humanity was actually and truly united with Christ in His death. It was here that the RANSOM (Jesus Christ) was accepted by God as full payment for the original sin of unbelief and for the accumulated sins of Mankind. It was at this point that the sting of death was forever removed and the legal code itself – abolished for all eternity!

Just three days later, when Christ was raised from the dead to sit at the right hand of the Father, we have the final elements of the New Will brought to fruition. All of Humanity rose in Christ as a consequence and all were born again in Him! All were made free for the sake of freedom itself. All were in that moment made perfect in Christ. Jew

and Gentile became ONE NEW MAN. Every prophecy concerning Christ was fulfilled for all time. It was this specific point in time that Paul was referring to when he wrote, “From now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.” “The old is gone, the new is here!”

The New Testament or New Will has been delivered to the heirs. The process is already complete. There is nothing left to do and nothing we can add. Does it matter if someone refuses to believe that all this ever happened? Can ‘not believing’ make the result go away? Can refusing to believe, nullify a legal transaction between God and Christ that took place over 2,000 years ago? Can ‘not believing’ on the part of any one person, reverse the fact that all of Humanity died in Christ at the very moment of His death on the Cross? Can ‘not believing’ prevent what has already taken place – the inclusion of Mankind into Christ’s new birth at the moment of His resurrection over 2,000 years ago? Can ‘not believing’ pull anyone out of Christ, where he and the rest of Humanity sit at the right hand of God at this very moment? Can any man by any device or technique at all, put asunder what God has caused to be joined together?

The well indoctrinated Christian is quick to take up the argument that the New Testament starts with the earliest accounts of Jesus’ virgin birth to Mary and Joseph. Then, in the strangest, most perplexing juxtaposition of both time and space, it takes a flying leap into the twenty-first century!

Christian pastors, teachers, leaders and authors routinely teach that the New Creation actually happens in the here and now – one person at a time, as each repentant soul confesses his sin, surrenders his will, invites Christ into his heart and then dies to himself every day for the rest of his earthly life. This interpretation is pure fiction – a whole cloth concoction having no foundation in the Bible whatsoever!

What possible license can permit anyone who claims to be a religious authority, to spin such a deceitful tale and then to hammer this invention into the open and vulnerable minds of anxiously awaiting listeners?

Article 59

The Simple Gospel Truth

Just how simple is the Gospel truth?

Christian leaders today describe the Gospel in a nutshell as, ‘Christ died for your sins – receive Him now and become a Christian today!’ This is essentially what professional Christians (pastors, leaders, authors and teachers) take with them wherever they go. Whether they’re standing in front of a small group or in front of an immense crowd seen on international television, the message is always the same – ‘God wants a personal relationship with you. Become a Christian today!’

Yet if it isn’t made out to be ridiculously simple, it’s blown up to become absurdly complicated. Like potter’s clay, the Gospel becomes whatever professional Christian

leaders happen to be preaching about on any particular day, at any particular time. Everything is in their view . . . the Gospel. Preach stories from any book in the Bible and it's the Gospel. Choose any Biblical topic and approach it from any angle and it's the Gospel. If it sounds like the truth wherever you might happen to find it, it must be the Gospel. Be original and creative in your teaching and it can only be the Gospel!

To begin with, let's look at what the Gospel isn't. In the first place, the Gospel isn't Christian and never could be the exclusive property of any religious sect. It's the prized possession and birthright of all of Humanity.

What else isn't the Gospel?

It isn't counting souls, making believers, filling churches or increasing financial contributions. It isn't following Christ, confessing sin, surrendering your will or praying without ceasing. It isn't endless study, acting like Christ, constant meditation or building faith. It isn't searching for wisdom, behaving righteously, being held accountable or living an exemplary life. It isn't sharing your testimony, contributing your talents, agreeing with the doctrines or anticipating God's final judgement.

The Gospel isn't just anything that sounds like the truth, taken from just anywhere in the Bible to fill up a

bestselling book, a glossy DVD, a Sunday sermon or a midweek Bible study!

The Gospel is the Good News concerning the completed works of the Cross. It was accomplished by the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ with the total agreement and approval of God alone. These completed works make absolutely no demands on us. Like the Banner Headline on the front page of a newspaper, it's simply to be read and understood for what it is! Imagine for yourself the day after a national election. You wake up to read the headline of your newspaper to discover that you have a brand-new President or Prime Minister. You didn't even vote for him and yet he's going to be your leader for the next four, five or six years whether you like it or not. It's the news. There's nothing you can do about it. You can't reverse it as much as you might like to. Every fiber of your being can oppose it, but the outcome is still the same. What's done is done. The Gospel is no different than the news. It's permanent and thankfully there's nothing you or anyone else can ever do to change it!

What are all the perfect, completed works that we call the Gospel? The list is far too long to examine completely here. It all began when Christ allowed Himself to be taken RANSOM. He offered Himself up as full payment for the accumulated sin of Humanity, conditional on the total and immediate removal of Man's sin record – past, present and

future. The Law, in accordance with its own demand, accepted Christ as legal tender whereupon Humanity's sin debt was forever expunged and never to return again . . . but we're not finished yet. Christ's payment for sin would accomplish something far greater – the monumental purchase of all of Humanity referred to as REDEMPTION.

Where Mankind was previously under the legal jurisdiction of the Law of Sin and Death, that legal receipt of ownership was transferred upon God's buyback under a newly created jurisdiction – the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ. Where we were once slaves to sin, we were now united into Christ's death and resurrection and born again in Him to forever become slaves of righteousness – the exclusive property of God contained in Christ. Released by His death and raised in His resurrection, Mankind's place in Heaven was eternally assured.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 60

The Three Most Wonderful Words

Ever wondered what the three most wonderful words in the Bible are?

If we take the time to consider the complete meaning of the phrase “It is finished!”, then we have our answer. These are the last three words that Jesus Christ spoke before He died and yet strangely, these three words are referred to all too sparingly among Christian leaders, pastors, teachers and authors.

The word ‘finished’ has many synonyms in the English language such as: completed, accomplished, perfected, consummated, ended, over and done. All of these words when applied to the work of the Cross refer to an historical blue-print, plan or event finally coming to pass. Close your

eyes for just a moment and imagine what the Bible speaks of as the ‘end of the ages’ and the ‘fulfillment of time’ and their coming together at one predetermined intersection – Christ upon the Cross. The end of the ages tells us that there are no more ages to come. They were finished, wrapped up and put away at the moment of Christ’s death. We aren’t even in an age right now!

Keeping your eyes closed imagine the fulfillment of time, the end of time as we know it. Consider the precise moment at which the mainspring of history’s clock snaps . . . stopping forever its incessant ‘tick-tick-tick’ and ushering all of Humanity into an entirely new dimension. With one final gasp (that of Christ upon the Cross) the mission was complete! No, we haven’t entered the Twilight Zone but . . . we have entered that timeless and wondrous space called eternity! We got there in that twinkling of transition that occurred when all who had died in Christ in the moment of His death, were raised in Him at His resurrection just three days later!

Of course, all of this is true only from God’s point of view. As Man would see it, nothing is any different. All is still as it has always been. We peer at our watches and conclude with each tiny advance of the second hand, that absolutely nothing has really changed. We glance at our calendars to see when our next dentist appointment or hair cut is scheduled. We expect our favorite television program

to occupy the same time slot this week as it always has. We're even going back to work on Monday morning, whether we like it or not!

The truth is – if we continue to cling forever to our own point of view, we'll never be able to appreciate and comprehend the accomplished, eternal work of Christ upon the Cross.

To take the matter further, if we continue to see everything from our point of view, then how could we have actually died with Christ and been raised with Him when He rose to sit at the right hand of the Father? How could Satan have been humiliated, defeated and destroyed once and for all time? How could we be without sin and the constant need of moment to moment, day to day forgiveness? How could we ever have been born righteous in Christ? How could all of Humanity be REDEEMED by one Man's sacrifice on the Cross? How could God have brought into existence an entirely New Creation, by placing every man, woman and child into Christ? How could everything old have passed away at the Cross? How could everything in the very next moment, become new? How could peace exist between God and Man? How could the sin record of all Mankind be erased? How could we be made perfect here and now, in Christ? How can we be living in total freedom through the measureless, eternal love and favor of God?

The completed work of the Cross can only be owned, experienced and shared with others from the final moments of Christ upon the Cross, His subsequent death and His resurrection. These realities can only be understood and translated from the point of view – “It is finished!” Sure, we can try to make the argument that it’s just not possible for us to see things from God’s point of view. Sure, we can limit God to our own hard-core doctrines and hold fast to our own opinions of what we think actually happened on the Cross but – you can choose to see things from God’s point of view if you so decide. It isn’t hard to do.

In harsh contrast – the decision NOT to take God’s position on “It is finished!” is the single biggest mistake you can make.

Sticking to the conventional Christian view of the Cross – is a flat denial of the Gospel. The immediate consequence is the tragic loss of shameless, guiltless peace and freedom in this life, which is rightfully yours by inheritance.

It was Paul who said in Corinthians 2, that he no longer saw any person from the human point of view. He would now see everyone as God saw them. Sure, he used to see Christ too, from the worldly point of view (as not raised), but no longer. It was this choosing to see things from God’s point of view – that transformed his life. It was his dogged

insistence on carrying this view – that made him content in all things and that lit the intense, consuming flame of his ministry. If Christ died for every man, then everyone died in Him. If any man was in Christ – then all were REDEEMED and raised in Him. If the old creation descending from Adam had passed away – the New Creation beginning with Christ had arrived. This was Paul's reality.

This was his . . . wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **61**

The Truth Will Set You Free

Now here's a blockbuster statement if there ever was one. "The truth will set you free!"

It's used by Christian authorities all the time to describe the effect of confessing your sins to God, acknowledging Christ as Savior, receiving Him into your heart and then declaring Him to be the undisputed Lord of your life to everyone you meet. Hey – there's no question about it. We're looking at the greatest declaration in the Bible. But it isn't your confession to Him. It's His confession to you! The truth will set you f-r-e-e! You'll be unconstrained; beholden to no one; anxious for nothing; a king and a priest; guiltless, blameless and sinless; a living, breathing example of true and complete liberation as it has never existed before.

There's only one problem. Christianity, through its doctrine of total servitude, has distorted the truth of this statement so as to strip it of the very freedom it claims to bring.

The 'Christian life' is full of rules and regulations, responsibilities and obligations that have nothing at all to do with the freedom made certain in Christ. Ask any believer what they know of true freedom and while they might express delight at the very idea of it – they never own its reality.

Who wouldn't be excited to know what its full implementation might bring to their life?

Freedom isn't a word to take lightly. It isn't a word you can just throw around. It's the costliest word in the English language or any language the world over. Who doesn't know that freedom always requires the lifeblood of its staunchest proponents? Two world wars that resulted in freedom for vast swaths of Mankind were the result of courageous men willing to make the greatest commitment possible – their own precious lives. In spite of these wars, there still remain many countries yet to discover what it means to be free. Their citizens carry the heavy yoke of servitude – forced to yield daily to harsh and demanding governmental bureaucracies that care nothing for their wellbeing or survival.

Even in countries where freedom in its truest sense prevails, there are countless multitudes that seek to be guided, watched over, commanded and controlled. As if uncomfortable with the whole idea of complete, unabashed freedom in all its glory – they seek out leaders to take them by the hand and show them another way. Where are such authority figures to be found that can harness the power of true freedom and convert it so quickly and efficiently into slavish obedience?

Look no further than religion.

Pick any one. For our purposes we'll choose Christianity. Devout believers, for what they consider to be Christ's sake – wholly surrender, commit and subject themselves to the unbounded manipulation and control of church overseers. Unacquainted with limitless freedom, they volunteer their fresh, untapped lives to the authority and supervision of their religious masters. What at its very root could cause such willing servitude? What can drive a person born into freedom, straight into the clutches of slavery?

In a word . . . guilt!

It isn't enough that the courts of the land should assess and punish guilt wherever they deem appropriate and necessary. Churches declare guilt upon every person that

fails to enter their ranks. They proclaim Adam's original guilt-ridden sin upon every man, woman and child that has ever lived. They deliver the ultimatum that you can either die with this guilt upon your head and pay the eternal penalty, or make the necessary confession and join the Christian fold through membership in a local church. Even in a free country, an edict of this kind can wreak havoc on countless numbers of sincere, hardworking, well-meaning souls.

How do you recover? How do you come back from a verdict of 'guilty' unless you capitulate – unless you agree to comply with the ruling religious class?

There is a way to sidestep the phoney, trumped-up charge of 'guilty' as declared by Christianity. There is a way to continue in a life of total freedom. How, you ask? It's called . . . THE TRUTH!

The truth will set you free! Are you ready?

Here goes!

The sin of Adam that plagued Mankind for thousands of years was paid in full by Christ upon the Cross! That original sin no longer exists! Your ancestral bloodline, stemming from the disobedience of God's first created man, was severed completely and for all eternity. As a

consequence, that charge of ‘guilty’ was dropped once and for all time.

It CANNOT be pinned on you or anyone else!

Even the sins of Mankind that had accumulated through the centuries, covered by animal sacrifices and yet never removed, were abolished in their entirety with Christ’s perfect sacrifice on your behalf. You are the legal descendant of God’s new ‘First Man’ – Christ!

Christianity’s persistent verdict of ‘guilty’, upon you and everyone else, is a corrupt scheme to steal your freedom, your peace and your money! Guilt is the only force they can employ to bring about your obedience, but that guilt – DOESN’T EVEN EXIST!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **62**

There Were Two Adams

It might come as a shock to some, that there were actually two Adams documented in all of Bible history.

The First Adam (the first man that God ever created) was formed straight out of the dust of the earth – and made in the image or likeness of God. He was composed principally of carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium and phosphorous. By contrast, the Last Adam (Jesus Christ), while obviously made of the same basic components, contained something quite new and startling as a consequence of God’s intimate interaction with Humanity. Jesus was the possessor of God’s distinct DNA.

He was made ‘of God and in God’. Just as modern science has determined that every child receives their life-giving blood directly and exclusively from their father – the

same was true of Jesus. He received God's perfect, untainted, supernatural blood – a fact that would forever change the course of Human history!

Bible scholars will be quick to tell you that Jesus was both completely God and completely Man. While no one with any understanding would dare to argue with this fact, trying to comprehend it is a whole other matter. The application of basic arithmetic (Man plus God equals what?), tells you we're dealing with one very unique and special individual. Clearly, He had no peer. There had never been anyone like Him before. There would never be anyone like Him again. Who isn't familiar with the fictional comic strip super hero known as Superman? Make no mistake about it. Jesus Christ was . . . the real 'Superman'!

Even though experts are quick to note that Jesus was 'all God', Christian leaders say less about just how and in what ways, preferring to dwell on His similarity to Man. Many insist that He felt pain like a man; thought like a man; bled like a man; got injured like a man; got ill like a man; got angry like a man; got nervous like a man; got tempted like a man; that He was, in every way, just like a man. Are they right in their assumptions? How was He actually like God? It remains a subject of conjecture when considering what being 'all God' might actually mean. If we let Him assume His full proportions as the simplest logic would dictate, what would He be like?

For starters, we can say that Jesus Christ was immortal, giving Him powers and abilities far in excess of any mere human being. He was immune to dying until such time as it was appointed. The death He suffered was only temporary and unable to restrain Him from being raised again to new life and taking the rest of Humanity with Him. He was resistant to sickness and disease every day of His life. If He hit His thumb with a hammer, there would be no visible swelling and no internal bleeding. If He was cut, the blood would clot immediately, preventing even one drop from spilling. An ingrown toenail, a bunion or even a broken bone – were outside the realm of possibility. He was never susceptible to even the most innocuous of ailments, like a common cold. His blood pressure was like that of an Olympic athlete. His vision, by any means of measurement, was off the charts. His posture was perfect. His movement was smooth and coordinated, with no hindrance of pain, disability or deformity. His muscular strength was without rival. His voice could bring about instant calm and composure. His hearing could catch the faintest whisper. His touch could hasten immediate health and wellbeing. His mind could read the thoughts of others. His wisdom was spellbinding. His attitude . . . indefatigable! His memory . . . unyielding! By the exercise of His will, He could perform good deeds that defied even the laws of nature!

If anyone should doubt Christ's superhuman strength, one only has to consider the horrendous scourging He endured prior to His crucifixion. It was a severe lashing that

rendered Him unrecognizable to anyone who knew Him. Any other man of even exceptional strength, while perhaps narrowly surviving this, would have most certainly expired by and through what was to follow – an excruciatingly long and punishing journey to the Cross. The blood loss would most certainly have rendered him unconscious if not dead, long before he would have ever reached his final goal. Yet we all know the story. We all know that Christ endured. He went the distance. His blood was allowed to flow freely, but only at such a time and place as to totally make certain, the REDEMPTION of Mankind. Nothing could hold Him back from His earthly destination and His Heavenly goal – to unite all things to God, in, by and through Himself!

This Jesus Christ (the Last Adam), was such an amazing figure, that the apostle Paul says of the First Adam (the one that God created in the Garden of Eden), that he was just a type, a sketch, a mere shadow of this One who had finally arrived.

Christ's appearance, death and resurrection, was so monumental as to completely sever Mankind's ancestral link to the First Adam. Man's lineage would have no connection and nothing in common with the First Adam anymore!

Man's history was handed over to an entirely new beginning – a completely fresh start in the moment of Christ's death. As Christ died for every man – every man

died in Him. When Christ rose – Humanity rose in Him, even as He became God’s New, ‘First Man’!

One cannot argue with the devastation the First Adam brought into the world. Sin spread like a wildfire through every living soul and throughout every successive generation, all the way to the Cross. However, as Paul said, “Thanks be to Christ!”. He went on to say, “As the disobedience of one man, Adam, brought sin into the world – the obedience of one Man, Christ, will make all righteous!”

Anyone who denies the truth that we’re all descendants of Christ, and have all been made righteous in Him, is living in complete, all-out enmity to the Gospel.

Anyone who insists that each person’s lineage ‘leap frogs’ over the crucifixion and that we each remain joined to the First Adam, carrying his original sin, is engaged in a total denial of Christ’s completed work on the Cross!

Article **63**

Thirst No More

[John Ch.4:6-15] “Jesus, tired as He was from His journey, sat down beside a well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

“Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?” Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I

give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Interesting passage, wouldn’t you agree?

Who doesn’t know how dependent we are on water just to survive?

Health practitioners recommend six to eight glasses of H₂O every day. Seems like a lot, but keep in mind that aside from water straight from the tap, everything we eat from steak to nuts, has water in it too. With every lift of a fork or a spoon to our mouths, we’re satisfying our ever-present need for life-giving moisture. Our total dependency on water is a never-ending fact of life.

Now from the verses mentioned earlier, we can see there’s another kind of water altogether. Jesus tells the woman at the well, that whoever drinks His kind of water, will never thirst again. Just one gulp will create an endless spring. One sip – a perpetual source that will never run dry. It didn’t dawn on the woman right away that the water Jesus was talking about was something very different from the clear, tasteless liquid she knew so well. And if we take this to be true – what kind of water could it be? Would it bear

any resemblance at all to the liquid that refreshes our every pore? Of course, Christianity thinks it holds the answer.

Its leaders teach that this water is the Spirit of Christ. They teach that while He hadn't yet gone to the Cross, one day His Spirit would be made available to all believers. All they would have to do is ask for forgiveness from every past transgression; turn away from every wayward inclination; invite His Spirit (the person of Christ) to take up residence in their hearts; leave behind every vestige of personal desire and ambition; listen intently to the Spirit's personalized will; continue to ask forgiveness from one day to the next for every new transgression and; be always obedient to carry out the Spirit's demands until their dying day.

If the new believer can just follow these simple instructions to the letter, he'll never thirst again. Pretty good eh? Everything he'll require from then on will have its source within him. His search for missing knowledge and winning formulas will at last be over. Rest . . . relaxation . . . peace . . . tranquility . . . freedom . . . will at last be his to enjoy for all eternity. What? Are you joking?

If you believe this, there's some oceanfront property in Utah you'll be interested in!

Christians claim to gain His Spirit when they say they're 'born again' (at the first moment they believe). If this is the water Jesus was referring to, then why do they suffer from

such constant, severe and debilitating dehydration? If this is the spring within them, why must they seek water from so many other wells (instruction from Christian leaders, teachers, authors and preachers) day in and day out? Jesus said that whoever drinks of His water will never be thirsty again. Yet Christians continually ‘thirst’ after Him. It’s as if these most unfortunate souls are crawling about on their hands and knees crying, “. . . water . . . water . . . just one more sip of water!” They can never seem to get enough. An ‘intravenous drip’ connecting believers to a continuous stream of learning, would seem to be the only solution!

Now take a moment to imagine what it would be like if you only needed to do something, anything, just once. You could get a haircut and never see that barber again; cut your lawn and sell your mower at a flea market; fill your car with gas and wave happily as you speed past every station; make just one mortgage payment and the house will belong to you! What else was Jesus talking about, if it wasn’t supposed to be like this? As plainly as could be, He said, “. . . whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst.” One drink of His water – and you’ll never need another solitary drop for as long as you live! One sip – will create an endless spring within you that will satisfy forever! So, if it wasn’t His Spirit that He gave the woman at the well, then just what was it?

It was . . . THE TRUTH!

Is there anything more liberating than the TRUTH? Can anything else bring more peace and tranquility? Wasn't it Jesus who said, "The TRUTH shall set you free"?

Once you possess it, do you have to keep going back for more? Once it resides within you, doesn't it continue to spring up inside you with unrelenting fervour? Once it's yours, do you need to keep listening to preachers and teachers rehash every story from the Bible? Once it abides deep in your bones, do you still need all those books, CD's and DVD's that crowd your shelves and clutter your night stand?

Absolutely not!

Nothing else satisfies like the TRUTH!

Want this water right now? You don't have to do anything but listen. You don't even have to agree. It's still the TRUTH. Are you ready? Here goes! When Jesus gave His life on the Cross, He REDEEMED every person who ever lived. He paid the price for Humanity's sin, once and for all. No matter how bad you may have been – your record is free and clear. Eternal life is a free gift to you and everyone else. Heaven is in your future, no matter what!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 64

Today's Special: 'Imitation of Christ'

Guilt, shame, condemnation, anxiety, tension, fear, depression, poor self-esteem, self-doubt, self-neglect, personal abuse, abuse of others; it's a long list of conditions and maladies isn't it?

Where can we find so many of these afflictions?

More importantly, where can we find so many . . . in just one individual?

Look no further than 'the Christian'.

Today's Christian is a veritable basket of mental and physical health concerns. Brought about by what, you ask? Wrong teaching and a life devoted to the imitation of

Christ, that's what! To begin with, Christianity is made up of just two distinct components: talkers and listeners, leaders and followers, professionals and amateurs, teachers and students, the educated and the ignorant. What's the end product of these two elements co-existing side by side? A command and control structure called Christianity. What can anyone logically expect to come from it? Conditions ideal for every kind of mental and physical abuse producing every kind of illness of body, mind and spirit that can possibly be imagined!

The pastors, leaders, authors and teachers that make up the professional component of Christianity have no clue, no inkling whatsoever concerning the perfect and completed works of Christ upon the Cross – otherwise known as 'the Gospel'. They rely on natural talent, personal ambition, leadership ability, seminary learning, denominational doctrines and statements of faith. Trusted commentaries fill any gaps. Money makes them tick. If they weren't being paid, they wouldn't have any part of it.

Like the chef at your favorite restaurant, the professional clergy prepare all the spiritual meals. The menu is theirs alone to determine from one week to the next. Of course, the amateur, the listener, the ignorant one, fulfills his role to the fullest by agreeing to digest whatever is served with few if any questions asked. Like the fast food concoctions of today, the 'drive through' creations of the

clergy elite threaten the very life and limb of their addicted parishioners. On Saturday, members of the highly esteemed teaching elite descend on their hallowed chambers of study to Google their way through their Sunday sermon in a hasty, last minute effort to microwave their 'special of the day'. The gasps and burps heard emanating from the pews, are ample evidence that the nutritional content is so sadly lacking!

What's on the menu you ask?

Just what is the professional clergyman of today preparing in his kitchen?

While the seasoning varies, the main dish is always the same; the imitation of Christ. Christ surrendered His will. You must too! Christ gave Himself completely. You must too! Christ took up His Cross. You must too! Christ died. You must too! Christ became born again. You must too! Christ lived an exemplary life. You must too! Christ lived victoriously over every temptation. You must too! Christ lived in God's perfect will every moment of every day. You must too! Christ exercised His faith. You must too! Christ submitted to authority. You must too! Christ acted righteously in every situation. You must too! Christ lived in total obedience. You must too! Christ suffered endless persecution. You must too! Christ persevered to the end. You must too! While the Christian understands that it's not

possible to meet these character demands to the fullest, he or she endeavours every day, through a sense of obligation and vain hope, to grow continually so as to on their last day, finally arrive at the glorious state of total likeness to Christ. Pure hogwash!

Somewhere in the world today, a brilliant and talented forger is applying all his skill and knowhow to copying a perfect twenty-dollar bill. No matter how perfect it may be – it's a FAKE. Somewhere in the world, a clever criminal mastermind is endeavoring to duplicate a perfect Rolex watch. No matter how precise – it's still a FAKE. Even if someone could be fooled, that affords no genuine proof of authenticity. The true origin of an article can always be ascertained not by how it looks or performs but by something imputed into the product by its maker. While it is the hallmark of the Christian to think and believe that he or she is growing with each day into the likeness of Christ – it is nothing more than sheer illusion. We're talking about fakery of the most unfortunate kind!

This fruitless and all-consuming endeavour called the 'imitation of Christ' is the wellspring from which the believer inevitably becomes flooded with frustration, disappointment and disillusionment along the way. The persistent failure to measure up, as evidenced by the Christian's constant, moment to moment confession of sin, grows into a looming sense of desperation. This

desperation, no matter how subtle, ultimately ends in illness or disease.

Trying to become like God was Adam's big mistake in the Garden. It was his futile attempt at likeness that brought sin into the world in the first place. When Christ died on the Cross, all of Humanity died in Him. When He rose, all of Humanity rose united in Him. By virtue of being forever placed into Christ to sit at the right hand of God, the very character of Christ Himself was imputed (ascribed) upon all Mankind. We're not now and never have been 'becoming like Christ'. We're in Christ! That is as authentic and true as you can get.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **65**

Was Redemption Just an Offer?

Christian leaders prefer to describe the wonderful work of REDEMPTION as just an offer. Can you believe it?

The Son of God, Jesus Christ, goes all the way to the Cross; suffers every kind of indignity imaginable; endures the full, unrestrained wrath and anger of God; pays in full the complete sin debt placed against all of Humanity; completes the purchase of every man, woman and child that will ever live; circumvents the looming prospect of an eternity relegated to sin, death and HELL; and Christian leaders expect us to believe that it was nothing more than just an OFFER and not an actual, valid, completed, effective REDEMPTION!

Are you kidding?

It's quite clear that Jesus offered Himself to God as payment for accumulated sin. It's true that He became an offering deemed fully acceptable by and to God as sufficient, legal tender for the payment of the sin debt in total against Mankind.

How on earth can we possibly extrapolate this to mean that Christ's completed work of REDEMPTION was just an offer?

This is clearly the handiwork of those in leadership dating back many hundreds of years. This can be nothing less than a deliberate attempt to make off with the very truth of this incredible gift and then to hand it back to the uninformed, uneducated masses as a gutted or fileted substitute. This is the work of Christianity at its most detestable – delivering to its own dues paying rank and file this most amazing gift, however drastically discounted, while patently denying it to the rest of Mankind! Gospel truth – who cares? REDEMPTION is exclusively for the Christian and no one else!

Where does it say anywhere in the Bible that REDEMPTION was just an offer? Sure. In the world as we know it, offers abound. They're everywhere. You don't have to look far at all to catch a deal on the fastest car, the softest

carpet, the cleanest teeth, the strongest tissue, the brightest shine, the smoothest leather, the highest return, the lowest interest or the quickest weight loss. Name your product and there's a company pitching an offer! Honestly, is this what Jesus accomplished for Mankind on the Cross?

Did Jesus really turn REDEMPTION into just a possibility – a pitch?

Did Jesus, after everything He was forced to endure on the Cross including death – simply put an offer on the table?

Did Jesus tell His disciples just before He ascended into Heaven, “Here's the spiel, boys. Once I'm no longer with you, go out into the world and announce to everyone you meet, that Jesus Christ has left an offer on the table for them. Tell them it was the best deal I could swing. Describe it as the most incredible real estate available; an unbeatable, high end location called 'Heaven'. Tell them it's going for a sacrifice and that people will be dying to get in on it! There's only one snag. You've got to tell them I couldn't muster enough collateral to clinch the deal on My own. Explain that My personal worth was overestimated and in the final analysis, insufficient to close the books. Tell them that regrettably, My Dad was unable to help Me make up the difference. The free gift of an eternal home that I promised them – can't be free at all! Explain that unless they agree to

co-sign, they won't be able to qualify. Unless they add their own personal lifelong commitment to the deal, any hope of closing on the purchase will be lost to them forever. Tell them that their precious eternal real estate – rests entirely on their own personal decision!”

Sound like a nightmare?

You bet it does!

Fortunately for us and for the rest of Humanity, Jesus Christ had all the equity He needed to REDEEM every man, woman and child that has ever lived, before or since the Cross! Yes. And fortunately for us, His credit was good with the Father and the deal went through on time and without a hitch . . . no conditions.

Whether you believe it or not, you were purchased out of ‘sin and death’ and placed into Christ with a rock-solid deed in Heaven. Tell that to a dyed in the wool Christian and brace yourself for a response bristling with self-importance and self-righteousness. They’ll rush to defend their precious doctrines. “No one can bring such a claim against Christianity and get away with it. No one can tell us that REDEMPTION applies to everyone and without conditions yet. The gall of such an assertion! Sure, it’s a gift, but don’t think for a moment that it’s really free. Don’t tell us that to merely exist is sufficient qualification for anyone.

“You must believe!” they say . . . even though belief is something that can be neither weighed, nor measured to establish its true substance or validity.

“You must believe!” they say . . . even though the Devil himself believes.

“You must believe!” they say . . . even though there were no believers (all had forsaken Him) at the moment that Christ was making full payment for the sin of Mankind upon the Cross!

Article **66**

We Have Put On – The Incorruptible

[1 Corinthians 15: 50-57] “Now this I say brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory. Oh Death, where is your sting? Oh Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

When you hear good news, do you get excited?

Does the truth concerning victory over death and sin put a spring in your step and a gleam in your eye? Do you know beyond a doubt that it applies to you? Do you live in that reality every day?

It wasn't just Christ's victory. It wasn't just He alone that experienced freedom from sin and death. It wasn't just He alone that was raised to sit at God's right hand! While it was He alone that made it a reality, all of Humanity was made to share equally in that stunning victory. Every man, woman and child, whether before or since that perfect and complete sacrifice has been set free from the domination of sin and death.

We should be thankful every day that Christ was able to accomplish through His death and resurrection such an amazing feat!

Death was terminated by God's unconditional gift of eternal life. Sin was terminated by Christ's payment in full of Man's accumulated sin. Satan's ambition to alienate the entire human population was terminated by Christ's legal RANSOM exchange! Keep in mind that all this is not some future victory as so many Christian leaders like to teach. We don't need faith to get there. It's our rightful possession –

here and now! It has been a reality for more than two thousand years, even though the story has yet to be told!

Now since we have attained this victory over death and sin as a result of Christ's RANSOM and subsequent REDEMPTION, what else must be true? We have all put on immortality! All of us are dressed appropriately for an eternity spent with God in Christ. Our corruptible nature has been removed and an incorruptible nature substituted in its place. Beneath the surface of our mortal skin lay a suit impervious to fire, rust, injury and decay. Did we have anything at all to do with this astounding transformation? Did we put on this immortality by ourselves? Did we inform God through any personal thought, choice or action on our part that would make this a certainty? Absolutely not! This was accomplished by God and Christ and we could only stand idly by. We had no idea it would happen in the first place! Immortality was put on us! How? Everyone who had previously died, going all the way back to Adam, was raised in immortality when Christ was resurrected. How do we know this? [1 Corinthians 15:16] "For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen."

Now for the dead to be raised immortal and incorruptible in Christ, something must have happened first. What prophetic sign was expected beforehand, that would point to the arrival of this condition of immortality and incorruptibility as it pertained to every member of

Humanity, whether living or dead? We're talking about the sound of the trumpet!

Try and tell any Christian leader, teacher, pastor or author that the last trumpet has already sounded and be prepared for harsh and relentless criticism. They're sold on a futuristic view concerning this prophetic event. For them, the sound of the trumpet can only signal the assembling of believers at the time of Christ's second coming. They can't understand that it had everything to do with a New Creation – the uniting of Mankind with Christ at the time of His death and resurrection. It's right there in I Corinthians 15, verses 51 and 52! “. . . We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and this mortal must put on immortality.”

While it appears as though Paul was speaking of a future event, we know now that the dead being raised incorruptible, happened when Christ was raised. We know now that One New Man was the result of Christ dying for all and all dying in Him. We know now that the New Creation was the result of Man being raised together in Christ.

Lastly, Paul knew that flesh and blood could never inherit the kingdom of God. Corruption could never meet

incorruption. Mortal Man could never meet immortal God. This was a bridge too far. This was a chasm Man could never cross. This was a dilemma where Man's ability to think, choose and act meant nothing.

Overcoming this insurmountable divide, would take a miracle infinitely greater than the parting of the Red Sea! Without some stellar intervention the likes of which had never been witnessed before, Man would never be able to abide forever in the presence of God. If God couldn't clothe us in immortality, we would be doomed to eternal separation.

Humanity had to be changed all together in a single moment – in the twinkling of an eye. Whether we were asleep or awake at the time, it would make no difference. God's solution: place Man in Christ. Every man, woman and child going all the way back to Adam, became the legal recipient of His immortality at the resurrection!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **67**

What Ever Happened To REDEMPTION?

Go into any Christian church and if you know anything at all of the meaning and importance of REDEMPTION, you'll come out with a befuddled look on your face.

You'll come away discovering that the word 'REDEMPTION' has receded from the forefront of preaching, teaching and even general conversation. In fact, it's relegated to a place so far in the rear, you won't likely hear about it at all! You can even make a special point of attending church on an Easter Sunday and the likelihood of ever hearing the word 'REDEMPTION' will be slim to none.

'Christ has risen' is proclaimed from the front to the back. 'Jesus Christ is alive' is celebrated from one side to the other. But strangely, the magnificent sermon topic of

‘REDEMPTION has come to all . . . Jew and Gentile alike!’ – occupies almost no space anywhere on the property. It’s been relegated to no more than a whispering campaign between the few devout believers that would ever dare to speak of it.

Pastors, teachers, authors and leaders in unanimous consent, appear to have taken an oath never to reveal the true, permanent location of this most wonderful achievement called REDEMPTION. And just where is that place, you ask? It resides deep within the spirit of every man, woman and child that has ever lived, before or since that day when wrath, anger and judgement was exacted upon Christ at the Cross! Isn’t it odd that instead of giving us the plain and simple Gospel truth, ‘You have been saved’, church leaders should choose to re-shuffle the deck? They’ve taken the words ‘You have . . .’, and dealt them back in the form of a question, ‘Have you . . . been saved?’! Can you believe it? Reverse these two little words and instantly the clarity of the Gospel is completely shrouded in mystery, doubt and uncertainty!

The finished work of Christ on the Cross in a nutshell – is REDEMPTION!

If ever a single word could be used to describe the grandest, greatest, most stupendous, most miraculous outcome of Christ’s perfect sacrifice, this would be it! Yet

try to find it in any sermon, broadcast or publication that claims to be reaching out to the unbeliever or the unconvinced and you'll come up empty in virtually every case. You'll have more luck trying to find a contact lens in a bubble bath! Why is it so?

The organized church believes strongly that REDEMPTION isn't the most important reality of the Cross. Christian leadership, from top to bottom, is convinced that the greatest matter of importance is the expression of personal commitment. They believe that each individual, through a prescribed series of steps, must be brought to the place where they confess their sins and become born again. Then and only then, might they get to the topic of REDEMPTION!

According to the church, becoming REDEEMED is a future event in every person's life, hanging completely on the singular and purely mortal idea of 'personal belief'. REDEMPTION isn't a past event, dependent only on Christ's complete and perfect payment for sin on behalf of all Humanity, once and for all time. On the contrary, each person must find his or her own way to escape the inevitable bonds of Hell. Each person must take it upon him or herself to slip free of the vice-like grip of Satan's tentacles by becoming born again – by becoming a new creation at the moment of their own wise and clever choosing. The organized church sincerely believes that the

greatest, most important consequence of Christ's perfect sacrifice is actually summed up in a question, 'Have you . . . been saved?' This leaves the conclusion whether good or bad, entirely up to the individual!

Anyone outside of Christianity, who fails to answer this question correctly, is prevented from accessing any information concerning their eternal possession as rightful heirs of the free gift of eternal life. They're never allowed to partake in the knowledge of this most wonderful inheritance called REDEMPTION unless they first agree to get in line; unless they follow the correct procedural order as dictated; unless they renounce their sin and plead for forgiveness; unless they surrender complete control of their own personal lives; unless they die to any and all individual desires or ambitions; unless they devote each day to contrition and the performance of selfless deeds; unless they commit to regular church attendance and participation; unless they vow to remain perfectly still, pending notification by the Spirit of their next move; unless they live this way for the rest of their lives!

Christians themselves, across the entire spectrum of denominational life, are kept in the dark concerning the full effects of this truly incredible, legal and binding inheritance – this most amazing consequence of the Cross. They're never told that REDEMPTION is a free gift to all; that it shows favoritism to no one; that it doesn't pick winners and

losers; that it has no way of measuring unbelief; that it releases you from the shackles of sin and death; that it throws you into the arms of a loving God; that it gives you complete immunity from spiritual attack; that it allows you total freedom through Christ's ransom exchange; that it provides your irrevocable passport to an eternity in Heaven; that it constitutes your legal release from the wrath, anger and the judgement of God; that it guarantees your 'Son-ship in Christ' by the Creator of the Universe; that it represents your signed and sealed, life-time warranty against an uncertain, insecure, eternal destiny!

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 68

What Is a Gospelite?

As the name might aptly suggest, a Gospelite is one who understands the Gospel and is totally sold out to the Gospel truth and all that it truly represents.

The Gospelite has a keen awareness of the historical reality of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross and all that it means for every member of Humanity, bar none. He or she realizes that all are included in the completed work of the Cross. Mankind was united to Christ in His death upon the Cross and remained inseparable from Christ at the moment of His resurrection, altogether rising in Him and becoming seated with Him at the right hand of God.

The Gospelite considers Satan to be humiliated, defeated and destroyed. He refuses to pay any homage to him in any way, endeavoring not to mention the name ever

again. Sin died on the Cross – ONCE AND FOR ALL TIME, eliminating any need at all for confession, shame, guilt and conviction. Man, no longer has any record of sin. Christ alone was convicted in the place of all of Humanity. Our petty feelings of remorse over past mistakes add nothing to the historically true charge and the final, incontrovertible penalty resulting from God's judgement heaped exclusively upon Him. There can be no requirement for a person to activate their own individual new birth and no such thing as a method or procedure involving a series of steps by which he or she can do so.

The Gospelite realizes that the REDEMPTION of Mankind happened at the Cross. It's a completed assignment. There are absolutely no conditions such as belief, acceptance, confession, commitment, surrender, obedience or self-denial that must be met by any person to qualify for an already accomplished work. Enmity and division between God and Man were forever settled as a result of Christ's paid RANSOM at the Cross. There is only peace. The whole world is reconciled to God through Christ, for all time. As a consequence, Jews and Gentiles have been brought together to form ONE NEW MAN in Christ.

The Gospelite acknowledges that Mankind is no longer under a dispensation of Law. As a result of God's New Will or Testament, all of Humanity lives and moves freely under

the dispensation of Grace – the direct consequence of Christ’s propitiation on behalf of Humanity while upon the Cross. The Gospel is good news and only good news, excluding no one. The Gospel is the only truth that matters. If it isn’t the Gospel, it isn’t important. If a pastor isn’t preaching the Gospel, he has no business preaching at all. If a pastor is unacquainted with the fully accomplished works of Christ on the Cross (the Gospel), he should immediately seek to remedy the situation or resign on the spot!

The Gospelite is well acquainted with the ministry of reconciliation and understands it to be everyone’s ministry. What can be simpler than to tell a person that their sins have been forever removed and their eternal future made secure, attributable only to Christ’s perfect sacrifice upon the Cross on behalf of every man, woman and child that has ever lived? We should approach God’s enemies with the disarming truth that they are already REDEEMED and reconciled to God in Christ. It’s a work already finished. They’re already righteous in Christ. They were even born righteous in Christ at the moment of their physical birth! Whether they choose to believe it or not, they can’t make God a liar. It’s still the truth. We don’t need to force a confession of sin or a commitment to lifelong servitude on anyone, for them to receive what is already theirs by legal birthright. No one has to make Jesus Christ their Lord. He already is and has been ever since the Cross!

The Gospelite has no need for doctrines or long lists called 'statements of faith'. The Gospelite doesn't have to read, study, memorize and live by every word in the Bible. The Gospelite doesn't need professional pastors, bullying deacons or meddling elders! Since the Gospel isn't a religion, it doesn't have to be held up by manmade doctrinal pillars requiring forced agreement and constant monitored compliance. The Gospelite is free for the sake of freedom itself!

The Gospelite is the possessor of the greatest truth the world has ever known

. . . the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **69**

What Is PROPITIATION?

This isn't a word you hear every day. Even if you're a devoted believer who attends church regularly, it may not have been explained to you in a way you could easily understand. There's even a good chance it has been only lightly touched upon, whenever it has come up. And on those rare occasions, you can bet that its power has been so simplified, so weakened, so watered down, as to render it virtually meaningless.

These concerns aside, it remains without a doubt one of the greatest words in the Bible. It carries such authority and covers so much Gospel ground that it is hard to imagine any other word accomplishing so much!

1 John 2:2 says, "He [Jesus] is the PROPITIATION for our sin, and not ours only [believers] but also for the sins of

the whole world [everyone, regardless of persuasion]”. We can see here that PROPITIATION is not the exclusive property of any group. Christian leaders repeatedly tell us that this word applies only to believers. They preach that only those who confess to be Christian can ever be its legal and proper recipients. It is abundantly clear from this verse that they couldn’t be more wrong! The incredible work of PROPITIATION extends its total effectiveness to every human being regardless of race, creed, color or religion. Knowing now that PROPITIATION is inclusive, there can be only one thing left to determine. Just what exactly did Jesus accomplish through this monumental act? In the first place, PROPITIATION brought about a complete cessation of hostilities between God and Man. With Christ’s total payment for sin, once and for all time, we were introduced to an entirely new and permanent reality – peace on earth.

Obviously, we’re not talking about peace between one man and another. This peace is strictly between the Creator and His creation. At no time since Adam’s fall had this condition ever existed before. The good news concerning this new reality was called the Gospel of Peace. Peace would become the order of the day, from then till now and for all eternity. The future prospect of God’s anger, wrath and judgement, would and could no longer loom heavily over the hearts and minds of His beloved offspring. Of course, this good news would need to be spread as far, as wide and

as quickly as possible! Why else would Jesus command the disciples in Mark 16: 15-16 to, “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel (the Good News) to all creation.”?

In the second place, PROPITIATION brought about the complete removal of sin as it had existed since Adam’s first transgression in the Garden of Eden. As stated in Romans 5:18-19, “Consequently, just as one trespass [Adam’s] resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act [Christ’s] resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man [Adam] the many [all] were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man [Christ] the many [all] will be made righteous.” Wow! This is powerful stuff!

Just as Adam brought sin into the world – Jesus took it out! Jesus killed sin on the Cross! Just try and tell this to any Christian preacher or leader and brace yourself for a stormy rebuttal. They’ll say, “How dare you say such a thing!” They’ll tell you, “Sin is everywhere!” They see it lurking behind every tree and nesting under every rock. They believe that sin is the most dominant force on the planet. They have no clue that sin died on the Cross, never to be resurrected again. Accordingly, they teach believers that they must confess sins one at a time, every single day, for the rest of their lives. This constant obsession with sin is nothing less than a fictitious, fruitless, futile exercise of the self-centered, self-deprecating, self-righteous mind. What a sorry

state. What a sad condition. How unfortunate that the organized church should find itself in such total opposition to the Gospel truth!

In the third place, Christ's PROPITIATION brought about the complete unleashing of God's love upon all Mankind. Unmerited, undeserved favor was let go of in a mighty torrent upon every man, woman and child that has ever lived, before or since the Cross! 2 Corinthians 5:14 says, "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all [every person irrespective of their belief], and therefore all [the entire human race] died;" What does this tell us? Clearly, we were all united to Christ in his death. Humanity was contained in Him at that moment. There can be no doubt that when Christ rose, we all rose together with Him in perfect unity and in that same 'twinkling of an eye'. Can there be any greater favor than this? Is there any greater love than this – to be raised together in Christ and to sit for all eternity at the right hand of God?

Ephesians 2:14-16 says, "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both [Jew and Gentile] one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of the commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that he might reconcile them both to God in one body through the

Cross, . . .” This verse speaks again of the end of enmity between God and Man and to our third point – that He joined together both Jew and Gentile whether believers or not into one body, and that body was Christ’s.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article 70

What is SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS?

Have you ever given much thought to this question? Have you ever considered what genuine self-righteousness might look like? Could it be that the answer seems obvious already?

Perhaps you think self-righteousness is a stuck-up, nose in the air, holier than thou attitude. Maybe you think it's the assumption someone may have, of always being right regardless of what anyone else thinks. Possibly you think it's just a confident approach to life that results in wise decisions and successful results. You might even think it could be reached with years of diligent study and the attainment of degrees and diplomas through various avenues of higher learning.

Self-righteousness, regardless of what you think it means, is a ‘do it yourself’ proposition. It will have your distinct DNA all over it. Maybe you know someone who thinks of themselves as a ‘do-it-yourself’ plumber, electrician, carpenter, auto mechanic, fitness advisor, health practitioner, appliance repair man or what have you. These ‘do-it-yourself’ types won’t hire people with the precise skills needed to do the job. They can’t imagine ever paying what they consider exorbitant fees, for someone who possesses the specific knowhow to perform the work to the highest standard. No – instead they take it upon themselves. They do the job all on their own. Sometimes they meet with mediocre success but more often than not – they fail miserably. Anyone who examines a do-it-yourself project up close can often see the glaring missteps and mistakes that the proud amateur can’t see on his own!

Do-it-yourself righteousness is simply attempting to do deeds of righteousness and then living with the pride of accomplishment that attends it. Hey, there’s no rule whether written or unwritten, that says you’re not allowed. There’s no state or provincial law that requires a degree or a certificate to show you have a license to practice it. The existence of worldly religions is an ample demonstration of this fact, as they encourage their members to engage in it at every opportunity. There’s only one problem – and it’s a big one. ‘Do-it-yourself’ righteousness is your own idea, done your own way. If you think it has any affiliation with God –

you're very mistaken. If you're a Christian and think He takes any special notice – you're on the wrong track! He has nothing to do with do-it-yourself righteousness even though some might engage in it for His own sake!

Consider the fact that trades, skills and abilities that competent professionals practice every day, are the product of Man's own invention. They're manmade in every respect from start to finish. World religions are no exception – artificial in the very same way. Not so with righteousness. This isn't a synthetic product or idea. It wasn't the result of someone's imagination even if inspired by some higher power, however you might describe it. We have no clue how to handle it. If for a fleeting moment we could, it would instantly be sapped of all its strength. It was never our word in the first place. The creator, owner, user and distributor of righteousness – is God alone! Yes. He coined the word. He defined it. He gave it power and authority. He determined if, how, when and where it was to be deployed. He orchestrated its far-reaching effects. We can make no partnership agreement with God concerning the practice of His righteousness. We can gain no personal benefit by it. Righteousness isn't for Humanity to use. It was strictly for God to impute. The moment we try to put righteousness to work – it becomes filthy, dirty rags in our hands! We can do nothing but poison ourselves and others by any attempt to exercise it!

Setting out to attain a Godly standard of righteousness by your own ‘do-it-yourself’ effort is the textbook definition of self-righteousness. Go ahead! See if you can accomplish such a feat! Put the ‘do-it-yourself’ principle to the test and see how far you get! Here’s the bar you must rise to meet – perfect performance in thought, word and deed. The Bible declares that for anyone to procure God’s brand of righteousness on his own, he or she must perform flawlessly in each of these categories – over their entire lifespan. Add to this, that each of their descendants, regardless of how many, must also act perfectly in all three categories for their entire lives, extending across three full generations. Only then, can that very first person in the family chain be declared to have earned God’s righteousness by his own doing. One tiny mistake and ‘poof’ – the whole thing is gone! The proud banner of Godly ‘self-righteousness’ through personal achievement, is torn to shreds before his or her eyes! The arduous process of attaining it, must begin all over again!

Let’s face it. Based on such a high level of expectation, we’re disqualified from ever trying to reach it on our own. The odds are infinitely better that you could land a 747 Jumbo Jet in a hurricane, than to attempt righteousness successfully on you own! The only way we’re ever going to get it, is if God decides to give it to us unconditionally even in our failing, undeserving condition. Are you ready for some Good News? Thankfully He did just that! When He

allowed His Son Jesus to die a perfect sacrifice on the Cross over two thousand years ago, God placed upon Him the sinful nature and character attributes of all Humanity. As part of an agreed upon RANSOM exchange, He imputed to Mankind, Christ's perfect character and qualifying righteousness. All were in the moment of Christ's death, declared guiltless and sinless by His precious blood!

Righteousness is yours not by do-it-yourself effort, but because of God's amazing love! Righteousness isn't some selfless action of thought, word or deed, yet to be taken by you or anyone else. It's a wondrous feat already accomplished! "As by one man's disobedience many [all] were made sinners, so by the obedience of one [Jesus Christ] shall many [all] be made righteous." [Rom. 5:19]

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **71**

What Would Jesus Say?

Who can deny that Christians have at least one driving compulsion?

Little else occupies and controls the Christian's conscious mind, more than the need and the desire to think, talk and act like Jesus. Their day to day struggle to become more like Jesus is the centerpiece of their entire Christian life. Becoming a virtual replica of Jesus is the holy grail of righteous pursuit, since others of their faith are so quick to judge by the same criteria. The ability to be perceived as becoming like Jesus, will surely move the convert into the higher ranks of the Christian hierarchy. If there's one drawback to mimicking Jesus, it would have to be the constant, self-imposed pressure required from one moment to the next to keep it up. Inevitably, new and experienced

believers alike, fall repeatedly back into their authentic, default personalities – their true, mortal selves.

Every Christian in leadership has been caught dropping the façade and falling back into their genuine selves and always at the worst possible times. Those within earshot of harsh words are resigned to walking away deeply disappointed in their leader's substandard conduct and performance. Many are unintentional eyewitnesses to actions entirely unbecoming to someone in such a respected place of authority.

Relying on what Jesus would say or do as the yardstick in each and every situation, will inevitably lead to discouragement, disillusionment, ongoing frustration, anxiety and even depression for everyone concerned. We can't do it with any consistency. Trying to be someone we're not has never been the pathway to real change. Let's face it – imitation has no real foundation in the Gospel truth!

While we're on the topic of what Jesus would say or do, let's take a look at a particular situation. When a Christian meets an unbeliever, he may have an opportunity to share his faith with him. He might explore the four spiritual laws: how God's standard is perfection and man's condition is sinful; how if man remains in this sinful state he'll die in his sin and spend eternity in HELL; how there's

a wide gulf separating him from God that he cannot cross as long as he is still deep in his own sin; and finally – how the unbeliever must confess his sin, ask for forgiveness, make a decision to remove himself from the central control of his life and place Jesus Christ on the throne of his life as Lord and Savior. Now honestly – if Jesus was present today and talking to this man, do you really think that He would talk like that?

In the first place, the four so-called spiritual laws are based entirely on Man's spiritual condition prior to Christ's perfect sacrifice for sin on the Cross (while Humanity was still contained in the First Adam). In the second place, they amount to no more than Man's own cookie cutter system for selling REDEMPTION through a series of simple, repeatable steps!

If Christians are going to push the idea of mimicking Christ, why don't they ever consider what Jesus would really say to an unbeliever if He were here today?

Jesus would never tell an unbeliever that he was deep in his own sin! He would say, "I canceled your sin, when I took upon Myself the sin of the whole world at the Cross."

Jesus would never tell an unbeliever that there was a wide gulf between Him and God. He would proclaim, "I removed your separation from God, when I reconciled the

world to God through Myself, not counting anyone's sin against them.”

Jesus would never tell an unbeliever that he wasn't yet REDEEMED. He would be quick to insist, “I REDEEMED you at the Cross. I paid the RANSOM for you and everyone else when I died.”

Jesus would never tell an unbeliever that he must make Him, Lord and Savior. He would simply state, “I am the Lord, and I've already made you ‘slaves of righteousness.’”

Jesus would never ask an unbeliever to make a personal decision. Jesus would tell him, “I made the decision on your behalf and without your consent, to REDEEM you and everyone else at the Cross.”

Unbelief is not a disqualifier!

Unbelief is only a lack of knowledge and understanding concerning the historical truth of Christ's perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross. God's solution for the unbeliever is awareness through information – not eternal punishment! Unbelief can never be charged again to Humanity's account. An eternity spent in HELL is no longer an option. The practice of enlightening the uninformed, is all that remains.

Article **72**

What's Between Your Ears?

There's a good chance you already know that the life you live, is lived between your ears.

A space not much more or less than six inches across contains your sincerest hopes, your greatest dreams, your fondest memories, your biggest mistakes, your finest accomplishments and your highest aspirations. In that comparatively tiny space resides all of your coveted beliefs, character traits, convictions and of course, the totality of life's experiences that allow you to function as an intelligent human being.

The information you gather and store between your left and right ear has everything to do with whether you enjoy life or whether you greet it with fear, disdain or disinterest. There's nothing more important to our everyday lives than

the thoughts and ideas we give access to within the gate of this most precious piece of property called – the brain!

If you doubt the truth of this, then consider the hundreds of millions of dollars spent each and every day on advertising in all its diverse forms – the singular goal of which is to take up residence on the most valuable plot of land the world has ever known! Authors, producers, preachers, politicians, doctors, teachers, promoters, employers, friends, relatives, husbands, wives and children, all want what they consider their rightful place in that most fertile and productive soil on planet earth – your mind. Much of what they contribute or demand is part of a fulfilling and satisfying life. Much of it has a rightful place in our day to day thought life and we wouldn't be truly happy without it. Some of it brings no benefit at all and can actually have a strongly negative impact. It's for each of us in our God-given freedom, to distinguish the difference. It's for each of us to either allow or disallow as we see fit.

Has it been a long time since someone came up to you and asked if you believed in God? Did anyone ever tell you that you would spend eternity in HELL if you answered 'No'? Has anyone tried to convince you that you had to confess your sin and hand your life over to Christ before you could know for sure that you would go to Heaven? Perhaps you're wondering what these questions have to do with the subject, 'What's Between Your Ears'? Well, there

are people living all around us that are holding onto baseless beliefs and doctrines. That incredible real estate between their ears is held captive to religious concepts that have no foundation in reality or truth. Sincere believers devoted to a variety of different faiths from all over the world, subject themselves week after week to leaders and teachers that fill their heads with wrongful ideas concerning an angry, vengeful God, intent on annihilating anyone who doesn't believe Him, love Him or worship Him.

If you consider just the Christian faith alone, the amount of fallacious instruction occupying the ether is beyond comprehension! Christian pastors, leaders, authors and teachers treat the Christian mind as though it was an empty basket suitable for whatever they happen to be throwing out on any given day. From their end, sincere believers exercise almost no responsible control over what they permit to live and breathe within the God made centerpiece of their very existence.

When a person enters through the doors of a church or turns on a radio or TV to a Christian channel, he or she becomes immediately complicit in whatever is being taught. The individual is already offering up a tacit consent and wouldn't be making themselves available if it wasn't so. The precious mind is in full surrender, granting authorization to whatever is being preached regardless of the content – regardless of whether it's factually true.

Christian leaders waste no time in cleverly converting the consenting believer's incredible grey matter into a ferocious, horrific and bloody, field of battle. Your head becomes the lighted stage for a daily fight to the finish between the imaginary powers of life and death, with God returning to one corner and Satan to the other at the close of each day. This trumped up Satan was never destroyed on the Cross. This imaginary God never knew victory through His Son. Both characters are equally false and both are products of a vivid and disturbed imagination – coming straight from the misdirected minds of Christian leaders at every level and in every capacity!

Your mind was never meant to be a battlefield! Anyone who tries to foist this lie upon you, has no acquaintance whatsoever with the dismal, humiliating and crushing defeat of Satan and no idea at all concerning the wonderful, complete and perfect victory of Christ on our behalf upon the Cross. Banish once and for all, the vain and fruitless imaginations of a duelling and embattled Satan and God. Deny once and for all, this false, daily life and death drama and experience for yourself the true reality of a mind completely at rest.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **73**

What's Wrong with Christianity?

Is that a loaded question or what?

Where do we possibly begin?

For starters, Christianity is an entirely manmade religion. It didn't exist in the moment of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross – as He became the RANSOM that secured the REDEMPTION for all Mankind once and for all time. Even as the words 'Christian' and 'Christianity' became popular labels throughout the ensuing years right up to the present day, these words are still no more and no less than man's own inventions. Any attempt to derive Gospel truth from these words, is proof of religious man's enchantment with creativity, inventiveness and self-importance!

Every main doctrine built around Christianity has its roots in self-righteousness and self-importance. Take for example the matter of ‘surrender’. It’s a common doctrine of Christianity that the new believer must surrender his will and his life to God. The true Gospel makes no requirement for any such thing. It was Christ who surrendered His will on the Cross for our sakes. Out of His surrender to the will of God upon the Cross, came the great victory over Satan, sin and death, resulting in freedom for the sake of freedom for all of Humanity. There isn’t even a hint of surrender required on the part of any other individual. The very idea of surrender after victory is preposterous. It’s nonsensical!

Consider next . . . the need for ‘repentance’.

While no one can underestimate the vital importance of changing one’s mind to acknowledge Christ’s completed work on the Cross, it is in no way as Christian leaders proclaim – a requirement for REDEMPTION. The true Gospel contains nothing of the kind and pertains to nothing but Christ and Him crucified and the immediate, eternal benefits toward Mankind that were the result. Repentance, as an absolute necessity for receiving eternal life, is nowhere in the Bible. It’s pure, manmade fantasy!

Let’s move on now to ‘obedience’.

As we all know, Christ was obedient unto death upon the Cross. His obedience resulted in the REDEMPTION of Mankind for all time. Christian leaders maintain that a lifetime of obedience is a requirement for eternal security. They insist that the disobedient Christian should have no expectation of a future in Heaven. They calculate that the disobedient believer is in all likelihood – not even REDEEMED. But the true Gospel makes no such claim. There is no requirement for an individual's absolute obedience whatsoever! The true Gospel required only the obedience of Christ Himself and how thankful we are that He was!

Then of course . . . there's 'confession'.

Christian leaders strictly contend that one must confess their sin before they can know they are REDEEMED. The true Gospel makes no such requirement. It states that when Christ, the perfect sacrifice, died upon the Cross, He paid the price in full for the sin of all Mankind – once and for all time. No individual has any sin on his or her personal account. For over 2,000 years there hasn't been any sin accrued to anyone's account whether they were a believer or not. In fact, all accounts have been forever closed and the legal code itself has been abolished. Mankind has nothing to confess. Confessing sin that no longer exists goes beyond unbelief to pure vanity, self-importance and self-righteousness to the extreme!

Is there more, you ask?

You bet there is!

There's the matter of being 'born again'. Christian leaders stubbornly insist that a person must be born again by following a series of prescribed steps leading to their REDEMPTION and eternal life. Jesus did say that a 'MAN' must be born again but He was no doubt referring to Himself. The true Gospel pertains to just ONE MAN (Jesus Christ) being born again. When Christ rose, all of Humanity rose in Him. All were in that very moment, re-born in Him. There is no technique, no sequence of steps and no methodology that can make you or anyone else born again!

How about one last thing?

Christian leaders maintain that a person becomes a New Creation the moment he or she confesses belief in Christ. The true Gospel makes no such claim! On the contrary, it speaks of a New Creation – 'One New Man' coming into existence for the first time at the Cross, as all of Humanity consisting of both Jew and Gentile was united into Christ's death and subsequent RESURRECTION.

After reading this, is it any wonder that Christianity is such a fragile house of cards?

Pull away any one of their precious doctrines and the whole manmade structure would collapse overnight. Their entire blueprint of command and control would disintegrate and the result would be catastrophic – the gaining of your personal freedom! Could you ever have imagined that your personal freedom might be the worst thing that could possibly happen to the organized church?

Of course, they can't and won't allow such a thing to take place. The business of the worldwide church must go on! The power, money and control must remain firmly in their grasp!

Article **74**

Why Do Preachers Limit Redemption?

Don't you think it strange that Christian leaders, teachers, pastors and authors work so hard and in such a determined way to place a limitation on God's REDEMPTION?

C'mon now! God created the universe and everything in it. Is it not possible for Him to rescue all of Humanity by means of a gift? Is it not possible for God, by and through the sacrifice of His own precious Son, to make HEAVEN an absolute surety for every person whether they believe Him or not? Are God's anger, wrath and judgement placed upon His own Son, not sufficient to relieve every person who has ever lived from the penalty of sin and an eternity in HELL?

How far are Christian authorities willing to go to deny REDEMPTION to every living soul? The reason for such a denial in the first place can only boil down to one thing . . . self-righteousness! What other cause can there be? God has no limitations! How can anyone determine what God is able or unable to do? How can anyone claim authoritatively that God was NOT able to rescue every living soul, no matter how good or how bad? He put His own Son on the Cross! Why would He stop short of a total victory? Why would he leave even one soul unredeemed? What conceivable purpose would that serve? It makes no sense!

When Adam fell by his own decision to disobey God, the sin resulting from unbelief spread like a cancer through every living soul! In every succeeding generation there would not be one possible exception. Surely Adam's unique ability to choose according to his own will would find itself endlessly repeated again and again with every new addition to the ranks of Humankind. Who would dare to argue that sin was not universal? Who would dare to oppose the idea that God's decision to impute sin would reach every person of every faith, creed, color and ethnicity? Sin didn't need buildings from which it could be preached. Sin didn't need faith for it to become effective. Sin didn't need believers for it to place its indelible mark on the DNA of Humanity. God determined it . . . and so it was!

Just who was Adam anyway? He was no more than a type, a shadow of the one true Adam, the One that was yet to come!

He was a faint copy, a rough sketch of the First of a New Creation as perfect as God ever intended it to be; Jesus Christ, God's own Son.

Wouldn't God be just as thorough, just as effective, just as successful in removing the sin of Mankind, as He had been in imputing it in the first place?

Of course!

If Adam, a mere shadow, could by his own decision plunge Mankind into an abysmally chronic state of sin and death, would not the authentic Adam, God's true elect as determined from before the beginning of time, be able to REDEEM Mankind out of that sin and death and into life in Himself?

It's certainly true that Christ died for all, and in so doing, all were deemed to have died in Him. If all of Humanity died in Him, it was certainly not beyond God's ability, that all should rise in Him as ONE NEW MAN in CHRIST, as stated in Ephesians 2.

It was Paul who said, “If any man is in Christ, the new creation is here. The old has gone. The new has come!” Paul, a cold-blooded murderer in his own not so distant past, claimed to be the chief of all sinners and the worst of the whole lot. He knew that if even one solitary man was included in Christ’s death and resurrection – then everyone was. He knew that if he was in Christ, as awful as he was, then who else could possibly be left out? Nobody was worse than him. Even the Gentiles were included in Christ and none of them had yet become believers.

Leave it to Christian authorities to try and determine who is in Christ and who isn’t. Leave it to Christian leaders, teachers, pastors and authors to determine that it didn’t all happen at the Cross; that only believers are included; that a person becomes a new creation only at the precise moment that he or she believes. Leave it to the Christian hierarchy wherever they exist, to lay down the law on who is HEAVEN bound or HELL bent!

If only they should have to pay for their bending of the truth to suit their own ends. If only they should be subjected to the same cruelty they bring others, when they place conditions on REDEMPTION that include belief, confession, surrender and so much more!

Article **75**

You Can't Sin Anymore

If this were true, wouldn't it cause you to vibrate with excitement from head to toe? Would there be enough words to describe the wonder of Christ's achievement if He could remove Man's sin and his ability to sin for all time?

Nothing we could say in the way of thankfulness would seem sufficient. Yet John knew how to describe these very things when he penned these words [1 John 3:4-9], "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness. And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him is no sin. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. Little children let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who sins is from the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was

manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him: and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.”

Ever wondered just what these verses mean?

Whoever commits sin breaks the law. Whoever thinks they're still sinning is living as though they were still under the constraints of the law. Christ was manifested to take away our sins. He succeeded. Your sins are gone. You don't get them back. You don't get to make new ones. You don't get to confess old ones. You can call your misdeeds whatever you want, but **DON'T CALL THEM 'SIN' ANYMORE!**

'Sin' isn't your word to loosely toss around. Where does it say you inherited the copyright? Through the action Christ took in paying the price for the accumulated sin of Mankind, He made it **IMPOSSIBLE** to ever sin again. How? **HE ABOLISHED THE LEGAL CODE!** Without the code, offences can neither be found nor recorded. No charge of wrongdoing can ever be made.

Sound too good, to be true?

Why else would it be called the Gospel?

John says, “WHOEVER ABIDES IN HIM DOES NOT SIN!” Christ made it impossible to offend God by sinning, no matter what it might look like to you or anyone else. Christ was the last offence that God ever recorded!

This is where Christian leaders, teachers, authors and pastors if they were to read this, would go berserk shouting ‘heresy’ at the top of their lungs!

The organized church uses the ‘sin card’ all the time to keep their followers wallowing in guilt and shame. They see sin everywhere. It’s under every rock and behind every tree. They teach that both they and their followers’ sin uncontrollably every day and that they’re all just rotten, no-good sinners to the core! The nation’s leading evangelists, amidst all their wealth and fame, confess sin every day and teach others to do the same. For them, sinning is just an undeniable fact of life. It cannot be stopped. It’s in our DNA. We got it from Adam.

STOP right there!

This is a complete denial of Christ’s completed work on the Cross as the Last Adam! They’re still seeking righteousness through their own actions. They refuse to let go of Old Testament law. They vainly attempt to pump air into the dead legal code. They put Christ back on the Cross every time they confess a new sin!

John said, “Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him”. Anyone who thinks he’s still sinning has no idea what Christ accomplished in His perfect sacrifice on the Cross! Sure, keep on seeing sin and confessing it if that’s what turns your crank, but don’t think for one minute you’re abiding in Christ while you’re doing it.

Christian authorities are living in a fictional reality of their own diabolical making and teaching others to do likewise. They’re naming and confessing sin every day even though **THE LEGAL CODE HAS BEEN GONE FOR OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS!** Constant confession of sin is a complete rejection of the onetime payment for sin that Christ made on our behalf! John said in verse 8, “He who sins is from the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning.” What fine company you keep as you hold tightly to your doctrine of perpetual sin and confession! You’re right in there with the devil because he’s been sinning all along! John went on to say, “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.” It’s a good thing He didn’t plan to destroy you right along with him!

It’s as simple as this – **WHOEVER IS BORN OF GOD, DOES NOT SIN!**

Can we get this through our thick skulls?

And still you ask how?

Well, here's a second reason. God's seed, Christ, is in you and He can't sin! God's seed is in every person who has ever lived, because of the Cross! Not because of your vain daily confessions of sin. Not because you asked Him to come into your heart in a moment filled with guilt and shame. God put that seed in you the day you were born. You can't get it by asking for it. The idea that you can petition God to make you a new creation and in the very next moment be 'born again' is ludicrous – a whole cloth creation of a manmade religion called Christianity! It doesn't exist anywhere in the Bible! It does say that when one Man (Christ) died for all – all died. Humanity became permanently joined to Him at that same moment. When He died to sin, we all died to sin. When Christ rose again, we all rose in Him – born again to a new immortal and incorruptible life.

NEVER USE THAT WORD 'SIN' AGAIN! It's none of your business. It was God's business and He took care of it. He nailed it to the Cross! Make up your mind right now to free yourself from the imaginary, burdensome shackles of constant daily confession. Acknowledge and celebrate the completed work of Christ on the Cross.

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **76**

Your Faith Is Finished

Can you believe it?

Is this not the best news you've ever heard?

Can it really be true that the 'author and finisher of your faith', Jesus Christ, actually finished your faith – once and for all?

You can take it to the bank.

Faith is obsolete, over, done.

You don't need it anymore.

Nobody needs it anymore.

Sure, you might need faith in yourself to learn to drive a car, to become proficient at playing the piano or to earn your degree in law or medicine. Thankfully however, faith as it pertains to Christ, the new creation, reconciliation, REDEMPTION and eternal life, is entirely unnecessary. It won't and it can't do you any good. Faith is an Old Testament reality replaced completely at the Cross. We live in knowledge and truth, not faith – and contrary to the opinion of Christian leaders, it's been this way for over 2,000 years!

Sure, we know that the ancient heroes of the Bible were credited with righteousness according to their faith. Oh, how true it was for them. They had only the vague hope that they would ever see Christ in their lifetimes. Thousands of years would pass and it was only due to the faith each possessed in one day meeting Christ, that so many were able to sustain their day to day existence.

So how is it any different for us?

Well, in determining this, we need to look at what faith is in the first place.

According to Hebrews 1:1, faith is “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” What, in regards to Christ, is the ‘substance’ of things hoped for?

What would you suppose when thinking of Christ, is the ‘evidence’ of things not seen?

Take a wild guess.

Of course, it’s Him!

It’s Christ Himself! He’s the substance! He’s the evidence! Who doesn’t know that He has already come? Who isn’t certain that His work has already been accomplished?

Yes – He was the author of our faith. But did you know that He was the finisher too? And when do you suppose He finished your faith? It was finished at the Cross when He offered Himself a perfect sacrifice – when He said His final and most important words, “It is finished!”

Preachers, teachers, authors and leaders continue to make faith the very foundation of the believer’s life. Countless books have been written on the subject, not to mention myriads of sermons, CD’s and DVD’s.

We’re supposed to be abiding in the simple knowledge of the accomplished works of the Christ, yet believers are encouraged to keep their faith alive and active. They’re exhorted to build, maintain and even to flex their faith muscles every day.

Believers are living in the false expectation that their faith will bring about every good thing in their lives. If they would just believe enough, if they would just have enough faith, all that they desire could and would be theirs. Many believers carry with them special verses from the Bible, meditating and praying on them all through the day in an effort to gin-up such powerful faith as to overcome any possible condition of failure, misfortune, sickness or disease.

Even if life's events should take a sudden turn for the worse, believers are chided to never abandon their own faith. They're reminded that even in the very depths of despondency it's their own faith that will eventually bring them through. They're never taught that the truth of their REDEMPTION is a matter of fact; not faith. They're never told that their eternal security is a matter of knowledge; not belief. They're never instructed that their righteousness is a matter of legal inheritance; not hope. They're never told that events in life whether viewed as good or bad, are just – spontaneous events. Sure, they may be the result of personal choices that were either wise or foolish, but none are the result of faint hope or weak faith in Christ. None are the result of God's chastisement or Satan's attacks.

Many believers are taught that it is only by and through their own personal faith that they can be justified in the eyes of God. Justification is a legal term that refers to being

declared ‘not guilty’ or blameless. Romans 5:9 says, “Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him.” We can see here that faith has nothing to do with it. Christ’s blood justifies every individual whether they believe it or not. Christ’s blood rescues Humanity from the wrath of God!

Yet many Christians are taught the falsehood that their personal faith activates their own eternal redemption.

While they learn from Ephesians 2:8, that they’re saved by grace through faith and that it is the gift of God and not of their own works, they persist in the notion that it’s their own faith that makes it all possible. Pastors and leaders within the organized church, convince believers that without personal faith, the work of REDEMPTION that Christ completed upon the Cross can never be theirs.

A closer examination of this verse clearly reveals that the faith that made REDEMPTION a reality for all – was in fact Christ’s faith alone and no one else’s!

Make no mistake about it. Personal faith, together with persistent hope, had its place in daily life through the centuries leading up to Christ’s perfect and complete sacrifice on the Cross. However, once Christ had completed His awesome work of REDEMPTION on behalf of all Mankind, hope and faith were in the same moment fulfilled

by truth and knowledge. Love eclipsed faith and hope to become the singular, defining characteristic as stated in 1 John 4:8; “He who does not love, does not know God.”

This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

Article **77**

You're Just a Baby in Christ?

Wouldn't you think it odd that the Christian church would consider a mature person to be a baby?

You could be advanced in years. You could be in your seventies or eighties. You could even be on your death bed and still be considered a newborn baby.

All you have to do is to understand for the first time that Christ died for your sins. All you have to do is come to the realization that you were **REDEEMED** once and for all time by Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross. In that same moment, just like magic, church leaders will consider that you have been born spiritually – that you are a brand new 'baby in Christ' and that the 'old you' has passed away!

No matter how strong or capable you may be, you are in their view utterly defenseless and totally ignorant. You'll

need a guardian – a person or a group to provide constant care and nurturing so that one day you’ll grow to reach your full spiritual potential. With their help you’ll achieve the stature of a fully mature Christian. You’ll be able to defend yourself against the wiles of the Devil. You’ll hear God’s voice with total clarity. You’ll follow His instructions from one day to the next with precise obedience. You’ll sidestep every approaching sin with the skill of a judo master. You’ll instruct others in the mysterious ways of God.

In the first place, where did Christian leaders ever get the idea that a new believer was ever a newborn baby in Christ? Where did it come from, this idea that we grow up spiritually along a timeline similar to physical growth?

How is it that a complete doctrine has been formulated around this one single concept?

Five years after a person first understands REDEMPTION, he’s a mere child. Ten years later, he’s an adolescent in Christ. At twenty-one, he’s an adult. Forty years in Christ and he’s considered wise and knowledgeable; an example to all in every aspect of the spiritual life. Where on earth did such a doctrine ever originate?

Does it all start with 1 Peter 2:2, where it says, “Therefore laying aside all malice, all guile, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk

of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”? The example of a baby is mentioned here to suggest a fresh start, a new beginning, but certainly not as a doctrine declaring that a new birth must precede the knowledge of the Gospel, while advancing along the same chronological path as mortal life itself.

In Hebrews 5:12 it says, “For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” Clearly, Paul is using the example of a baby to admonish, embarrass and even cajole believers out of an apparent laziness and not to support a doctrine of chronological spiritual growth beginning with a new birth.

Again in 1 Corinthians 3: verses 2, 3 – it says, “And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?” Even here, the example of a baby is used strictly for

the purpose of admonishment and in no way to suggest that acquiring the knowledge of the Gospel is a lengthy process of spiritual development starting as a newborn.

In no way do these examples support a doctrine that would make any believer out to be a newborn baby when first understanding the Gospel (the good news concerning the finished works of the Cross).

Christian leaders take very seriously their doctrine of new birth, whereupon they insist that the new believer is ‘made spiritually alive’ at the precise moment that he or she understands the Gospel for the first time. They teach that new believers emerge as brand new, innocent babies – each one a squeaky-clean slate upon which pastors and teachers can write afresh their endless list of dos, don’ts, precepts and prejudices.

They say, “The human mind has no capacity to understand spiritual things!” Yet it’s this same mind that leaders fill with the incessant thoughts of sin, guilt, shame and remorse. It’s the same mind where church leaders permit and conduct an endless war with an undefeated Satan. It’s the same mind where innocent believers are kept from knowing all that God’s boundless grace in Christ provides.

No one needs to be spiritually born again!

That happened over 2,000 years ago at Christ's resurrection when Humanity was raised altogether in Him.

It's the mind and not the spirit that is renewed when it hears the Gospel truth. It's the mind and not the spirit which determines the work of the Cross to be historically true. It's the mind and not the spirit which discovers total freedom from sin, guilt, shame and judgment. It's the mind and not the spirit that understands Satan to be humiliated, defeated and destroyed for all time.

There is nothing in the Bible that points specifically to any person ever being spiritually, a newborn baby at the moment he or she makes a confession of faith.

Yes, they're new to the information. Sure, they're new to the knowledge. Without a doubt they're new to the facts but – no one ever has been or ever will be a newborn baby in Christ.

That's . . . the wonderful Gospel truth!

Sin Can't Touch Me No More!

Sin found its place in Adam
 When he ate of the forbidden tree.
 It ruined his life, his work and his wife . . .
 And it had its sights trained on me!

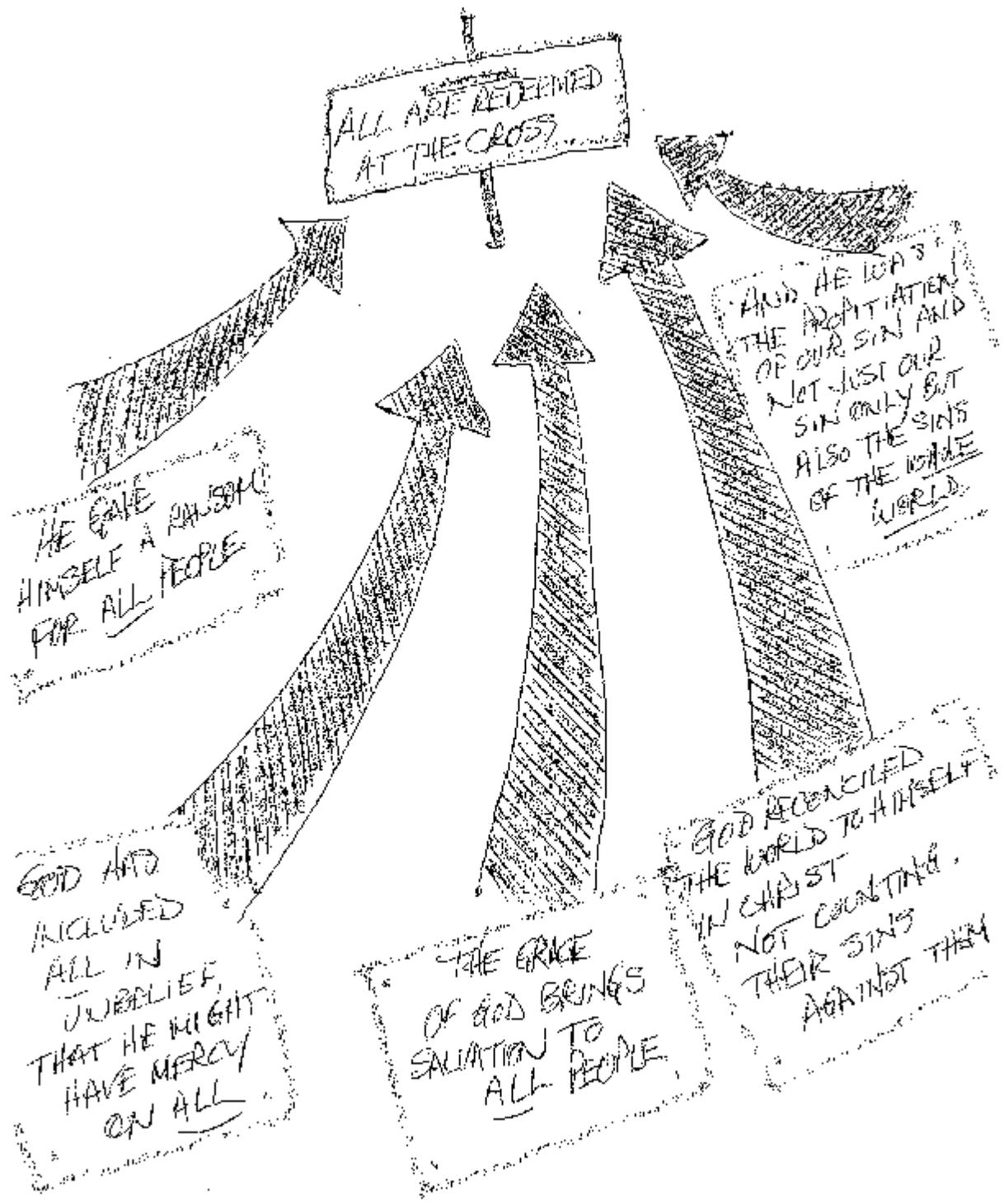
*[refrain: Oh, Sin can't touch me no more!
 Sin can't touch me no more!
 It died on the Cross – the law ain't my boss . . .
 Sin can't touch me no more!]*

One story led to another,
 Tales of agony, pain and distress.
 For centuries, sin raked its havoc . . .
 Leaving nothing behind but a mess!

Then one day a Man came from Heaven,
 Answering destiny's call.
 The time was just right,
 for this Man to fight . . .
 And sin's sorry backside to fall!

He said on the Cross, "It is finished!"
 To Satan, He said, "Time is o'er!"
 Don't bother to pick up the pieces . . .
 When you leave, just don't slam the door!

And there you have it, my dear ones,
 The story of sin's great demise.
 So many don't know that it happened . . .
 But to me, it ain't no surprise!



ALL ARE REDEEMED AT THE CROSS

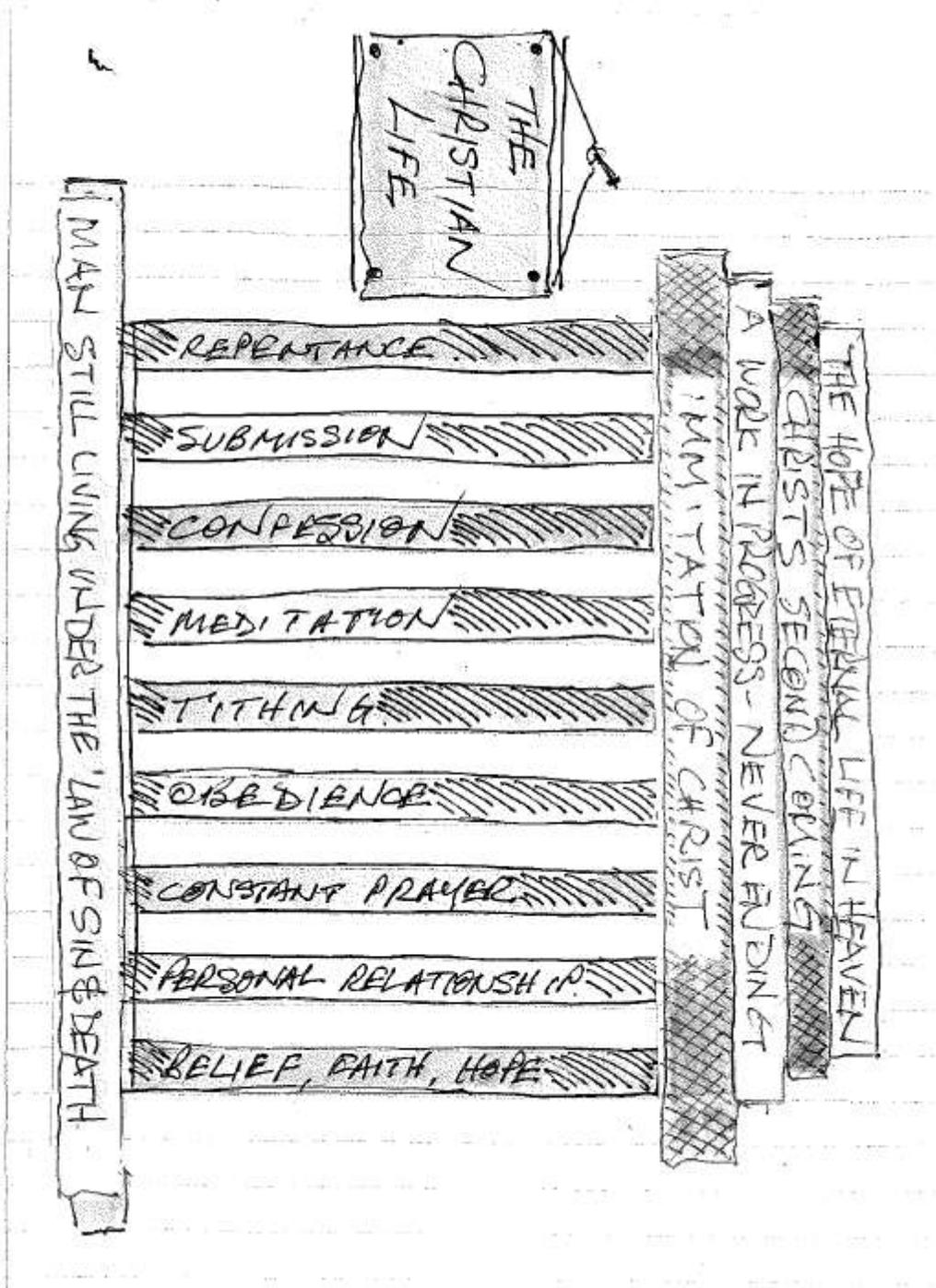
HE GAVE HIMSELF A RANSOM FOR ALL PEOPLE

GOD HAS INCLUDED ALL IN JUBILEE, THAT HE MIGHT HAVE MERCY ON ALL

THE GRACE OF GOD BRINGS SALVATION TO ALL PEOPLE

GOD RECONCILED THE WORLD TO HIMSELF IN CHRIST NOT COUNTING THEIR SINS AGAINST THEM

AND HE LOVES THE RECONCILIATION OF OUR SINS AND NOT JUST OUR SINS ONLY BUT ALSO THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD



A NEW CREATION - ONE NEW MAN IN CHRIST

EVERYTHING
HAPPENS AT THIS
MOMENT

ALL
DIED
IN
CHRIST

ALL
DIED
IN
CHRIST

"THE WORLD WAS RECONCILED
TO GOD IN CHRIST - THERE SINCE
NOT AGAINST AGAINST THEM."

THE SIN DEBT OF MANKIND PAID IN FULL

ALL WERE MADE SINNERS

ALL WERE MADE RIGHTEOUS

EVERYTHING OLD
HAS PASSED AWAY

EVERYTHING HAS
BECOME NEW

CHRIST DIED DEATH
FOR EVERY MAN
ALL ARE REDEEMED
ALL ARE BORN AGAIN
IN CHRIST

CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH - THE FOUNDATION OF SPIRITUAL SECURITY

REMARKS CH. 17

BEFORE THE LAW

ADAM —→ MOSES

I WAS ALIVE!

NO LAW AT ALL!

SIN IS DEAD!

→ MURDER ADAM!

(ALL OF HUMANITY
FELL IN HAND)

DURING THE LAW

MOSES —→ THE CROSS

I DIED!

THE WINGS OF SIN

THE "LAW OF SIN & DEATH"
THE UNIVERSAL
LEGAL CONDITION

SIN IS ALIVE!

→ GOD'S FIRST CREATION

(ALL OF HUMANITY
FELL IN HAND)

AFTER THE LAW

THE CROSS —→

I WAS MADE ALIVE

→ IN CHRIST
THE GIFT OF GOD

THE "LAW OF THE SPIRIT OF
LIFE IN CHRIST"
THE NEW UNIVERSAL
LEGAL CONDITION

SIN IS DEAD!

→ IN CHRIST (THE LAST ADAM)

(ALL OF HUMANITY
ROSE WITH HIM)

About the Author

Philip D. Brittan was born in the city of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada in the year 1953. He became a Christian at the age of 18 while attending Cheyne Presbyterian Church in the town of Stoney Creek where he was raised. After high school, Phil started an apprenticeship as an electrician and went on to spend twenty years in the trade, working on different, large scale projects in Canada and the United States. A daughter was born to him and his then wife – and soon after, Phil officially retired from the electrical trade to pursue his own business in the field of professional carpet, upholstery and duct cleaning.



The business allowed Phil to organize his working hours around the daily care of his daughter during her formative years. Phil won many accolades and awards from appreciative customers over the next twenty years of private business ownership. At the age of sixty, Phil was able to retire. At the time of this publication, he spends just six days a month working at Good Life Fitness as a ‘Fitness Motivator’. Twenty-two years of consistent bodybuilding, made him an ideal candidate for the role.

All the while, Phil's life as a so-called 'born again' Christian began as a wonderful experience full of joy, peace and tranquility. How was he to know that the sublime enjoyment of life in Christ would only last a few weeks, becoming sternly interrupted by church demands that continued to escalate in the weeks and months that followed? An increased sense of obligation and responsibility accompanied by lifeless sermons and guilt-ridden doctrines of strict Christian behavior brought only frustration, disappointment, disillusionment and restlessness. At the same time, there was so much self-importance, self-promotion and self-righteousness within the church. A sincere believer himself, it seemed that the so-called Christian life was brimming to overflowing with insincerity, deception, imitation, hypocrisy and just plain fakery! Moving from one denomination to another didn't improve matters at all.

More and more it seemed there was a disconnection between the true Gospel and doctrinal Christian teaching. Much to Phil's surprise, when he looked in his Bible one day to see the verses he had underlined from so many years of sermons, Bible studies and conferences, he realized that virtually none of the verses bore any relation to the Gospel! It took forty years in Christianity to finally bring Phil to the realization that the Christian life was manmade – a wholly constructed life with no resemblance to the Gospel at all. Everyone was doing instead of being – working instead of

resting and the finished work of the Cross was always somewhere in the future and beyond our grasp, if it existed at all. At some point, the fabricated Christian life he was confronted with at every turn would have to come crashing down . . . and thankfully it did!

While Phil was attending Centennial Park Baptist Church in Grimsby, Ontario, he just happened to mention how REDEMPTION was not limited to just believers, but that it included everyone. A firestorm resulted with the minister telling him flatly to shut up and never mention it again! With that, the doctrinal pillars of the church that could no longer withstand the mighty force of the Gospel truth, began to crack and sway within him! Soon after, it was as though heavy slabs of concrete were thundering down all around him leaving nothing but dust and rubble in the wake of the destruction! Suddenly Phil was repenting of the Christian life and falling fast and furious into the finished work of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the Cross! Upon returning to church one Sunday morning, Phil was confronted by four deacons and told that he must leave and never return or he would be forcibly removed. He was banished forever!

It was just a few weeks following this startling event that Phil began to write his book, "The Greatest Gospel Truth". Determined to reveal all that he knew about the deceptive nature of Christianity and the 'Christian Life'

(from having lived it for forty years) – he planted himself in front of a local library computer and began to write. Chapter titles and their accompanying words began to flow through Phil’s fingers like the wind through a Saskatchewan wheat field. It was as though he were receiving a supernatural download! Chapter after chapter virtually wrote itself, with Phil hurrying home to read his material to Beth, his trusted confidant. While it took two years to write the book, it may not be complete, as two successive revisions and updates have produced more than fifteen new chapter titles and added some forty additional pages.

Since its first appearance online, it has been seen in over forty-one different countries, worldwide. Phil has received many encouraging notices from viewers sharing their thankfulness and expressing their desire that millions of readers discover the book and the ‘Gospel Life’ for themselves. Other websites have been helpful in this regard, by placing their own links to the Greatest Gospel Truth e-book. A special ‘thank you’ goes out to The Gospel Revolution website headed up by Mike Williams and Don Bartlett.

Today, Phil continues to make the same confession as the apostle Paul, determined to concern himself with nothing but ‘Christ and Him crucified’. He would like everyone to know that there is life after Christianity. It’s called the Gospel life – full of grace, freedom and an

eternity spent in Christ for every person who has ever lived, whether they choose to believe it or not.

Dear Viewer,

Maybe you've been introduced to the Gospel Life through the reading of this e-book, and yet you feel all alone in your new-found knowledge of the truth.

Meet and share your thoughts and ideas with thousands of other like-minded individuals who understand the Gospel Truth just like you!

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Another great book you can read is,

**Redemption: A Declaration for All –
Not A Choice For A Few**

By Bob Hines

Contact Information

Do you have any questions?
Would you like to share your opinions, thoughts and ideas
with the author?

While he can't guarantee to reply, Phil would be happy to
hear from you.

You can reach him at this email address:

tggtebook@gmail.com

You can print this flyer

'HEAVEN' Is In Your Future

Regardless of how good or bad you may have been, Heaven is your final destination! Christ gave up His life on the Cross, as a RANSOM for all. He paid for the sins of the world, REDEEMING (purchasing) Mankind. He took upon Himself the wages of sin – 'DEATH' (Rom. 6:23). Having settled once and for all time, sin's claim upon Humanity, God released eternal life in Christ, unconditionally (no strings attached) upon all.

†

Believe or don't believe. Either way, your destiny can't be derailed. What God achieved by the death of His Son Jesus upon the Cross, can't be undone. Belief can do nothing to make your REDEMPTION more certain. Refusing to believe can do nothing to steal it away. Think about it. What natural laws can you change by summoning your belief? None! So how can you change a supernatural law?

†

You were born into this world – ALREADY REDEEMED! How, you ask? It's a supernatural law! By Christ's purchasing of Humanity, through His death on the Cross, Man was transferred from the 'Law of Sin and Death' directly into the 'Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ' (Rom 8:2). We were born into Christ from the moment of our first earthly breath. Your GPS is locked on Heaven!

†

It happened over 2,000 years ago. You can't go back in time to prevent it. You can't revoke it. You can't reverse it. You can't renounce it. Sure, you can deny it . . . but that changes nothing. You're stuck, trapped and bound by God's purpose (Eph. 1:10). Heaven is in your future, whether you like it or not. This . . . is the wonderful Gospel truth!

www.greatestgospeltruth.com

Hey you there . . .

Are you unfulfilled in your Christian walk? Does it seem like you're always striving, yet never arriving; forever studying but never graduating?

Has the struggle to find and keep God's perfect will, been a constant source of anxiety, frustration and discouragement?

Are you stuck on a treadmill of sin, guilt and shame and desperate for a chance to get off?

Did you ever think that the doctrines of Christianity – might be the root cause of all your restlessness, worry and concern?

Is it possible that the peace and freedom you've been searching for all along – are found in the plain Gospel truth, instead of the toxic Christian life?

Seventy-seven separate titles inside three hundred and eighty-five pages will give you the answer – revealing once and for all, 'The Greatest Gospel Truth'

. . . like you've never heard it before!