

# The Liberating Secret Newsletter

December, 2006

Volume 24

## Ministry News

Our Thanksgiving is always celebrated on Friday after the traditional Thursday holiday. Dad and I spend the night with our daughter, Diane and her family and I help Di cook Thanksgiving dinner on Friday morning. This Thanksgiving celebration was particularly wonderful. Dave, our son who hadn't left home to come to Di called me by phone to inform me to turn on the TV to Trinity Broadcasting Network to see Benny Hinn. Benny's brother William Hinn was being interviewed by Benny.

My mind raced in remembrance of my contact with William Hinn about 8 years ago. I heard him and subsequently sent him my book, with a pungent letter. I never heard back. Now, all these years later, I'm hearing William telling Benny that we humans being do not have a nature of our own. He said, "no where in the Bible does it say that we human beings have a nature." He goes on saying that the Bible calls us, temples, branches, vessels, etc." Then he said we are indwelt by one deity Spirit or another, either Christ, or Satan." By now, I am going crazy with joy. He then said that our problem as Christians is our thinking— we are royal kings and priest, but we think like beggars. Benny listened with open ears.

Needless to say, I got my Thanksgiving and Christmas present all wrapped up in one. Dave said, he knows of no one else saying this on TV except us here at Christ, Our Life Ministries, and Norman by his books of course. I wonder if he read my book? I don't know but you can be sure that I will write him and tell him that we intercessor have labored in faith for years to bring forth this same truth, and now he reaps what he did not labor over (John 4:35-38). I love it that both the laborers (US) as well as the reaper (HIM) get the same rewards. I certainly got my reward that day.

Can you believe that Christmas is here again? Here is a message from a good friend especially for you at Christmas.

## Did God Take A Risk?

"Did God take a risk in creating one man, Adam? Did he take a risk in relying on the blood line of Seth? Was the fate of mankind and Heaven floating on a raft in the flood with Noah? Was God taking a risk that Shem

would be right? Did God take a risk with Abraham, and then Isaac? Did God take a risk with Jacob, what if he had not found his way to the gates of Heaven at Bethel. Did he take a risk with Moses? What if Pharaoh's daughter had not found him in the Nile? What if he had not gone to Midian when he ran away a murderer? What if he had turned away from the burning bush? Did He take a risk with Mary? Did He take a risk with Jesus? Why did the future of Heaven and earth depend so often on the choices of only one?

Yes, our God is a risk taker? Why? He believes in freedom, He believes in faith, He trusts His Wisdom and His Spirit which wears Wisdom as a covering; and then finally, He trusted his Son, above all, to do His will. And so, there clearly is conflict in heaven...F or this man and for that man...For Adam and his progeny get into such hellish trouble that the righteous hidden Father sometimes must turn aside and leave his Spirit and his Son to save Heaven and earth and all of mankind when all there is between survival of mankind and the survival of the Kingdom of Heaven and their destruction is a gopher wood raft, and a wooden cross." AP

Christ, Our Life Ministries wishes you a very Merry Christmas,  
and a Happy New Year...2007

## News from the Web

Spirit Broadcasting Network: [www.spiritradio.net](http://www.spiritradio.net) Remember this is TV as well as radio.

Last month we reported that we had 1518 visitors, in October and half were new visitors. This was more than encouraging, because up to that point we had been averaging around 550 to 600 visits per month.

Well, in November like October, we have seen a dramatic jump in the number of people visiting the Spirit Broadcasting Network. For the month of November we had 2,032 visitors with half of them being new visitors.

The Liberating Secret: [www.theliberatingsecret.org](http://www.theliberatingsecret.org)

There were 1,075 visitors. About 60% were new visitors, and 92,654 hits.

## Look at the list of countries:

### The Liberating Secret

Canada, Australia, Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, South Africa, Botswana, Taiwan, USA Military, France, Brazil, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Japan, India, Belgium, Romania, Italy, Indonesia, Sweden, Norway,

Pakistan, New Zealand, Slovak Republic, Denmark, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Austria

## Spirit Broadcasting Network

Brazil, Thailand, Morocco, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Saudi Arabia, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Poland, Mexico, Australia, Argentina, USA Military, Russian Federation, Chile, Taiwan, Germany, Colombia, Czech Republic, Pakistan, Italy, India, Norway, New Zealand, Moldova, Austria, Dominican Republic, Belgium, Belarus, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Sweden, Saint Vincent & Grenadines, Paraguay, Turkey, Benin, Ukraine, Tuvalu, Slovak Republic, Denmark, Portugal, China, Israel, Fiji, Bulgaria, and Venezuela

Praise the Lord for Spirit Broadcasting Network---

Further adventures with Scott and Sylvia' s " On the Road again," in their 40 foot Monaco RV: Pawley' s Island retreat was at its all time best. I stayed for both, three day, sessions--the Spirit is blessing us with much eternal fruit. Many of the women who continue to return for further teacher training and revelation are visibly manifesting new freedoms, as well as new vision for their lives. Great is our Lord' s faithfulness. Fran Giles, Jenny Fienning, Margaret Lester and me are so blessed by these women. I always say, " I' m not sure who my fruit is, because my fruit blesses me so much that I think that I am their fruit." That is the way it is supposed to be in an heavenly environment.

## News from the Pawley' s Island Fall retreatfrom Jenny:

Pennings from Pawleys Fall Retreat

God has done it again. We are always blessed by what happens when we gather at Pawleys. No two sessions have ever been alike.. This last week was no exception. Our Father meets us where we are. I know His desire is that His people know WHO THEY ARE in HIM and love the expression He has made them to be in this world... That means loving our humanity as HE made it to be....to express Him uniquely in this world..

I get excited when He brings new gals because I know He is ready to really share this DESIRE with them. One of the BIG things He made very clear in one of our sessions is " where do we will?" If you don' t know, ask Father and He will show you... Then there were releases of soul strong holds ...again by His revelation of Himself just in conversation and teaching..

There is a special gratitude to Father for those He brings back yearly. To see how He has enlarged their borders, increased their knowing of

Him...and thus, growing up into full stature. The input these Princesses have blows me away. I have seen "beauty for ashes" displayed in them... A new level of contentment, peace, and confidence in being themselves... What a joy!!

So, if you want to experience Pawleys Reality...come join us next spring.. Just send your request for a flyer to [jennyfiemming@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyfiemming@hotmail.com).  
Until next time... Love and hugs, Jenny

Now, what happened after Pawley' s?? Well to my unexpected surprise, I had a sever attack of vertigo. It was so severe that I had to have my precious sisters help me to my car and drive me to an urgent care center just across the street from Pawley' s. Well, what is this Lord?? Always, seeking what the Lord is up to. My time in Hilton Head was somewhat limited due to my lack of ability to walk without staggering. Most unpleasant, yet not without God' s word in me compelling me to see Him in it all. Now it is a month later and my doctor still doesn' t have a handle on it allyet, but I remember Louis Tucker said to me once, " Intercession doesn' t show up on X-rays." Oh, yes, " Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus might be manifested in my mortal flesh."

What is God saying? My body is privileged to bear the priestly burden of an intercession which represents the whole body of Christ. God is saying to me, " The body of Christ is unstable in all it' s ways-most have little to no discernment and are unable to rightly divide soul from Spirit, therefore living mostly as if they are flesh beings, instead of the glorious sons of God they are destined to be. Their instability gives the devil, false power over my people, leaving them double minded and in spinning confusion and vertigo." It is not until we Christians rightly see ourselves as God sees us, and as Jesus saw, " All things are delivered unto me by my Father," will we be asl Peter 3:10 says, " After that you have suffered a while, make you perfect establish, strengthen, settle you." The single eye of faith is our stabilizer and it is what keeps us from falsely being ruled by the devil' s independent-self schemes. I gladly bear this intercession, but, watch out, I will also gain greater authority to transmit deliverance to my Lord' s precious people. Suffering and the glory of kingship reigning are in the same package.

## LETTERS

To a friend who lives in Australia.

Now, to your precious daughter ---The mind of the flesh can be a place of torment, can' t it. It is always true, the mind filled with Satanic thoughts can rationalize anything and use all the Godly principles to reason its way into any imaged evil. Your precious daughter, as you know, is hearing from Satan, and has since she was very young. I believe she has suffered this torment because God wants to reveal His glory in her and release her from Satan' s whileş and use her as a minister of His peace.

The Bible talks about us having either one of two minds (Rom. 8:6-7)-- Some versions say, the mind of the flesh, and the mind of the Spirit, but differently, two minds. There has to be a clear division between the two. Most of us falsely think the need to just stop thinking one way and start thinking another way. That would be nothing more than a mental accent, and not a faith replacement. Man has a fleshly brain which is neutral, but he does not have an independent mind of his own. An independent mind (supposed mind power) is the thing most of us hang on to until the end. Who wants to lose his mind? No one! Yet the Bible tells us unless we lose our life, we won't find life (Matt. 16:25). Therefore, our thinking is either controlled by the mind of Satan, or the mind of Christ. Understand this, your mind is not you, it is either Satan or Christ's mind thinking in your fleshly brain. We think it is us thinking, but no it is either one spirit or the other.

We union folks know that Christ is our life, because we have exchanged lives with him, but do we also know, and have we exchanged minds with Him? I Cor. 1:24b says, Christ is the power of God, and the Wisdom of God." Christ is the power we live by, but He is also the wisdom (new mind) that we think with.

Through the cross, your daughter has inherited another mind, a whole new rational--THE MIND OF CHRIST. Pray with her and visibly see her satanic mind put in the body of Christ on the Cross, and when Jesus died, so did her old mind die with Christ. In Christ's resurrection, she was released from the death throws of Satan's mind, and she inherited the mind of Christ. She has exchanged minds with Christ. Stand by faith and see it done. Life is always a replacement from the old to the new (put off, and put on). Faith says, "I have put off the old, and I have put on the new." It is a practice; a taking what is already ours by faith. But, Glory be to God, what you take by faith takes us and becomes a living reality. Christians always make a fleshly work out of what is so simple, for our only work is to believe (John 6:28;29).

I believe that your daughter will always have some satanic thoughts like we all do, but instead of fearing them or fighting them, she will praise the Lord for them, because it will remind her that she has the mind of Christ. The difference is that they won't falsely hold her in bondage. We Americans say, "THEY WON'T OWN HER." Satan speaks to her in first person, that is as if it is her thinking, but no it is Satanic disguised as your daughter. She will know the difference because she knows that these thoughts are not coming from her, but from Satan, and with the revelation light shown on him, he won't own her any more-- Simply because he has no place in her. Yah God!

One day I was so depressed and inundated with satanic thoughts. I cried out to the Lord, "Lord, I am losing my mind." God said back to me, "Good, you have to lose yours to find my mind." I got it, I don't replace thoughts, I replace minds, Satan's with Christ's I have the mind of Christ,

that is my final word of faith. Today, I am hardly bothered by crazy thoughts, but when I am I thank the Lord for them because it always reminds me that I have another mind, filled with clarity, peace and right thinking.

Read James 3:14-18. It clearly brings out the two minds.

My love and prayers are with you and your family,  
Sylvia Pearce

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Dear Friend from Canada,

Your amazing search for truth has led you on a well trodden path, and one which I myself unknowingly found myself on. If you have read my book, "The Treasures of Darkness," it lays down my personal story stage by stage. I will send it to you if you give me your mailing address. Personally I was bound up with self-hatred, self condemnation, and self consciousness, and (What is wrong with me-consciousness?). This kind of living paralyzed me as a person, and left me striving to be free.

Naturally speaking my husband, didn' t live in self consciousness, and hardly cared what others thought. I use to think, "How does he do that?" Now believe me, he has had his own set of self issues, but that was not one of them. I used to compare myself with everyone around me, and always came up short. I knew Christ, and even knew that he lived in me, yet my Christian experience was greatly lacking. My problem was my total misunderstanding regarding my humanity. I had Christ, and a great big ME working hand in hand, although, it was mainly me working, trying and doing. I was always trying to get self-acceptance, self-appreciation and validity. I really served God only to benefit me and to quench the hunger to satisfy that great big ME– I never served Him because I loved the Lord with all my heart mind, and soul, it was always about fixing me. Funny, I didn' t see it then, but I do now.

I, like all, thought that I was an independent self-sufficient-human self, and Christ would help and enhance this independent-self to strive to be more like Christ. **TOTALLY WRONG THINKING, ACTUALLY THIS IS EXACTLY HOW SATAN THINKS.** All my self-striving was, all the time, the creation trying to be like God. Hey, what a relief, the created human Sylvia is only a vessel of the deity, and not the deity; a branch of the vine, but not the vine; a body member of the head, and not the head; and a slave of the master and not the master. We are not a vessel that contains us,-vessel' s don' t contain themselves.

How foolish to think that I was meant to be like God in my own efforts! That independent-self thinking is Satan' s own thoughts in me, and is what

Romans 7:17 calls, "sin that dwells in me." I left those false graveclothes behind in the death and burial of Christ, and now by faith I am raised as Him in His resurrection. My spirit joined to His divine Spirit forming the one new me, Christ-I that is. My final touch was taking a leap of faith into Christ, my life and not touching the manifestation. I knew I couldn't change myself, and I knew that I couldn't call all that was being manifested Christ either. So, I just took my attention away from how I appeared and left it to God. My word of faith for wrong manifestations were-- "This is not who I am, the real me is Christ." I took my attention off of the appearances and on to who I really was. Faith is so wonderful. God made me practice believing against appearances for sometime, but after a time what I took simply by faith, took me over, and has been a living reality every since. That has been over 30 years ago now. The Holy Spirit did the work and mortified the deeds of the flesh, I couldn't die to myself, self can't really give up itself. However I can believe that that Satanic-self was crucified with Christ, and is already gone. All is faith, and all is Christ doing it, based on the fact that it is already done at the cross.

I believe that we humans are somewhat sub-human before we are liberated in Christ. True liberation liberates us to truly be unconditional love for others, and it gratefully liberates our humanity as well. I have true self-appreciation, and self-acceptance. Why wouldn't I, my humanity is being rightly used by the Holy Spirit, to me this is truly righteousness, or right-use-ness.

My good friend, Brian Coatney says, "I will commit any sin, unless Christ keeps me, and by faith, I am a kept person." That is what he coined as "The Keepers Creed." It is not that Christ can keep me, or will keep me- faith says, "I am kept" according to Jude 1:24.

If I can help you in any other way, let me know.

Loving you in Christ,  
Sylvia Pearce

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This is an e-mail from John, a friend of Brian Coatney's- Brian asked Dave Moss to give his input- here is what John, Brian's friend, wrote and Dave's remarks back.

Hey!

Thanks for the encouraging inmate letter. May you and your friend continue to shine on! I must tell you what happened last night. We had an intercessory prayer meeting, and a woman brought her 22 years old son, who had been through drug treatment last year, become a Christian, but had since relapsed.

We withdrew to the kitchen, where he answered my questions honestly and confessed his sins. I told him that he had also given legal permission for

demons to return. (He was exhibiting emotional disconnection and mental confusion.) Repeating after me, he repented and cut off the legal right of Satan to have control over him. Then, he began to shout and growl and flail his arms uncontrollably. I could not restrain him and we both fell to the floor where he thrashed and the demon protested. I stood firm that the spirits had to go, and then, they did. Josh then told me that his mind had cleared and he was no longer emotionally numb.

This is boilerplate deliverance, I know, but, it leads me to ask you a question. In the Charismatic movement there is a lot of soul stuff that passes for spirituality, but there is also power for healings and deliverance. There is a strong, sincere desire to do the will of God as well. Not only did Paul say that we are crucified and raised in Christ as a new creation, the old man being dead, but he also said that he "prays in tongues more than you all" and exhorts us to desire that we may prophesy. (1 Cor. 14)

Where do you stand on this? I think a real opportunity is here, for people in this fellowship, to have a real breakthrough in spiritual understanding. Many are already running with what they have and are eager to have more. Some Christians kind of write off charismatic stuff because of the "God out there" mentality, instead of God inside, living out as me. I still agree with that, but I believe that Christ as you and me is equipped with spiritual gifts that vary among us in expression, and that these gifts are to be stirred and developed in ourselves and each other.

Right now, I've given the pastor and the elders copies of the Evil Twins, and plan to teach from your book in my class. The idea of this church exercising spiritual authority from who they are, instead of some putting on a spiritual hat for appropriate occasions, is thrilling to me.

What do you think about all this?

John

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Hi Brian,

This sounds so much like one of many experiences that I had in jail. One night about 8:30 I heard someone crying for help. I went down to where I heard the crying and saw a man curled up in a ball laying on his bed. He was obviously in tremendous pain. I decided to stay with him until the health nurse could come down to see him. I realized that his appendix had ruptured. I laid hands on him and started praying for his pain to be lessened and for his health. It took the nurse about 45 minutes to get there to see him then another 30 minutes before an ambulance arrived to take him to the hospital. I was praying the whole time. About 10 minutes into this whole ordeal I saw what looked to be a dark shadow rise up out of this man and

then I heard it scream as it left him and went out through the wall. I realized that a demon had just left him because it couldn't take the Holy Spirit being pored out on him.

I saw him 2 weeks later and he told me that he had been delivered from a nasty crack addiction. He told me that he was a Christian but that he had a overwhelming taste in his mouth for crack. He said he tasted it all the time and he couldn't shake it. He told me that he felt and heard that demon leave him that night and that the taste for crack left with it. We spent the rest of that night on our knees praising God.

If we are containers of Christ then we contain all of Him. No limitations. Your friend is absolutely right when he says that "Christ as you and me is equipped with spiritual gifts that vary among us in expression, and that these gifts are to be stirred and developed in ourselves and each other." Praise God.

Dave Moss, SBN web-master

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Hi Brian,

Happy Birthday yesterday. I remembered it all day, but did nothing about it. What a drag. I wasn't trying... ha ha ha Louie already finished your new book. I am still in it. It takes me longer to read than he does. We are really really enjoying it. Louie says that it is your best work, yet. We love the format of the book. We have loaned out all the copies you gave us. What a joy to share Jesus through education.

Hey, Louie wanted to get permission to make copies of Jesus' last will and testament from Sylvia. Can we get permission through you? Do you know what I am talking about? It is in one of her books. We would like to make copies, put them in frames and give them to people (walk to emmaus, sunday school, ect...)

Hope you had a wonderful birthday. We love you very much. Tell Tandy Hi and that we love her too.

\* S U N S H I N E \* Jesus loves you and so do I

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Hi Sylvia and Scott,

Hope you all are well and enjoying your time at the beach. Got to say thanks to the both of you for the time spent visiting, getting to know you both and sharing the glorious liberating truth of the life of our savior revealed in us as us. Thank you so much for touching my life I can say

without a doubt that I am in Christ and I live and have my being in the precious one who gave himself for me that I to would be called a son of the living God.

I have to tell you what the Lord was showing me in my spirit on Sunday. I had the picture of a large palm tree with its roots wrapped in burlap bag flying through the air. The Holy Spirit prompted me to psalms one which is one of my favorites. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

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A word from Christian County Jail. Brian and Mimi' s ministry  
11-27-06

Dear Carson,

I miss your beaming face at Bible study. Last week, Chaplain Zander came and talked for a while. It' s good to have him join us. Corey told me last night that he will get transferred this week. I will miss him too.

I' m hoping that though you have more rules there, you will also enjoy more liberty to move around and do things.

Fifteen men came last night, and we studied Romans 6:11 about reckoning ourselves dead to sin and alive to God. I see reckon a word explaining what we do when we assume a thing to be true and act on it. Now with salvation, we don' t make anything true, but God has made things true in Christ. He says in Romans 5 that He took us out of fallen Adam, nailing that Adam to the cross, so that we could be born into the last Adam, Christ Himself. So now we come out of Christ as His seed and not out of old, fallen Adam.

We were put into Christ' s death, Paul tells us in Romans 6. Then also, therefore, we were in Christ' s burial, and lo- His resurrection. So the beginning of our faith is that we have been put into Christ, so that He is in us. He' s the tree, and we spring up as branches of Him.

We reckon on that, Paul says in Romans 6:11. Now when I have a certain amount of money in the bank, I reckon on that, and so I spend it, reckoning that it is there and available. We operate by reckoning in all area of life. We reckon on the sun rising every morning, and so we plan another day.

Reckoning ourselves dead to sin works the same way; we just don' t like it that we still feel pulls toward sin, which the Bible calls temptation. In our emotions and bodies, we do not feel dead to sin, and so we will not reckon

ourselves dead to sin if we go by them. Also, the devil is busy doing his job of tempting us to think that we have to act independently to have an identity. So at the very time that the Bible tells us to reckon ourselves dead to sin, we feel entirely the opposite.

This feels miserable, and we hate how temptation makes us feel. But the good news is that we are spirit people, joined in spirit to Christ's Spirit; so that is where we do our reckoning. We affirm that God has crucified us in Christ, buried us, and raised us in Christ. Therefore, we are new creations. The new you, joined to Christ is dead to sin, and spirit decides what emotion and body get to express. Yikes, what a plan. It's not what we want on a feeling level, but it's healthy spirit life.

I once complained vehemently to my old missionary mentor, Norman Grubb, about all my temptations. I expected him to feel sorry for me, but instead, he brightened up like a glowing lamp, exclaiming, "Very healthy! Good Practice!" I wanted to choke him.

Yet, this is what the Bible teaches us: "count it all joy" James says. So we do so by faith and get on with the reckoning. As we do this, God brings His Spirit witness in His own way and time. Reckoning means living by fact, putting our faith in God's declared facts about who we are in Christ. As we do that, He gives us the witness of the Spirit—the experience we desire—when He determines. Faith is the victory.

Blessings to you,  
Brian

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You are not a vessel that contains YOU—vessels don't contain themselves.

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"Fear knocked at my door, faith answered it, and no one was there."

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## New Books

Sylvia,

Just in time for Christmas. A book that considers the history of Jesus' birth,

the theological meaning of the incarnation, the historical background of Christmas celebration customs, and the personal implications of Jesus' birth in us.

James Fowler

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## [CHRISTMAS: Its History and Meaning](#)



by [James Fowler](#)

A thorough study of the history, theology, celebratory customs, and personal meaning of Christmas. Though devotional thoughts of Christmas can be gained from the content of this book, it is an academic study of the history and meaning of Christmas by a theological writer. Paperback, perfect binding. 126 pages.



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## Poem of the Month

### You are the Time Genius

You are the time genius,  
not rushed but quiet.

What worry and stress,  
work and commitment, would take  
prideful hours or days to figure out,  
You do with one flash  
not related to even one second.

The best work is rest,  
receiving from Your mind  
the stillness that birthed the joy  
we call motion.

Grasping the outer catches us  
in a wheel of destruction,  
looking good at first, with urgent work,  
but the end is to faint.

When you want to solve a problem,  
don' t even listen to one second.

Forget time, and love the sweet eternal.  
Time will serve you then,  
not you serve it.

BC/10-23-06

## Words of Faith

“ Whatsoever you desire.”

Mark 11:22-24

“ Need produces desire; desire produces faith; faith quenches the pain of desire, and leaps and laughs at the impossible and shouts, “ IT SHALL BE DONE.” Sylvia Pearce... actually a little of Sylvia and a lot of CT Studd.

## This Months Article

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Brian and his clever dialogue' s

### The Centrality of the Son

Brian Coatney

Dialogue I  
Hebrews Chapter 1

PERCEPTUS: How good again to hold conversation with you, remembering our last discourses, in which I have enjoyed the glow of fellowship, often thought on in retrospect, as I squeeze many more rich thoughts from the edification that the Holy Spirit of God among us spoke with such clarity, silent to the outer ear though He is, yet always certain in the point at hand, surprising us ever again with Scriptures both old and new: old in that we have read them through the years with various quickenings, but new in expanse of glory, pressed with insight for our present sufferings.

ERNEST: I have known such profound change over these past months, looking at the Scriptures in the new light that we have discussed, which as you say is simply the letters on the pages of Romans 5-8 now alive, telling me that as a Christian I am dead to sin: not because I feel like I am, and not because the devil doesn't pull in animated fury on my flesh so that I seem to myself to be my flesh— but because according to the immutable word of God, I died in Christ, was buried in Him, and therefore was raised a new creature in a new birth, whereby I am not the old man any more, but the new man, who sees the celestial city with new eyes— those of faith, wherein a new world appears, not visible to flesh and blood but only to the spirit man joined as one in living union to Christ.

PERCEPTUS: How humbling to hear this pure stream of life, recognizing a miracle, for who can produce this life except the living word of God?

NOVITIA: I too find myself immediately stunned by this declaration of truth and faith, wondering where we should proceed, now that the Spirit has so glorified the atmosphere about us through Ernest.

PERCEPTUS: Hebrews has lingered in my mind for days as a topic for fellowship, since it presently provides rich study at Mimi's Bible study.

ERNEST: I would delight to hear Hebrews expounded with the same perspicuity as Romans fell upon us in our previous dialogues. Does it suit all to begin Hebrews and see what transformation awaits us?

NOVITIA: I concur, trembling at the same time, for Hebrews always strikes me as a book of trial and perseverance— a book to stay those tempted to faint and drop back from the never-ending stresses of life, stresses withering to those who do not find springs of living water, but a desert fresh in bloom to those resting in God from their own works.

PERCEPTUS: Well then, I see that Hebrews opens by telling us that God spoke "in sundry times and in divers manners" unto the fathers in time past. How grand that we owe our history to a succession of fathers, each generation leading forth in the revelation of its day according to God's word proclaimed by the prophets. Where fathers cease, where is leadership and training for that generation; and where prophets fail to appear, how does the exhortation proceed that brings both discipline and the herald of a salvation to come in the fullness of times?

SYLVESTER: I had not noted these fathers; I had read over them as a general note of people of the past, but I see that each generation sustains itself spiritually by the prophetic equipping of its fathers; for otherwise we would be possessed of only children and young men, as John calls them in his first

letter— these still not yet to the sacred place of those who “ know Him who is from the beginning.”

NOVITIA: Yes, and God is the one Father, but we know that He desires to operate His wisdom in a redeemed Adam, crucified with Christ, and raised new in the last Adam, so that His life known as Father may take its form in His created sons; but I am getting ahead of things here.

PERCEPTUS: Though getting ahead, you signal us to a grand view of our destination.

SYLVESTER: I see too that prophets spoke along the way, keeping hope alive, as each generation toiled to find out the same old lesson: that the fathers would not be able to hoist themselves or the elect nation up to holiness by their own diligence, but only by faith: for the law only teaches us that we fail when we try to keep it, making fatherhood unattainable by the labors of our own works. Yet it is fully attainable by the receptivity of faith that receives the Son and the Father who sent Him.

ERNEST: Some purport the miserable and tiresome cliché “ that there are many ways up the mountain,” as if various religions ultimately say the same thing: therefore, we should seek to unite them, recognizing the common bond of effort to attain that which is good and loving, accepting all as truth where such noble aims preside in the hearts of any.

PERCEPTUS: How tiring to always be hearing this dull dishwater, as if we need only try harder to emulate the prophets of old, from various religions, and elevate ourselves to an evolutionary high plane of moral living and generosity to our fellow mates. This would be the new Tower of Babel, which is nothing more than an old Tower of Babel wanting to be newly built on a scale no longer fragmented by the contentions of various religions, but instead unified in one last effort to scale the heavens and voice the sentiment of the devil that a creature can attain holiness independently through obedience to law.

NOVITIA: This leads well into our second verse, which says that God spoke in the last days through His Son, “ whom he appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.”

ERNEST: One does sense finality in this manner of expression, with no note anticipating anyone else to follow. Surely the writer intends a view of the Son as infinitely more than a successor in a chain of good, moral teachers who inspire us to works of love and charity.

PERCEPTUS: “ Heir of all things” and recognition as the very creator, surely

bring to mind more than an example-setter. If none could keep the Law of Moses, what use would God find in sending a law immeasurably more difficult by His Son? The weariness of trying to keep more and stricter law would lead one either to want to crucify the Son, or recognizing the evil of that— an evil that we have all shared in— instead to find in Him the resources that fulfill what He commands, so that the same power wherewith He created the worlds might operate in us to create obedience to what He bids us to be. And do we not find that Christianity is in essence a new creation in the Son, in which we find ourselves made new in Christ and united to His glory? But here, I too jump ahead.

SYLVESTER: We' re like frogs.

NOVITIA: But isn' t it fun? We jump ahead, and then slow down to enjoy the jump to where we see the Scripture leads us.

ERNEST: Excitement seizes me, for I see glory in all of this, and does not verse 3 say that the Son is " the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person" ? The splendid view here is that of the eternal Son, who always shined as the glory and image of God, but entered into the human race, not derived from fallen Adam, but birthed from His Father, Mary providing the human womb, for Mary could not pass on the sin-indwelling all receive who are born of fallen Adam, since only from the father of a race comes the indwelling nature. So the Father sent His glory and image in the form of a man, Jesus of Nazareth, incognito except to those whose eyes were open to revelation of personhood as an inner spirit and not an outer appearance.

NOVITIA: How blind fallen Adam is, unable to see anything except according to the lust of the flesh, ignited underneath by the father of lies. Thus, we need a new Father, and we cannot gain one except by the Son, for the Son must deliver us from our blindness— caused by deception— and open our eyes to the eternal Son, whom the first Adam did not see, causing God' s glory and image to shine in us in the inner man.

PERCEPTUS: Are we not mischievous here, though, to bring Adam into this discussion when the writer of Hebrews says nothing of Adam here?

SYLVESTER: You' re up to your old tricks, Perceptus, but I' m glad to hear them.

NOVITIA: There' s no sleight of hand in these verses, for do they not imply that no one before had brought a remedy to our problem, a problem recorded from of old since Adam fell, namely that of sin; for why else would the writer say in verse 3 that when the Son had purged our sins, meaning

cleansed or purified from as alternate translations read, He "sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high"? Had anyone been able to find cleansing from sins, why would God have sent His very image and glory into the world to accomplish it? So the text assumes that Adam, and all coming from him, have suffered the same fallen plight, unable to climb out it by attempts to keep divine law.

SYLVESTER: Yes, we hear in these verses the failures and laments of all generations before the Son, weighted with the constant sense of incompleteness, despite all past revelations and prophets; yet we hear too, the voices of all the prophets gathered into one, affirming that the Son fulfills what no man before, or after ever could— namely the bringing of light and glory back into man, once he experiences the cleansing accomplished by the Son. This is no example to follow, but a savior to receive. Yet we see too the problem cropping up as soon as we affirm that our savior was the image and glory of God, yet a man as well.

ERNEST: I think I see the problem: in our blindness we do not want to see the problem as sin but instead as somehow the essence of being human, as if to be human is to be stained intrinsically, with religion as a means enabling us to evolve into angelic beings no longer human. What a slap at the creator, to insist that salvation means to escape our created humanity, in order to find a cleaning from our humanity instead of a cleaning from the sin that has indwelled and enslaved our humanity.

SYLVESTER: Yes, the father of lies has been busy since his lies dropped out of heaven onto the earth to deceive our first parents into the notion that they needed to be other than what God created them to be— temples of His glory. This is not spite against angels: frankly I like them and think they rescue us many times when we don't recognize it; but an angel cannot save us, and God does not call out to us to pull ourselves up toward Him by denying humanity, as if we can turn ourselves into angels by keeping the law, or as if we elevate ourselves with visions of supernatural beings that in truth are derived as well in their own domain from the one Father of all.

NOVITIA: Speaking of angels, I see that the time has flown by, and we have not finished chapter 1. How delightful a beginning, and the Son ravishes me all the more for this brilliant introduction the writer of Hebrews gives us. How majestic!

PERCEPTUS: Me too. Although we lack in details of how the Son accomplished our cleansing from sin, the writer will detail that for us later, after setting forth the proclamation of both His divinity and His humanity, in a mysterious union that God means as the expression of His divine life in His creation. And since Adam failed to bring to fruition God's plan, a greater

Adam, the last Adam Paul calls him, had to establish a new seed, both divine and human, out of which new sons get born as a new creation, indwelled by the Son to cause His glorious light to shine in a myriad of created forms, fully human, like their savior, and washed clean by His sacrifice, to which no sacrifice will ever be added. We know one Son and one sacrifice, and therefore one salvation.

ERNEST: I cannot add to that, so adieu for now, and I bid us talk again soon to continue this stream of grace.

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