

MYSTICAL INTERPRETATIONS FROM THE GOSPELS

PART I – EVENTS FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS



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PART I EVENTS FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS

VAHE SIVACIYAN



TORONTO
- 2018 -

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE AUTHOR

The dates given are for the original publications in Armenian

The first four in the list have already been translated and published in English as well. The next five are also in progress of being translated and will be published in the near future. The last two (book of poems) will not be translated.

From Light to Light (I) 2013

From Light to Light - II (Awakening) 2015

From Light to Light - III (Universal Laws) 2017

Meditation 2017

Mystical Interpretations from the Gospels

Part I – Events from the Life of Jesus ... 2018

Mystical Interpretations from the Gospels

Part II – Parables spoken by Jesus 2018

Mystical Interpretations from the Gospels

Part III – Jesus’ Sayings 2020

Mystical Interpretations from the Gospels

Part IV – Gospels of John & Thomas ... 2020

Reflections 2019

Enlightened Living – book of Poems Part I 2014

Enlightened Living – book of Poems Parts I, II & III 2019

NOTE

The quotations from the Bible
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to a few of my friends,
for their input, their critique and suggestions and their help
during the writing and preparation of this book.

I am forever indebted to them
and pray that
God grant them
a healthy, happy and long life.

*

I also thank, from the bottom of my heart, all those who
took, posted and provided the pictures used in this book. I
pray for them, that God's blessings follow them all the days
of their lives.



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BIOGRAPHY

The author was born in Kadiköy, one of the suburbs of Istanbul (Constantinople), he received his elementary school education at the Aramyan-Unciyan Armenian School. He subsequently continued his education at Saint Joseph private French high school in Istanbul.

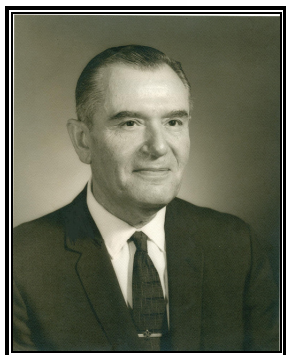


He immigrated to Toronto, Canada with his parents, where he completed his high school education. In 1968 received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Toronto, and in 1972, his Medical Doctorate degree from the same university. He specialized in Internal Medicine and in the sub-specialty of Cardiology. He has been on the staff of both St Joseph's and St. Michael's hospitals in Toronto and is an assistant professor at his alma mater. He has presented papers and given lectures, locally and internationally. He has published original research work on cardiac physical examination, in peer reviewed journals and in 2007 also published the textbook: "The Art and Science of Cardiac Physical Examination"

From the age of seven he has been in the Armenian Church choir, and in the late 1960s, was given the right to wear an amice. He was ordained as deacon in St. Gregory Church in St. Catharines by the hand of Bishop Aris Shirvanyan. At various times, he has served in the Holy Trinity Armenian Church as well as Holy Cross Armenian Church in Toronto and also St. Gregory church in St. Catharines. He has been instrumental in starting the Holy Cross Armenian day school in Toronto. He has also served on the Board of Trustees of the same school for many years and as chairman for several years.

His curious and inquisitive character has pushed him to investigate not only in the field of medicine but also in the field of religion.





1911-1985



1904-1994



LOVE AND RESPECT
IN MEMORY OF MY
BELOVED PARENTS
**JIRAYR & ISGUHI
SIVACIYAN**



**"YOU ARE THE BOWS FROM WHICH YOUR CHILDREN AS LIVING
ARROWS WERE SENT FORTH.
THE ARCHER SEES THE MARK UPON THE PATH OF THE INFINITE,
AND HE BENDS YOU WITH HIS MIGHT THAT HIS ARROWS MAY GO
SWIFT AND FAR.**

**YOUR BENDING IN THE ARCHER'S HAND WAS FOR GLADNESS;
FOR EVEN AS HE LOVES THE ARROW THAT FLIES, SO HE LOVES
ALSO THE BOW THAT IS STABLE."**

(Paraphrased from Kahlil Gibran's "The Prophet")



1955-2010



I dedicate this book
to the memory of my
beloved wife

AYDA SIVACIYAN



FOREWORD

I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to Rev. Solo Nigosian for his dedication and willingness to read this book prior to its publication and for providing the comments within the following page to serve as foreword for the book.

V.S.



FOREWORD

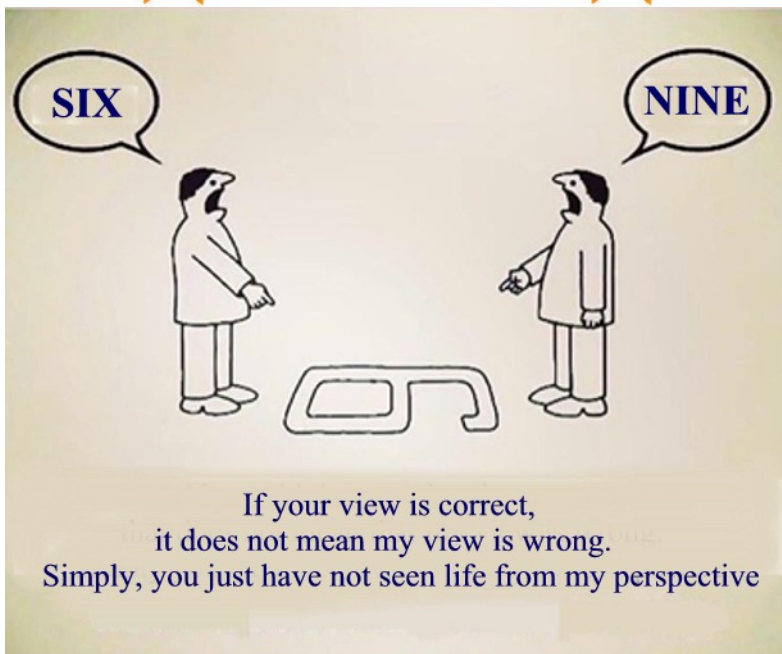
It is a great pleasure to introduce to you Dr. Vahe Sivaciyan's 3 volumes entitled *Gospel mysteries*. The Gospels (from Greek word *evangelion* meaning "good news") record Jesus's authoritative personality, his keen interest and compassion for people, his reputation for healing, his forceful speeches, and his imaginative use of parables. If you think reading the Gospels are boring, open this book — and think again. Instead, get ready for a pleasant surprise, since this book could enrich your mind and spirit.

As always, Dr. Sivaciyan's scientific and religious/theological skills weave the disparate threads into a cohesive whole. His presentation is a clear, concise and totally approachable exposition of the ministry and parables of Jesus. His contribution will inevitably lead the reader into a new understanding of spiritual life. Even those who hold to different interpretations will be stimulated to reflect upon the central themes so skillfully presented. I hope you will find Dr. Sivaciyan's fascinating discussions as stimulating and insightful as I did.

Consider the following beautiful lines written in the Bible:

Happy is the man that finds wisdom
and the man that gets understanding.
(Proverbs 3:13).

Rev. Dr. Solo Nigosian
Victoria University
University of Toronto



PREFACE

A

At the dawn of the apostolic Church, when the foundation of the Christian faith was being decided, a series of ecumenical meetings took place. During those meetings significant differences in opinions were present, to the point of even creating divisions among the church. One of the major issues was the nature of Jesus Christ.

In 451 AD the Council of Chalcedon was held mainly to resolve the issue of Jesus Christ's nature. Did He have only one nature, divine, or two natures, both divine and human? The Armenians, because of the war of Avarair with the Persians, who were trying to convert the Armenians back to the pre-Christian religion, could not send a representative to the Council of Chalcedon. In 506 AD, the eastern Christian Churches held a meeting in the city of Tvin and rejected all decisions made at the Council of Chalcedon. As a result, two different views and beliefs became the norm within Christendom. One view was that Jesus Christ had only one nature, divine and the other view was that He had two natures, both divine and human. This same argument continues until today among the many denominations. I find this situation very surprising. Without a doubt, Christ is God, part of the Trinity. Hence, God only has one nature, divine. But Jesus Christ had two natures, both divine and human. If Jesus had not had human nature, he would be super-human and not at the level of the rest of humanity and His following words would be meaningless:

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. (John 14:12)

If Jesus had not had human nature, people would easily be saying: "He is God He can perform miracles, we are just humans

and can not perform such miracles”. Even today most are of this same opinion. Undoubtedly such an opinion is wrong and it indicates that we do not believe in His teachings and that we ignore them. According to the above quotation, we also have the ability to perform similar “miracles”, deeds; of course only if we believe in His teachings, follow them and apply them in our lives to gain appropriate abilities. We should not forget that His disciples, despite being just human, were able to perform similar miracles.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of God the Father, only-begotten, that is of the substance of the Father. God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten and not made; of the selfsame nature of the Father, by whom all things came into being in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, was incarnate, was made man, was born perfectly of the holy virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit: By whom he took body, soul and mind and everything that is in man, truly and not in semblance.

This quotation taken from the “Creed” makes it clear that Jesus Christ had two natures. The first is His divine nature, which is specified by the words “of the substance of the Father” and “very God of very God”. His second nature was his human nature, which is specified by the following statement: “By whom he took body, soul and mind and everything that is in man, truly and not in semblance”.

As a result, we need to properly understand and interpret the words of Jesus Christ accordingly. He has at times spoken as Christ, God and at other times as Jesus the man. In this book and the following volumes, if one reads “Jesus said”, it indicates that Jesus the man has spoken. If it

is written "Christ said", it indicates that God is talking, of course through Jesus. At times you may note the expression "Jesus Christ said" as well.

The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. Isaiah: " 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.' But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. (Matthew 13:10-17)

When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables so that, " 'they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!' "
(Mark 4:10-12)

“His disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that,” ‘though seeing, they may not see; though hearing, they may not understand.’” (Luke 8:9-10)

These three quotations from three different Gospels represent the same event, a conversation that took place between Jesus and His disciples. According to these verses it is obvious that Jesus was teaching the hidden mystery of the “Kingdom of God” to His disciples, so that they also could experience the “Kingdom of God”. Jesus also indicates, that to the general public, He spoke in parables so that those who are not ready, or better yet to say, are not worthy to receive that hidden mystery, having heard the truth, would not understand the hidden, metaphorical meaning in them. Jesus has made this clear by using other expressions as well.

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces.” (Matthew 7:6)

This last quotation is also a caution given by Jesus to His disciples, so that they do not divulge to the general public the mystery of the “Kingdom of God” that they have learned. Without a doubt, the disciples, always obedient to Jesus, did not oppose His wishes. In the New Testament, in addition to the four Gospels, there are also some letters, mostly written by Paul and also a few others. They contain rules of proper conduct that are useful to live a life that is pleasing to God. These letters do not contain the mystical teachings of Jesus that were given to the disciples. Even in these letters there is some hidden information as well, which becomes evident only to those who become worthy to know them. Otherwise they only give a superficial understanding and beliefs. The apostles gave the mystical hidden meanings

to those whom they considered worthy to receive. Those individuals became the successors of the apostles and the leaders of the Church. Today we call them “bishops” and the churches they lead we call the apostolic Churches. These leaders also, as did their predecessors, kept the mystical meaning hidden from the general public. Unfortunately in time, with the passing of centuries, they themselves also forgot the hidden mystery.

Similar to the Council of Chalcedon mentioned above, there was also an ecumenical Council of Nicea held in 325 AD, which was a good example of that forgetfulness mentioned in the last paragraph. It was obvious that there was discordance among the bishops. It appeared that they neither knew nor did they practice those mystical teachings, so that at least they, as the leaders of the Church, would have had the experience of the “Kingdom of God”. Their lack of this knowledge and experience was obvious, because if they had had such an experience, there would be no discordance. Of course there may have been some exceptions that may have been silenced. Finally 118 bishops came to an agreement under the duress of the Caesar Constantine.

Regarding the hidden mystery, the following metaphor has been used: “The flame of the candle will flicker as if going out, but will never go out and some day it will burn bright again”.

A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he leads justice to victory. (Matthew 12:20)

What type of Christians should we be? Those who follow Jesus Christ, or those who follow Paul and the superficial understandings of the teachings of the apostles. I do not say that we should not read them, but we should understand that they are not written to make the hidden mystical knowledge understandable. Therefore, we should not take their superficial understanding and exchange it with

the true teachings of Jesus. It may be appropriate to present a well-known example to make the above idea more clear and understandable. There are verses in the Bible that refer to the blood of Jesus. These are: Ephesians 2:13, Hebrews 10:19, 12:24, 13:20, 1 Peter:1:2, 1 John 1:7. As a result of a misunderstanding of these verses, there are denominations and sects who say that they are washed with the blood of Jesus, hence, they are saved. What does Jesus say? He says "Take your cross and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

No doubt there are truths hidden in the letters as well and specially beautiful and helpful passages such as Paul's dissertation about "love" (1 Corinthians 13:1-13).

In the Middle Ages, Martin Luther blamed the Church of Rome for hiding the Gospels from the public. As a protest, he made the Bible available to all and started the protestant reformation. Today it is known as the Evangelical Church. One wonders whether the Catholic Church was right in its original stand. It is possible that according to the level of understanding of the general public, or yet perhaps it is better to say, according to the level of ignorance, they would misunderstand the written information and Christianity would further itself from the true teachings of Jesus. All those who were not ready to comprehend the true meanings, but only their literal and superficial interpretations would have a wrong understanding. This does not mean that the Apostolic Churches do not have their shortcomings. There is no need to go into detail of those shortcomings, mainly because that is not the purpose of this book. The real reason for the Reformation initiated by Martin Luther was those shortcomings. As a result of making the Bible available to everyone, today we see that the result of all incorrect interpretation and understanding has given rise to so many protestant sects. Usually based on only one verse, and at that, with its misunderstanding, many new sects are formed. An excellent example is the sect of "newly borns", based only

on what Jesus told Nicodemus, that he had to be born again to be able to enter the “Kingdom of God”. Do they really know what Jesus was trying to tell Nicodemus? Jesus made different recommendations to others. To the young rich man who wanted the “Eternal Life”, Jesus said to sell all his belongings, give them to the poor and to follow Him (Matthew 19:16-22). It is interesting to note that not a single sect or denomination exists based on this recommendation, mainly because people are materialistic and are attached to the world and its richness. Hence, man has picked and chosen the verses that put no hardship on him, no responsibilities other than incessantly repeating the statement: “I believe, therefore I am saved”. It is possible to give many such examples, but for our purpose, this much is sufficient.

Jesus preached about the “internal”, but the minds of the Jewish people were busy with the “external”, therefore they did not understand His teachings. In the same way, the great majority of preachers today, as a result of an incorrect understanding of the teachings of the Bible, preach a new “Christianity” that is far from the teachings of Jesus and correspond to His following words.

Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit.” (Matthew 15:14)

...“Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?” (Luke 6:39)

His Holiness Karekin I , previous Catholicos of the Armenian Apostolic Church, in his book titled “Theology” on page 30, had indicated that the Bible was an expression of God-revelation that had started in the Old Testament to a minor degree, according to the understanding capacity of the public and had reached its pinnacle with Jesus Christ. Hence, this “God-revelation” forms the basis of our Church. With this in mind, on page 36, he fortifies this idea and brings in the following quotation from a 14th century saint Krikor

Datevatsi (Gregory of Datev). (This is a simple translation of the quotation) “We profess our faith that God rests in men and men join God”.

From the “dark ages” of Martin Luther’s time until today, the general level of consciousness as well as knowledge of the majority of humanity has had slight progress thanks to the technology developed. Science, by studying the external world, has reached a point and appears to be unable to cross that threshold with the use of the same methodology. Some scientists, somewhat bewildered, think that their research should change direction from the external world to the internal. Some have started researching consciousness. But they are still looking for it in the external. It is difficult to give up old habits. Based on the advancements within the scientific realm, present day man is more educated and has a broader perspective; hence, he should be in a better position to keep an open mind instead of cluttering it with various belief systems and preventing the realization of God-revelation within himself.

The Catolicos in his book on page 48 indicates that the faithful who read the Bible should try to make an effort to learn from it his duties as a man (the purpose of his life), the spiritual discipline (the spiritual path), the “religious” life (the righteous living) and see it as a source of unequalled teachings.

Not because I was born within the Armenian Apostolic Church, but if one truly tries to understand its rituals and sacraments, one will find a wealth of information hidden in them that reflect the path of perfection taught by Jesus. The sequential services represent the human life and guide the individual step by step towards perfection.

On page 50 of his book, the Catolicos also indicates that as discussed previously, the apostles also did not divulge to everybody the hidden mystery of the “Kingdom of God” the means of God-revelation within the individual.

One has to study the Bible with this knowledge and understanding. This is the duty of every individual so that he can live a meaningful life. One should also understand that there is a hidden knowledge (science?) there, which may become apparent to him with the grace of the Holy Spirit, if one makes himself worthy. Jesus showed and taught us the path of righteousness (the path of perfection). He has clearly indicated to us to try to be perfect.

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.

(Luke 6:40)

According to what Jesus has said, don't we think that it is our duty to strive to be perfect? Is He not our teacher? Human life on earth is an opportunity given for the accomplishment of this task. Hence, should that not be our purpose in life? And this is the salvation we are promised and not waiting to die so that we can subsequently be saved. Because humanity has abandoned the path of perfection, he misses wisdom, one of the graces of the Holy Spirit. The result of this is ignorance, and it is through this ignorant mind that he interprets the Bible. All the deeds, parables and words presented there that should be understood by their literal meanings, he interprets them metaphorically, because the ideas are not present in their subconscious, therefore they can not identify with them and they assume for them to have some metaphorical meaning. Strangely, when a deed or word is deliberately presented with a superlative, metaphorical meaning, they prefer to understand it and accept it literally. They choose this mainly because the metaphorical interpretation does not support their life style. Such an approach totally distorts Jesus' teachings.

The purpose of this book is self education, to learn and understand the teachings of Jesus Christ that are presented in

the Gospels at times clearly but mostly given as mystical knowledge of the path to perfection and salvation.

**Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, give me
wisdom always to think, speak and do that
which is good in Thy sight; save me from evil
thoughts, words and deeds; have mercy upon
Thy creatures and upon me a great sinner.**

* * *

B

As I indicated in my previous books, the content of this book represents my present understanding and thoughts. I fully realize that all our beliefs are based on past and present experiences; therefore, in the future it is possible that I may express myself somewhat differently.

In so many pages, if there are some errors that have escaped detection; I hope the reader will be forgiving.

In most of the book I have used only the pronouns “he” or “him”. This is not because I am being sexist or discriminating, but because I find it awkward to constantly write “he/she” or “him/her”. This is a characteristic of most Latin based languages and some others as well. In the Armenian language, there is only one pronoun that is used for both sexes, and one understands as to who the pronoun is referring to from the context. I hope all female readers will be understanding and forgiving.

* * *

C

Chapter II: « Addendum »

In this section, I have included some interesting articles and statements that I have come across. Some were sent to me by e-mail and their authors are unknown. They tend to emphasize and support the ideas I have tried to present in the rest of the book.

Vahe Sivaciyan



- I -

EVENTS FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS



EVENTS FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS

In this first volume we will consider the major events in the life of Jesus that are presented in the Gospels. The list of the events is the following:

- **Baptism of Jesus**
- **Jesus' temptation in the wilderness**
- **The wedding at Cana**
- **Jesus calms the storm**
- **Jesus walks on water**
- **Jesus feeds the multitude**
- **Jesus' transfiguration**
- **Jesus' triumphant entry to Jerusalem**
- **Jesus goes to the Temple**
- **Jesus curses a fig tree**
- **Jesus visits Mary and Martha**
- **The last supper**
- **Jesus' healings**
- **Jesus revives the dead**
- **Jesus prays in Gethsemane**
- **Crucifixion of Jesus**
- **Jesus' burial and resurrection**

In general, one thinks that the deeds performed by Jesus are the results of His superhuman qualities of His nature. Hence, we say: "He is the Son of God, therefore He can perform miracles and we worship Him. Without a doubt we should worship Him, because by revealing God on earth, he taught us the path of perfection, so that by following His example we also like Him succeed in revealing God within ourselves. He also, due to his infinite mercifulness, gave to humanity the peace lost.

The reality is that His every deed, every event in His life was a huge lesson given to us.

BAPTISM of JESUS



In general, what do people think is the purpose of the Sacrament of Baptism (*also see the book “From Light to Light II - Awakening” in the chapter II titled “Seven” “The Sacrament of Baptism” Pages 82-85*). According to the general understanding of the Sacrament of Baptism, it is usually performed for the forgiveness of sins, specially the “original sin”. John the Baptist used to baptize for forgiveness of sins.

“He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” (Luke 3:3)

Originally baptism was for those who had come of age, but within the church, in time baptism of infants became a custom. The purpose of this was to clear the infant, which we consider to be pure and sinless, of the original sin that he/she is born with. It also did become a symbol of welcoming of the individual into the Christian faith and Church. The purpose of the Sacrament of Baptism, as the first Sacrament of the Church, is to open the “door” to allow the flow of energy of the Holy Spirit into the individual. According to the followers of a Christian sect that consider themselves to have been “born again”, hence, saved, they consider baptism to be their “rebirth”, their resurrection. As Jesus Christ

“came out of the tomb” the followers of this sect also consider being dunked into the water as entering the “tomb” and coming out of the water as the “resurrection”.

After this short discourse about baptism, let us consider the baptism of Jesus. Why did Jesus get baptized? Did Jesus have sins that required baptism for forgiveness? Heaven forbid. Being sinless, Jesus did not require to be baptized. He also did not need to be “born again” and baptism could not represent resurrection for Him, because much later He truly resurrected from the dead.

Some say that John the Baptist belonged to the Essene sect of the Jews and baptism was the initiation ceremony to become a member of the sect. According to them, Jesus also was baptized in order to become a member of that sect. It certainly is not believable that a saviour that has come for the salvation of all of humanity would become a member of a small sect. Someone who loves all of humanity can not discriminate between groups by considering one privileged over others by belonging to it. It is possible to say that His baptism was His “initiation ceremony” for his mission.

The third purpose of baptism is to open the “door” for the flow of the energy of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was already full of the energy of the Holy Spirit. Despite this reality, He received additional energy of the Holy Spirit.

“As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.” (Matthew 3:16)

What was it that Jesus tried to teach us by getting baptized? John had never seen Jesus before that day, but he recognized Him immediately because of Jesus’ level of energy. He did not consider himself to be worthy to baptize Jesus.

“But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented." (Matthew 3:14-15)

According to John's comment, Jesus was not required to be baptized. What was that "righteousness" for which Jesus insisted that He be baptized?

The basic and essential "item" for the Sacrament of Baptism is the water. What does water represent? What are the metaphorical meanings of water? Metaphorically, water has been used to represent several different ideas. The first metaphorical meaning of water is that it represents life on this planet. This is easy to understand, because according to the rules of biology, there would be no life on earth if there had been no water. Hence, water is the essence of life. The second metaphorical meaning of water is that it represents the energy of the Holy Spirit. In the Book of Revelation we read the following:

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb." (Revelation 22:1)

Hence, water also represents the life energy, which is the energy of the Holy Spirit. Water is also a sign of cleanliness and the fourth metaphorical meaning of water is that it represents human emotions.

Jesus with His baptism was teaching us the purpose of our lives. He "was saying" (metaphorically) live this physical life (the first metaphorical meaning of water), but know that God-revelation within us is possible only during this physical life. This becomes possible by opening the gates and allowing the flow of the energy of the Holy Spirit abundantly (the second metaphorical meaning of water). In each person, the presence of that energy is his spirit, the Christ within, which represents the energy of the Holy Spirit. Hence Christ is the source of that energy and it is up to us to what degree we allow His revelation in us.

“I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’” (John 1:33)

Jesus also commanded his disciples:

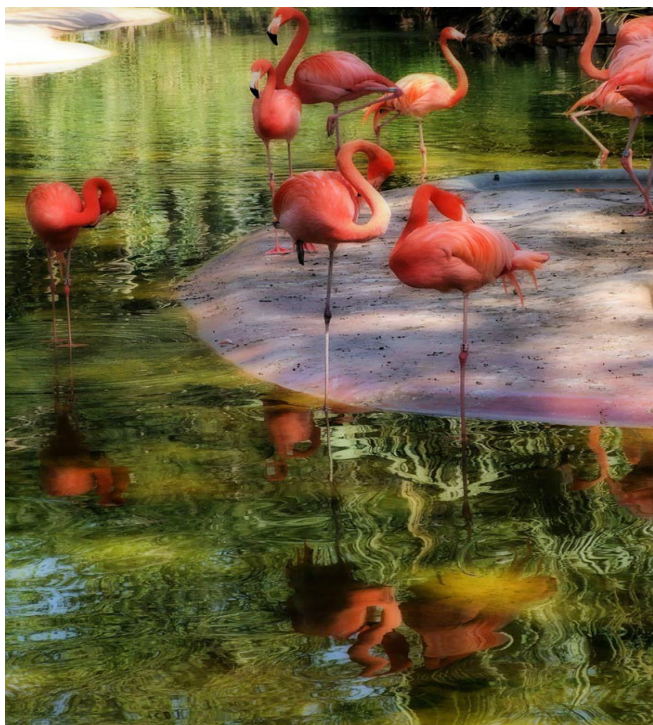
“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

With these words Jesus was commanding His disciples to teach the general public the path or righteousness, the path to perfection as a means of being worthy to open the “doors” and to receive the energy of the Holy Spirit and to be able to realize God revelation within themselves, which is the real purpose of human life on earth.

Water is also a sign of cleanliness. The energy of the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus as He came out of the water. With this act, Jesus was trying to teach us what we need to do in our lives. Before receiving the energy, the graces of the Holy Spirit, we need to cleanse ourselves. What does it mean to cleanse oneself? The individual is cleansed only when he has controlled and avoided committing all the seven “deadly sins” and instead, has nurtured virtues. It is also imperative for the person to have given up all types of selfishness.

The forth meaning of water or what it metaphorically represents are the human emotions. Hence, during baptism the submersion into the water exemplifies the fact that we are about to “drown” in our emotions, but coming out of the water represents that we have control over our emotions and to rise above them and not to be affected by them. This also eliminates all sorts of reactions that one may show that rise from emotions.

As a summary, Jesus, who had no need to get baptized, volunteered to show us what to do in our lives so that we could be perfect like Him. Without such an achievement, it will be impossible for us to succeed in achieving God-revelation within us. When we consider the four metaphorical representations of water, then the teaching of Jesus, by this act, becomes obvious. The first thing to learn is that we have to accomplish God-revelation within us, here and now, during this present life on earth and not in some future time. The second lesson is that God-revelation is possible only by receiving an infinite amount of the energy of the Holy Spirit. This is possible only by cleansing the mind, by emancipation from the seven deadly sins and by clearing all thoughts and having full control over our emotions.



JESUS' TEMPTATION IN THE WILDERNESS



After His baptism, Jesus, full of Holy Spirit, was led to the wilderness for meditation. After fasting for 40 days he was tempted by His “Ego”, the devil.

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.”
(Matthew 4:1-2)

“At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. (Mark 1:12-13)
Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.” (Luke 4:1-2)

By this act, the lesson Jesus has given us is enormous.

In this event, the points to be taken into consideration, their meanings and the lessons they give are the following:

- a- Why forty days?
- b- Why in a wilderness?
- c- Fasting
- d- The meanings of the three temptations.

A - Why Forty Days

The number 40 is a characteristic number. Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days. After the exodus from Egypt, the Jews were nomadic in the desert for 40 years. Elijah, fasting, walked for 40 days. The rains that flooded the world at the time of Noah lasted 40 days. After His resurrection, Jesus stayed on earth for 40 days. According to numerology, the number 40 has great meaning (*Also see the book "From Light to Light (I)" in Chapter 8 titled "What is Numerology" Pages 205-206*). In numerology, the various digits of a multi-digit number are added together to render it into a single digit. Hence, number 40 becomes $4 + 0 = 4$. In numerology the number 4 represents the creation and human life on earth, with temptations and experiences. As with most of us, was not Jesus also subjected to and had the experience of being tempted by His "Ego"? As it happens to all of us and since we usually succumb to this temptation, it was important for Jesus to also experience the tyranny of His "Ego", but He did not succumb and conquered it. It was imperative for Jesus to come down to our level and experience similar situations as us, just to show that it is also possible for us not to succumb to temptations of the "Ego" and to conquer the "Ego". Otherwise we would say, as most still do: "He is God. He can do it. We are just human and can't". This understanding is wrong. What Jesus did, He said we can also do and more.

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am

going to the Father.” (John 14:12)

“He replied, 'Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.’” (Matthew 17:20)

Jesus was also trying to tell us that by conquering or getting emancipated from the clutches of the “Ego”, one can also succeed in having the experience of God-revelation within oneself.

B – Why in a Wilderness

Wilderness represents emptiness. In a desert, there is nothing that occupies the mind. Metaphorically, the wilderness represents the mind as a “desert”, a mind cleared of all thoughts, a mind that is not full of thoughts, but rather is empty. Jesus went to the wilderness to pray, to meditate, to clear His mind of all thoughts.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” (Matthew 5:8)

“Pure in heart” is the mind cleared, cleansed of all thoughts and emotions. (In Hebrew there is no word for “mind”. They use the word “heart” instead).

According to the earlier quotation from the Gospel of Mark, in the wilderness, aside from Jesus, there were also wild animals. Surprisingly, the wild animal did not harm Jesus. Animals are much more sensitive than humans and recognize the presence of God’s energy. By meditating, Jesus had increased the frequency of the vibration of His energy. The wild animals, aware of the high frequency, had not harmed Him. Since usually there is nothing in the wilderness, the presence of the wild animals is of great interest. The only enemy for Jesus who had a cleansed mind was the “wild animal” that was in Him. That was His “Ego”, the devil. By conquering His “Ego”, Jesus did not allow the

“wild animal” to harm Him. On the other hand, what do we do? Attached to our “Egos”, we allow it to shread us into pieces both morally and spiritually. But according to Jesus’ teachings, we also have the ability and the opportunity to say: **“Away from me Satan!”**. Of course this would be possible for us if we are able to acquire a higher level of consciousness and be privy to higher wisdom, so that with proper, correct judgement and proper selection of righteousness we do not deviate from the path of perfection.

C - Fasting

When the disciples of Jesus could not cure the epileptic boy, Jesus cured him. When the disciples asked as to why they could not cure him, Jesus gave the following answer.

“Because you have so little faith. ... but this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.” (Matthew 17:20-21)

Hence it appears that Jesus by fasting and meditation had gathered more energy. When the disciples were with Jesus they were not fasting.

It is a well-known biological truth that if a man does not drink water for one week, he dies, but if he drinks water only but does not eat, he dies after one month. In both situations, he first becomes weak and then dies. But Jesus was in the wilderness without water and food for more than a month, in fact 40 days. Interestingly, he remained healthy and had the ability and the strength to walk back to civilization. This appears to contradict the laws of biology that in fact have been put there by God. Some say that Jesus was God: therefore he could ignore the laws and overcome them. This is incorrect understanding and reasoning. God will never act against His own laws. As noted above, Jesus lived those 40 days as a human, just like us. Jesus was a perfect man like us and was not a superhuman. He did have a human nature.

For survival man needs both water and chemical

energy that he receives through the food that he eats. It is a well-known fact that without water and without the sun, there would be no life on earth. Sixty to seventy percent of the human body is comprised of water. This slight variation depends on the age of the individual. A body's water content constantly decreases through evaporation with the exhaled breath as well as through sweating. But the greatest loss is through micturition. It is very important to pass urine, because as a result of digestion of food eaten, unwanted chemicals also form that need to be diluted and excreted from the body through the kidneys. For survival, it becomes obvious that we need to drink water to make up for the loss.

As indicated above, the second requirement for life on earth is the presence of the sun.

All life on earth gets its life-giving energy from the sun. It is well known that all plants receive their energy from the sun and change it into "chemical energy". All animals and humans as well, by eating the plants, indirectly receive the energy of the sun. The plant is the intermediary between the animals and the sun. Mankind, by eating plants or animal meat, receives the life-giving energy of the sun through them. One should not forget that the animal has already spent a large amount of that energy, especially the high frequencies for its own survival. Therefore, when we eat meat, we receive relatively low frequency energy. That energy is sufficient to maintain life, but not to maintain health. That is exactly why most doctors advise us to consume less meat and more vegetables to remain healthy. Is it not true that meat-eating animals tend to be more violent and the plant eaters more docile? One wonders if it would be possible for man to receive that life-giving energy directly from the sun. When the individual, by increasing his level of consciousness, succeeds in being privy to that knowledge, why not? Even today there are individuals on this planet that have continued to live without eating or even drinking. There is one individual

that has not eaten or drank water for 60 years, yet he survives. Doctors have not believed in this and have admitted him to hospital and kept him under supervision. After many tests, they have come to the conclusion that all his internal organs are as healthy as those of a healthy young man. During the ten days of observation, they have verified that he neither drinks, nor does he eat. He also does not pass urine and also does not defecate. This ability of man has been called “breatharianism”. These individuals receive their life giving energy directly from the sun through breathing. Many have tried this method of living and have died of starvation. Those who have not reached that high level of consciousness and are not familiar with the science, should not attempt doing so. Jesus knew much more than that.

Because energy comes from the sun, in the past, majority of humanity were sun worshippers, unknowing that the sun also is an intermediary between the true source of the life-giving energy, namely the Holy Spirit and the world. Is it not true that the sun has also come about by the same God’s energy that has created all? Is not the sun also part of the creation? Man by “fixing” himself and following the path of perfection, has the ability to open the “gates” or “doors” for the energy of the Holy Spirit to flow into him as a torrential river coming from God. During the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Apostolic Church the deacon says:

“Lift up your gates, O princes; let the everlasting doors be lifted up, and the king of glory shall come in.”

The “doors” represent the chakras, the energy centers. It is through those energy centres that the life force of the Holy Spirit enters into us. The “king of glory” is the energy of the Holy Spirit. As indicated previously, metaphorically water also represents the energy of the Holy Spirit.

“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the

throne of God and of the Lamb.” (Revelation 22:1)

In this quotation the words “clear as crystal” refer to the very high frequency of the energy, because the high frequencies have not yet been depleted by intermediaries. Jesus had the ability to fast much longer than 40 days, because He lived on heavenly manna, which is the life giving energy of the Holy Spirit. But for sinners like us, it is difficult to fast even for only three days. Regarding fasting, the prophet Isaiah recommends the following.

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.” (Isaiah 58:6-8)

Hence, our first duty is to fast from selfishness, so that we become worthy to receive the graces of the Holy Spirit. According to the Gospels, Jesus was in the wilderness for 40 days. But it is not clear whether the 40 days is according to our level of consciousness or the high level of consciousness of Jesus. As is indicated in my book titled “From Light to Light III – Universal Laws” in Chapter 7 titled “Consciousness and Time”, time is relative also according to one’s level of consciousness. If, therefore, the 40 days written in the Gospels is according to the consciousness level of Jesus, then the explanation given above, as to how He may have survived the fasting, would suffice. But if the 40 days are according to our level of consciousness, then what appears to be 40 days to us for the level of consciousness

that Jesus had, for Him it may not have been more than one hour. His body would also have experienced only one hour, therefore survival for one hour would not be an issue at all.

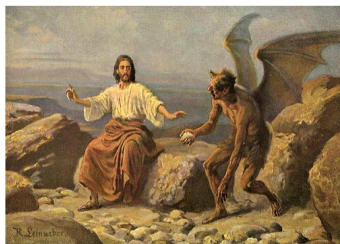
D - The Meanings of the Three Temptations.

On the 6th day of the creation, after God created all the animals, including man, “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning-the sixth day” (Genesis 1:31). Within the creation, everything is subject to duality. In the same way, the individuality of man also has two poles, one positive and one negative (*See the book titled “From Light to Light III – Universal Laws” in Chapter 6 titled “Individuality”*). The positive pole of man’s individuality is in communion with his spirit, his True Self, the Christ within. On the other hand, the negative pole is in communion with his “Ego”. Is it not written in the Bible that Satan rebelled against God and wanted to sit on His throne? Undoubtedly, God’s throne is in His temple. But where is God’s temple? According to the Bible, every person’s body is God’s temple. Hence, the throne of God must also be in every persons “heart”. Therefore, what do we understand from the statement: “Satan wanted to sit in God’s throne”? Satan, the “Ego” of the individual wanted to govern him, rather than he be guided and governed by Christ within, his true Self. God has also given man “free will”, so that freely he succeeds in revealing God within himself and has the experiential knowledge of the Truth. All animals, including the wild and ferocious ones, are always with God but not conscious of it. Is it not true that after God created them, He saw that they were “good”. Only man has the ability to consciously be aware of God’s presence in him. The “Ego” is extremely cunning and will use every and all things and methods not to let go the reins that control the man. It gives him worldly desires and passions, physical pleasures, mental happiness,

intellectual satisfaction just so that it does not lose control and its tyranny over man's life. Without any hesitation, it employs all forms of deceit, lies, fraud, cheating, crooked and erroneous means just to achieve its desired end. The poor man, unaware of his true Self, the Christ within, thinking that he and his "Ego" are one and the same, he attaches to it and thus follows a path of self destruction. Man's "Ego" promotes all types of "sins", egotism, selfishness, hatred, indifference, treachery, cruelty, violence, pride Because of the "free will" given to man, the Christ within does not impose His will on the individual and does not interfere with his decisions; otherwise man would not have a "free will". Christ though always cautions, but only if the individual listens to that internal silent voice and takes heed.

According to the Gospels, Jesus was led to the wilderness by the Holy Spirit so that he would be tempted by the devil. Is it possible for the devil to have the audacity to tempt God? Even if the devil dares to do so, is it possible that God would be tempted? Hence, how is it that Jesus was subjected to temptation? We should not forget that Jesus was a perfect human, just like us.

By descending to the level of humanity, He subjected Himself to everything that man gets subjected to, including all types of temptations. He did this to teach us and to caution us not to give in to the various temptations and deviate from the path of righteousness.



With this background let us study and understand the various temptations of Jesus and what was it that He was trying to teach us. Jesus was subjected to three temptations. Why not more or less?

"The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." Jesus

answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'" (Luke 4:3-4)

"The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:3-4)

In the Bible it is written that after 40 days of fasting, Jesus felt hungry; hence, the devil tempted Him with the desire to eat and satisfy His hunger. This was Jesus' first temptation. Obviously the meaning of this and the purpose of this was not just eating or not eating bread. For someone who is hungry or "starving", eating is not a temptation nor is it a sin, but rather a necessity. For survival, man needs nourishment that comes through the food he eats. It is true that, despite the abundance of food in the world there are people that die of starvation that is mainly because cruel people use food or the lack of it as weapons to conquer with. The truth is that man usually does not eat just for survival but tends to live to eat. Hence, eating has become a means for physical pleasure; otherwise why would we always look for tasty foods? Often, especially from those at an advanced age, who have reduced levels of hormones, sexual activity is no longer existent. Also being physically tired and too weak to travel, we hear the following "dictum": "The only pleasure left in life is eating". This temptation of Jesus does not just represent eating, but rather all types of physical pleasures that man usually pursues and in doing so, deviates from the path of righteousness.

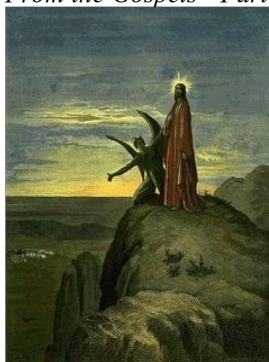
Jesus' answer is also very interesting. He says: "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God". These words of Jesus usually are understood as a metaphor to represent the content of the Bible. There is some truth in this, mainly because it is by following the teachings of Jesus that man will advance on

the path to salvation. But in this circumstance, the real meaning of Jesus' response is its literal meaning and there is also another metaphorical meaning as well. As was written above, man is able to receive the necessary life force directly from the sun, or even from its source directly from the Holy Spirit without any intermediaries, such as plant or animal meat. Jesus already had obtained His life force for 40 days.

The second metaphorical meaning is that, man, instead of pursuing temporary and dismal physical pleasures, has the ability to experience the divine eternal bliss. This is possible only by God-revelation within himself, when the energy of the Holy Spirit flows into him abundantly. The energy of the Holy Spirit is the "word of God". Jesus was trying to tell us that man lives for these simple pleasures, but has the capacity to choose a totally different life of bliss. Just as Jesus did, we should also refuse all the physical pleasures that preoccupy us. We should start with the simplest, to end feasts of elaborate tables and food. Our level of consciousness is not yet suitable to live without consuming food, but at least we can endeavour to eat to live rather than live to eat. At this juncture, it is also appropriate to mention all other types of physical pleasures. Undoubtedly sexual relations are pleasurable because God created it to be pleasurable. If it had not been pleasurable, people would not have sexual intercourse and there would be no procreation. Without procreation, humanity would die away and the means for God-revelation would also disappear. Hence, the purpose of sexual activity should be procreation and not just for physical pleasure. What Jesus is trying to tell us is that if we truly are looking for the real "pleasure", the bliss, we should ignore the "Ego"-driven temporary and petty pleasures of the world. The divine bliss supersedes all worldly physical, mental and intellectual pleasures.

The second temptation of Jesus was the following.

"Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of



the world and their splendor." All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said to him, Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.' (Matthew 4:8-10)

"The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an

instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.' (Luke 4:5-8)

During this second temptation Satan, Jesus' "Ego", tempts His intellect. Jesus, having a high level of consciousness was privy to a lot of the universal laws that remain unknown to humanity. As a result, he was capable of doing things that we consider to be miracles and are unable to do ourselves. Jesus could easily defeat all emperors and take over the world politically. This would be very easy for Him if he, using His "free will", would give the reins of His human life to His "Ego". This is the meaning of "worshipping the devil". For us mortals, this appears to make a lot of sense. If one has any added abilities, his duty is to utilize them for the benefit of society and others and not for himself, for selfish reasons. It is difficult to stay on the path of perfection. Is it not true that often our "Ego", using our intellect and its reasoning and logical analysis of a situation convinces us to make a choice that is to its liking rather than listening to and following that silent voice in us? Man's ability to logical thinking is very interesting and extremely flexible

and often assures us that the conclusion achieved is correct and the best. The following is an excellent example of this. A jeweller, who is very “spiritual” and claims to have been “born again”, was trying to sell a diamond ring to a customer for \$1000.00, but the customer found the price too high and the jeweller reduced it to \$900.00. Eventually the customer left without buying the ring. A while later another customer came in. From his attire, he appeared to be financially well off. The jeweller eventually sold the same ring for \$1700.00. His friend, who was in the store all this time, after the departure of the customer, asks him if what he did in overcharging the customer was right. The jeweller gives the following response: “Because God loves me, He sent that customer to me as a gift, so that I could make more money”. The interesting thing is that man even makes God an accomplice to his sins and negative deeds and he himself does not feel guilty. This is man’s intellectual ability and the power of reasoning if he allows his “Ego” to take the reins of his intellect. As much as temptations come from the “Ego”, God uses these temptations and of course our response to them to “sift” and separate us.

“This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are my people,' and they will say, 'The Lord is our God'.” (Zachariah 13:9)

With this temptation, Jesus showed us that our intellect and ability to reason should be a buttress to our free will so that we choose and follow the inner silent voice that comes from the Christ within and not fall off the path of righteousness and perfection. Jesus has said that we can not serve two masters.

“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You can

not serve both God and Money.” (Matthew 6:24)

Hence, we also either worship our “Ego” or the Christ within. Jesus has said the following: **“It is written: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only”**. It is also our duty to always live consciously, because this is to listen and to live according to the silent internal voice that comes from the Christ within. This is to worship Him and to prostrate to Him.

If we pay attention in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew, the order of the second and third temptations are reversed. In this book they are presented in the order of Luke’s Gospel.



“Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.' " Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

(Matthew 4:5-7)

“The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God, he said, "Throw your-self down from here. For it is written:" "He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." "Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (Luke 4:9-12)

In this third temptation, Satan utilises Jesus’ mind and His emotions. The mind functions through the brain, giving rise to thoughts and through the “heart” giving rise to

emotions. Satan attempted to utilize the emotion of pride. He expected Jesus to feel pride for having reached the level of consciousness he had attained. Pride is Satan's last "trump card". It is exactly this, that all those who go around saying that they are "saved" are showing this same pride of having been saved. This is boasting and bragging. The "Ego" will give the individual the pride of having succeeded in the path of perfection which cancels years of hard work within one second. This also shows, that despite all the virtues the patient has cultivated within himself, he still remains attached to his "Ego". Is it not written in the Bible where God says I am a jealous God?

"For the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God ..." (Deuteronomy 6:15)

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You can not serve both God and Money." (Matthew 6:24)

Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. (Luke 17:33)

The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." (John 12:25)

According to these last two quotations, Jesus repeats in words what He demonstrated in His own life in this world. He completely ignored His "Ego" and said **"Away from me Satan!"**. When Satan, the "Ego", realized that he did not succeed in tempting Jesus with physical pleasures as well as through intellectual and emotional trickery, he left Him alone for a while.

"Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him." (Matthew 4:11)

"When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time." (Luke 4:13)

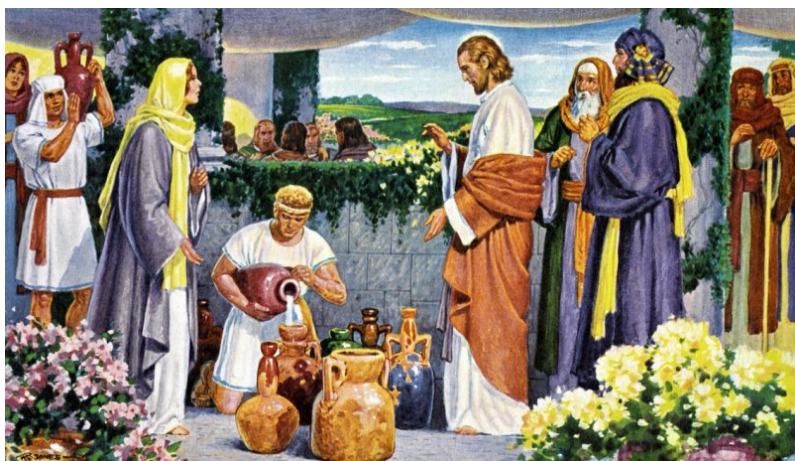
As it has been presented in the book titled "From Light

to Light III – Universal laws” in Chapter I titled “Anatomy – Body & Spirit” pages 25-28 and in the book Titled “From Light to Light II – Awakening”, at the end of Chapter I titled “Religion and Science”, the topic of “Human Nature”, page 57, man functions in this world through his body, mind and intellect. Hence, Jesus, with the example of His temptations in the wilderness cautions us to be vigilant and not to be subjected to all these three means of trickery, the physical, mental and intellectual, as used by the “Ego”. This is the meaning of Jesus having three temptations.

To resist all the various methods of onslaught of the “Ego”, one has to develop a very strong will. A strong will is the result of faith, love and confidence. Where there is no confidence, there can be no faith. Where there is no faith, there can not be love. Where there is no love, there can not be God-revelation.



THE WEDDING AT CANA



It was at the wedding in Cana that Jesus performed His first miracle (*See the Gospel of John. Chapter 2:1-11*). People, including Jesus' disciples were looking for miracles to believe in Him. This appears obvious from the last statement of the above suggested reading.

“This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.” (John 2:11)

In fact, with this deed Jesus gave us a much more important lesson. Why did Jesus choose a wedding to perform His first miracle? The truth is that he did not choose the wedding for His first miracle, but rather He reluctantly performed the miracle to accomplish His mother's wishes. As God has given man his spirit, which we call soul, and hence we call God “Father”, the mother also gives the individual his body. As one is obliged to worship and obey his heavenly Father, he also is obliged to worship and obey his earthly father and mother. To anger a mother or a father means angering God. To disobey a mother or a father is to disobey God. To despise or to scorn a mother or a father is to

despise and scorn God. When our parents are happy with us, that means God is happy with us.

If the time had not come for Jesus to perform His first miracle, His mother would not have requested it from Him at this wedding in Cana. We have to understand that all that happens, happens only as the “will of God”. Hence, it was Jesus’ mother that conveyed the “will of God” to Him. Despite the fact that Jesus did not consider Himself ready, by obeying His mother’s will he was actually obeying the will of His heavenly Father. He was also teaching us to always obey our parents, but more importantly to accept all that happens in our lives good or bad as the “will of God”. The good events are in a way recompense for our good deeds and the bad ones are lessons given to us to learn from them and improve ourselves. We should not forget that we are the architects of our own fates and all the situations that come forth from it. Therefore, we need to accept all that happens in our lives with a smile, and try to learn from them the lessons hidden in them, so that they will not repeat. Hence, Jesus was an example of obedience.

Because Jesus’ body was given to Him by His mother, His mother represented also His physical life on earth. The request to change the water into wine came from His mother. Therefore for us as well, the change from the physical life to eternal life has to be here on earth when the individual is still alive and living in this physical body. The request for such a change has to come from his individuality, which belongs to this life on earth.

It is also interesting to note that the venue at which this miracle was performed was a wedding, because on earth every individual is a bride and life on earth represents the wedding and the following reception. The groom of this wedding is Christ and the bride every individual. The purpose of the wedding is the union of the bride and the groom, the two becoming one. The following is taken from

the book titled "From Light to Light III – Universal Laws"

Chapter V titled "Meditation" page 125.

"The following is a quotation from one of the last hymns of the Morning Service (Matins) of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It is the last verse of the hymn that starts with the word "Norasdeghdzyal" meaning newly created. Since meditation is an important part of "awakening", it is appropriate to present a short interpretation of this verse.

(Here I will attempt a translation of the verse)

"Children of Zion, wake up. Give the good news to the bride of the Light. If your Groom resurrected, having defeated death with His power (or authority), comes to crown you (wed you) with glory, present yourself adorned with finery. Sing a new song to the resurrected, the fruit of life of those sleeping"

The expression "Children of Zion" indicates the children of God, namely us. According to the Bible, we are all children of God. The command "wake up" represents the spiritual "awakening", the increased level of consciousness that is required, indicated multiple times in this book previously. The meaning of "give the good news to the bride of Light" is that the purpose of our lives is to unite with God, which is also known as God-revelation within the person. Hence, we are the brides of the Light. This Light represents the Christ within. As in a wedding ceremony the groom and the bride form a union and physically as well as spiritually become one and form one family. We also have the duty to reveal the singularity by joining as a bride to the Groom, the Christ within. Therefore the good news is given to us, the brides of the Light. What is this good

news? It is the arrival of the Groom and His crowning us with His glory. “If your Groom resurrected, having defeated death with His power (or authority)” is a reference to Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection, as well the “resurrection” of the Christ within that appears to sleep. Jesus was killed by selfish people, because they did not want to change their ways and follow His teachings. In the same way, within ourselves, as a result of our “Egos”, we also have crucified and condemned the Christ within to death, hence, he remains sleeping. But He will resurrect. In us also, the Christ within should wake up and resurrect. Jesus showed and taught us this same lesson on the Sea of Galilee when he was sleeping in the boat. There was a storm and He was awakened and calmed the winds and the sea. When the Groom, the Christ within wakes up “comes to crown you (wed you) with glory”. This means by joining and becoming one with Christ, the individual gets crowned with His glory, meaning God-revelation within the person is realized. The bride, namely us, should be ready for this union. Therefore it is imperative that we also present ourselves as it is recommended, “present yourself adorned with finery”. Hence, first we should prepare ourselves for this union. When a bride is to wed, she has only two requirements. The first is to give her consent to wed with that groom. This consent represents the yearning to join God. The second requirement is to prepare and adorn herself for the day of the wedding. The meaning of “adorned with finery” is the necessary preparation and adornment one has to do prior to God revelation within oneself. This adornment represents all the

virtues he has to develop. These are presented at the end of the 2nd chapter titled “Universal Laws”. “Sing a new song to the resurrected” represents the change in our lives that is required. Henceforth our lives should reflect the will of the Christ within and not that of the “Ego”. The life we lead is the song we sing. “Sing a new song” refers to the change in our lives and “to the resurrected” means that the song has to be pleasing to God. Of course the resurrected is the Christ and he is the fruit of life for those who are in a slumber of ignorance, hence “the fruit of life of those sleeping”.

As elsewhere and in my previous books titled “From Light to Light”, it has been indicated many times that the creation is based on duality. Hence, humans are in two forms, male and female. The purpose of the wedding is that by the union of these two, a single family is formed. The family represents “singularity”. In the same way, man also has his “Ego” and the Christ within. The individuality of man has the choice to be the bride of Christ or the bride of his “Ego”. Whose bride do we want to be, Christ’s or the “Ego’s”, the devil? By joining with Christ, the “singularity” of all is revealed. Man, with this, not just intellectual but experiential realization understands that everything represents the same Truth and is nothing but the various forms, appearances of that same Truth. This experiential realization of the “singularity” is nothing but God-revelation within the person.

It is also interesting that the miracle performed by Jesus was turning water into wine. As mentioned previously, one of the metaphorical meanings of water was that it represented physical life on earth. In my book titled “From Light to Light (I)” in the Chapter 14 titled “Interpretation of the Holy Mass of the Armenian Apostolic Church” I had indicated wine as representing the life force of the Holy Spirit. I find it

appropriate to quote from there:

“The bread is the staple food for the nourishment of the body. The wine, because of its alcoholic content, also known as “spirit”, represents the life-giving blood. When we drain someone’s blood, the person dies. By setting this sacrament, Jesus was trying to tell us to live this physical life but to do it in remembrance of Him. This means that the purpose of our lives is to remember Christ and to reveal Him fully. The blood - the wine, represents the life-giving force, the “prana”. One of the quatrains of Omar Khayyam’s Rubaiyat goes as follows (translated & paraphrased):

“Which is better, to drink wine and to love a beauty, or to listen to some fanatics? If the drunkard and the lover will go to hell, no one will ever see heaven.”

His comment actually is about the “prana”, the life force, the Holy Spirit. When he talks about getting drunk with wine, he means “getting drunk” with the Holy Spirit. To be in love is to be enamored or being in love with God.”

“Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.” (John 2:6)

First it is interesting to note the number of jars. Why six and not some other number? First let us see their purpose. They contained water usually used for cleansing. The physical cleansing metaphorically also represents spiritual cleansing. This latter cleansing is possible only through a higher level of consciousness and a greater flow of energy into the person. The energy flows into the person if and when the “doors” of entry are open. And the “doors” are the energy centers, the chakras of the individual. There are seven chakras in man. When the energy flows in him freely and

expresses from the seventh chakra, he experiences God revelation within himself. Jesus, after asking them to fill the six jars with water, turned the water into wine. In the same way, man also has to change the “water”, the low frequency energy in his first six chakras to “wine”, into high frequency and abundant energy, so that the energy can reach the seventh chakra and he can have the experience of God-revelation in himself. Thus by changing the water into wine Jesus was telling us the purpose of our lives. It is therefore our duty, during this earthly life and as a result of this earthly life, to pursue the path of righteousness and the path of perfection to be worthy to become brides of Christ.



JESUS CALMS THE STORM



Matthew 8:23-27

Mark 4:35-41

Luke 8:22-25

Jesus calming the storm, normally is taken as His having superhuman abilities. Even his disciples expressed this idea.

“The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" (Matthew 8:27)

Most say that Jesus being the son of God, had full power over nature and could control it, but us mortals do not have the ability to perform such deeds. In Jesus, God had taken physical form and lived as a man. Hence Jesus represented God-revelation in man. The above interpretation is in contrast to the teachings of Jesus. Many times Jesus has told us that we also are capable in performing such deeds, even greater deeds than what He has done. The following quotations prove this.

“...If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. No-thing will be impossible for you.”(Matthew 17:20)

**“If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.”
(Luke 17:6)**

“I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” (John 14:12)

Jesus had a high level of consciousness, therefore He was privy to the hidden laws of energy that controlled natural events. By using His knowledge, he was able to control the five elements in nature. As it has been presented in the book titled “From Light to Light III – Awakening” (page 57) the five elements are: Matter, Water, Air, Fire and Ether. Ether represents the space. The space is not empty vacuum; rather, it represents and contains the energy of the Holy Spirit. It is interesting to note that within the Armenian language the word «միջոց» pronounced “michots” has two meanings. One is “the space” and the other is “the means”. The “space” contains the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is the means of all creation. Today scientists have started to influence nature, but their knowledge is still very primitive. By “seeding” clouds they have succeeded in causing rain to fall in certain places. All of us who do not have that knowledge are unable to do so.

Based on the above explanation, Jesus’ deed must have a different and more important meaning. At this juncture it is appropriate to quote the following passage from Chapter IV titled “Is there a God or Not” in the book titled “From Light to Light (I)”.

Sometimes, in humanity, we see “reflections that appear to be broken” as a result of the “winds and storms”. We call them human frailties. The winds represent the storms of our thoughts. The waves represent the storms of our emotions. As a result of these, we feel as if we are about to sink and drown as did the apostles during the storm on the Sea of Galilee. We should not fear. The moon is full and unbroken in the sky. Christ is in the boat

sleeping. There is no way that boat could sink.

What we need to do to alleviate our fears is to wake the sleeping Christ. He would calm the storm, calming both the winds and the waves.

Hence, the winds of the storm metaphorically represent the storm of thoughts present in people's mind. The waves of the storm metaphorically also represent the storms of emotion within the person. As a result of this "internal storm" man is in danger of "sinking and drowning". This we may call despair, depression etc. This usually does not lead to physical death, although some may commit suicide, but it leads to spiritual death. Spiritual death is to die to eternal life or to die to the Kingdom of God. Those who develop mastery and full control over their thoughts and emotions may see God. Did not Jesus say?

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." (Matthew 5:8)

The heart, one of the organs of the body that circulates the blood, as a metaphor, represents the mind. (*It is interesting to note that within the Hebrew language there is no other word equivalent for "mind". They employ the word "heart" to also mean mind.*) The mind, when it functions through the brain, gives rise to thoughts. When it functions through the "heart" (solar plexus), it gives rise to feelings and emotions. How do we develop full mastery over thoughts, feeling and emotions? For most men this appears to be an impossible task. We should not forget that the mind is used to obey the "Ego" and the 'Ego' creates many thoughts and emotions to prevent the individual from succeeding in getting a "pure heart", namely a mind free of all thoughts and emotions. If and when the individual succeeds in having a "pure heart", it indicates the "death" of the "Ego".

The boat represents the physical man. The disciples in the boat represent the various characteristics of the individual. Jesus sleeping in the boat represents every

person's true Self, the Christ within. As Jesus calmed the storm of the winds and waves, we can also succeed in getting mental peace and get rid of our mental storms of thoughts, feelings and emotions only by waking the Christ within us. The great majority of humanity, attached to its "Ego", disregards and ignores the Christ within. As a result of his ignorance, at least in his own mind, he appears to have condemned Christ to sleep.

How to wake the Christ within?

First we should be dissatisfied with our present "spiritual" condition and understand the path of destruction we are on regarding the fate of our individuality. This corresponds to the fear and panic of drowning and the death of the disciples in the boat. Sometimes a serious illness or an accident shakes up an individual from the depths of his being and results in a complete change in attitude and direction in his life. Why should not a similar change also occur without a catastrophe in one's life? Only when one comes to such an "awakening", only then does he realize all the mistakes and all the errors and sins he has been committing in his life. With this realization he consciously takes the reins of his life away from his "Ego" and gives them to the Christ within. This is the real meaning of "to be born again". From that moment on, he pursues only the path of perfection and righteousness. He only acts according to the "silent voice" within, which represents the will of Christ. He starts "living consciously". This means that none of his thoughts and deeds is born of his feelings or emotions as reactions; rather they become all-beneficial to all. Even when in any circumstance the truth would bring him hardship he will not deviate from telling the truth.

The means to develop a "pure heart" is to pray. Praying should be in its highest form, which is meditation. The mind centered only on Christ controlling all other thoughts and emotions.

JESUS WALKS ON WATER



Mark 6: 45-52

John 6: 15-21

Matthew 14: 22-23

Jesus sends His disciples by boat and He goes up the mountain to pray. His prayer undoubtedly was meditation. He subsequently comes to the shore of the lake and walking upon the water, He goes towards the boat of the disciples. Peter also wishes to walk on the water, but after one or two steps, upon seeing the strong wind and the waves, fear takes hold of him and he starts sinking. He yells: "Lord save me". Jesus holds his hand and they both ascend into the boat. The interesting part is that as soon as they enter the boat, the storm calms.

With this event, what is it that Jesus is trying to teach us? Previously we had indicated that one of the metaphorical meanings of water was “emotions”. Jesus, by walking on the water, was revealing to us that He had full control of his mind and His thoughts and over His emotions. According to the Gospels, Peter also attempted to walk on the water, but after two paces he was grabbed by the emotion of fear; hence, he sank and was in danger of drowning. Peter’s fear shows that he did not have control over his mind and emotions. Once again, the interesting part is that when Jesus entered the boat the storm, the winds and waves calmed.

Most think that this shows Jesus’s divine nature; hence, having control over nature by superseding the natural laws. As indicated earlier, even God does not contravene His own laws. Jesus, having attained a much higher level of consciousness, was aware of many other natural laws that we do not even think exist. They still remain hidden from us. He was able to perform the deeds which we consider to be miracles by utilizing those laws. He was using these hidden laws when He walked on the water. Today there are yogis aware of some of these laws of nature and are able to float in the air defying the law of gravity.

With this event, once more Jesus was teaching us to develop control over our minds, thoughts and especially over our emotions if we aspire to be worthy of the eternal life. Jesus entering the boat signifies that in our lives all our thoughts, words and deeds should be the result of and the proof that Christ within has the reins of our lives. If they come from the “Ego”, then they usually will be reactionary. As indicated above, the boat represents the physical man. When Christ is the master of that person, all mental storms also are calmed and the person finds inner peace. This is the meaning of the storm calming when Jesus entered the boat.

Fear is the strongest of all emotions and it promotes degeneration of the mental faculties and brain function and

paralizes the person and renders him impotent. This is true in both physical life as well as spiritual life. Fear also in our daily lives prevents the realization of a task. Fear, usually hiding behind other emotions, often presents those other emotions. For example, the emotion of anger is usually an expression of fear. The individual shows anger because he fears that they will think of him as being weak. Through anger, he thinks he is showing strength. Fear sometimes may also present as meakness and humility. These appear to be virtues that we should all have. But when they come out of fear, they are no longer virtues. To be virtues, they should arise from strong will and not out of fear.

It is also our duty to wake the Christ within, so that He can emancipate us from fear and also from all other negative thoughts and emotions and trust only God. We also need to increase our level of consciousness so that we also as Peter did, do not sink and almost drown. According to Jesus' teachings, we can also be privy to the hidden laws, but that is not the most important thing in life, but rather God worship must be.



JESUS FEEDS THE MULTITUDE



Matthew 14: 13-21

Matthew 15: 32-38

Luke 9: 10-17

John 6: 1-14

Mark 6:30-44

Mark 8: 1-10

The general belief is that Jesus fed five thousand people, because that number is written in the Gospel. But the five thousand were only the men. There were also women and children present there. Hence, the number of people He fed was much higher than five thousand. Some also think that Jesus did this miracle only once. In fact, Jesus fed a second multitude where there were four thousand men, also more women and children as well. He fed the “five thousand” by “multiplying” 5 loaves and two fish. After all were satisfied, there remained 12 baskets of food. He fed the “four thousand” by “multiplying” seven loaves and a few small fish. This time there remained seven baskets of food after all had eaten.

First, let us consider the fish which was the food eaten both times. It may be logical to say that some of His disciples were fishermen; hence, they had fish with them to

give as food. Let us consider another point as well. Why did Jesus chose fishermen as His disciples? Jesus told them: "I will make you fishers of men". In the book titled "From Light to Light (I)" in Chapter VIII titled (What is Astrology?" it is clearly, with plenty of examples, indicated that all events in the Bible have always followed astrological periods. Jesus came at the end of the astrological era of "Ram"; Hence, He is called the "Lamb" of God. The period of Ram ended with His crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. He was telling us about the coming age, the age of "Pisces". We also should not forget that among the early Christians the fish was the sign of the faith. The word for "fish" in Greek (ΙΧΘΥΣ) was also an acronym. Each letter in the word stands for the first letter of each word in the following sentence: "Jesus Christ Son of God Saviour".

When Jesus took the few loaves and the fish looked up to heaven, He gave thanks and gave them to the disciples to distribute. This is also a lesson to us to be satisfied with the minimum and to give thanks for it, but at the same time to be productive and at the same time charitable, merciful and compassionate.

Undoubtedly for ignorant sinners like us, what Jesus did was a great miracle. We should not forget that everything is nothing but the expression and appearance of the energy of the Holy Spirit. When a person is privy to all the hidden laws that govern that energy, then he could easily and willingly control the expression and appearance of that energy. With this event, Jesus showed us that the source of the life force is the Holy Spirit. But man due to his ignorance can benefit from it only through intermediaries. These intermediaries are: the sun, plants and animals.

Jesus also showed us that he did not discriminate and fed everyone, both the rich and the poor, both men and women, both adults and children, both Jews and non-Jews, both the virtuous and the sinner It is highly likely that in

those crowds there were people who in the future would be yelling: “Crucify Him”. We also should be compassionate towards all without discrimination, without consideration of nationality, religion etc. In the Gospel, Jesus says: “I have compassion for them”. Following in His footsteps, we should also be compassionate to those in need and those weaker than us.

This deed of Jesus’ also shows the abundance of the graces of the Holy Spirit. This takes place through the creation and through nature. But humanity, through its selfishness, as a result of its ignorance, hinders the abundance by polluting the soil, the waters and the air, thus promoting sickness and suffering in place of health and happiness. Jesus also cured the sick that were there that day. Jesus was the presence of Christ. If today we get sick as a result of the pollution we are causing, it indicates that we are preventing the Christ within us from healing us, Thus we reap what we sow.



JESUS' TRANSFIGURATION



Luke: 28-36

Mark: 8:1-12

Matthew 17: 1-9

God became human in Jesus. He descended to the level of humanity to be able to show us that we also have the ability and the opportunity of doing all that He did as a human. Undoubtedly this could be possible to man only if he wished to follow in Jesus' footsteps and assimilated all His teachings and stayed on the path of perfection and righteousness and did not spare any effort for the realization of all His teachings. The whole of the creation represents "God's body"; hence, God is everywhere and also within us.

"This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all." (1 John 1: 5)

When John writes: "God is Light", he is trying to say that God is energy. Because that same energy has also formed us, it tends to indicate that we also are an expression of God. We also have the ability to reveal Him in us. With Jesus' transfiguration, we were shown the possibility of achieving the same result. As Jesus is the Son of God, so are we the

sons and daughters of God. As during Jesus' baptism, during His transfiguration also, a heavenly voice said:

"... This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" (Matthew 17: 5)

The difference between Jesus and us is that our behaviour, thoughts, words and deeds are not pleasing to God. Therefore despite being His sons and daughters, we do not please Him; hence, we are not the children He is pleased with.

"One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Ephesians 4: 6)

"That you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." (Matthew 5: 45)

Jesus with His transfiguration showed us the Truth. He revealed within himself the Christ, the embodiment of the energy of the Holy Spirit. If we also direct and make use of our abilities and energies in that direction we can also achieve transfiguration. This is God-revelation within an individual. The creation is illusory as it does not show the Truth; hence, we live a life of illusion, a dream. Today, even quantum physicists have proven that the "world", the creation is but a hologram and not reality.

According to the known laws of physics, there is an electromagnetic energy that has different properties dependent on its frequency. The ones with low frequency are not visible. Those with certain frequencies are visible. Much higher frequencies also are not visible to us. The higher the frequency becomes the more energy it carries and has many more properties such as the ability for penetration into solids. Those within the visible frequency range also are not visible to us, but their reflection is.

"...went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed,

and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.” (Luke 9: 28-29)

According to the Gospel of Luke, Jesus, with only three of his disciples, went up the mountain to pray, to meditate. Through meditation He received more energy of the Holy Spirit and His level of consciousness increased and the frequency of His energy body also increased to a point where the Truth became visible and we call this “transfiguration”. And what is the Truth? The Truth is that everything, including all of us, are only the energy of God, expressed in different forms and with different abilities, namely with different frequencies.

Is there a difference between a two-year-old child and an adult? Undoubtedly we will respond saying: “Yes”. But the child is a human and so is the adult. The child has two eyes, two ears, one mouth, one nose, two arms and hands and also two legs and feet, but so does the adult. The child has internal organs, as does the adult. The child sleeps, eats and drinks, as does the adult. Hence, where is the difference? Is it because the size of the child is small and his weight is light compared to the adult that we consider them different? That is not as important, but what is much more important is the lack of understanding, the lack of comprehension and the lack of abilities of the child that sets him apart from the adult. Within the spiritual realm, Jesus represents “an adult” and we are all still “children”. Just like a child, we do not understand that we are an expression of God, nor do we comprehend the lessons given to us and nor do we have the ability to reveal the Truth within us. It was exactly this that Jesus was trying to teach us. With His transfiguration, it was exactly this that he proved to us. The brain of an adult person is fully developed unlike that of a two year old child. The child as a result of his nature is unable to understand this. But we adults, having the ability, through selfish behaviour have become impotent. Through our free will, we have

chosen to love the illusion with all its pleasures and sufferings rather than choosing the Truth and the bliss that God bestows on us. This has become so ingrained into our humanity that even those who truly yearn to follow the teachings of Jesus do not see nor understand the truth hidden in His teachings and they make the teachings fit their bad ways. They are so strongly attached to the world that they want salvation after death and not now while they are alive.

Physics has proven that time is relative. In the book titled "From Light to Light III – Universal Laws" in the Chapter 7 titled "Consciousness and Time", it has been shown that time is also relative according to the level of consciousness. As it has been shown that traveling at the speed of light, time does not pass, similarly when a person reaches to a level of consciousness to be able to transfigure, time also does not pass. Hence we should not be surprised that Jesus spoke with Elijah and Moses. Without passage of time, they were all in eternity, outside of the restraints of time. Even today physics seems to indicate that whatever has occurred in the past, whatever is occurring at the present and whatever will take place in the future are all occurring together in the present. Is it not true that the "present" is eternal?

Jesus Christ had two natures; both divine and human. Jesus, with His transfiguration, showed us Christ, His divine nature. In us this nature remains as seed, asleep, deep in the "soil", the body. Is it not said that the body is made of the soil?

"The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." (Genesis 2: 7)

Is it not imperative that that seed should sprout? Is it nor imperative that we wake up the Christ sleeping in us? There are denominations that invite Jesus Christ from

outside into themselves, not realizing or believing that Christ is already in them. If that was not the case, we would not be alive. Christ is the source of life and consciousness. They most likely mean to wake the Christ within. We should not forget that God is love, therefore is it not imperative that as proof of Christ's awakening within us, we should reflect that love as the presence and revelation of Christ within us. Love is willingness. Love is tenderness. Love is affection. Love is compassion. Love is happiness. Love is joyfulness and cheerfulness. Love is contentment. Love is sacrifice. Love is being merciful. Love does not discriminate. Love is God-worship. If we are able to reveal Christ within us even just a little, instead of constantly going around and saying: "Praise be to the Lord", should we not reflect the above mentioned characteristics in our daily lives, to be noted by all?

Because the subject is the transfiguration of Jesus, we should consider the following points as well. The following is a quotation from the book titled "From Light to Light III – Universal Laws" in Chapter 7 titled "Consciousness and Time" and represents the high level of consciousness attained by Jesus and the slow progress of time.

"During Jesus' transfiguration, (Matthew 17:1-8) undoubtedly His level of consciousness must have increased very significantly, because His experience of the duration of the transfiguration presented in the Bible appears not to have lasted a very long time. But for the disciples, who were with him and for their level of consciousness, it must have lasted a very long time; otherwise it would be meaningless for them to have suggested building tents for such a short time."

Jesus had fully revealed the Christ within himself; hence, at the time of the transfiguration, He was in eternity, namely not subject to time. Is it not true that both Elijah and

Moses were also with God in eternity? Therefore we should not be surprised that Jesus was able to talk to them. Both, neither Elijah nor Moses were buried. There are no cemetery plots for them. In the Bible, regarding Moses, it is written: “God buried him”, and regarding Elijah, he went “up” in a fiery chariot with fiery horses (2 Kings 2:11). (Also see the section in this book titled “Jesus’ Burial and Resurrection”).



JESUS' TRIUMPHANT ENTRY TO JERUSALEM



Matthew 21: 1-10

Mark 11: 1-11

Luke 19: 29-40

John 12: 12-19

The following is the last verse of a song from the “requiem service” of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

“In the supernal Jerusalem, in the dwelling of the angels, where Enoch and Elijah live old in age like doves, worthily glorified in the garden of Eden. Merciful Lord, have mercy on the souls of those of us who have fallen asleep.

The “supernal Jerusalem” represents the eternal life. In the song, it is already presented as the paradise of Eden. Of course, we have to understand that it is not a specific physical place. As time is created, so is space; hence, it is also relative and illusory. Eternity is to be free of the constraints of time and space. Therefore the paradise of Eden is not a place, but rather a level of consciousness. According to the song above, it appears that both Enoch and Elijah had reached that level of consciousness and became worthy of salvation; hence, they exist in a “glorified” form. The dove metaphorically represents the energy of the Holy Spirit. We should not forget that at the time of Jesus’ baptism, the Holy Spirit descended

on Him in the form of a dove. The last sentence of the song is to beseech God to rain His mercy on those who are sleeping. In general, people think that the sleepers are the dearly beloved departed ones, those who have died to this world. We should not forget that with regards to spiritual life, we are all asleep.

Based on this explanation, let us see what Jesus wanted us to learn from His triumphant entry into Jerusalem. It is easy to see the parallel between Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the entry into the "supernal Jerusalem of an individual who has become worthy of salvation and enters eternal life. With this act, Jesus shows us how to realize the eternal life.

First, the person has to be triumphant. The meaning of this is for the individual to have triumphed over his "Ego". This same idea is also presented to us during the ritual of the Holy Mass. When the priest, in preparation for the Holy Mass, is putting on his vestments, he appears to be preparing for a war (see the book titled "From Light to Light (I)" Chapter 14 titled "Interpretation of the Holy Mass of the Armenian Apostolic Church"). That war is the war against one's "Ego". When we come out of that war triumphant then we become worthy to have communion with God. And this is the meaning of the communion given at the end of the Mass. Without triumphing against the "Ego", salvation is impossible and it is also impossible to enter the eternal life.

Jesus, with this act, although somewhat indirectly, gives us a second lesson as well. To be worthy of eternal life, one also has to be meek and have humility. He showed this to us by riding a donkey rather than a horse.

But riding the donkey also has a different meaning as well. Man is the link between the animals and God. As a result of his individuality man has a human nature, whereas animals only have fixed animal natures. Animals do not have the ability to change their natures. As Jesus was riding an animal, the donkey, Christ is also "riding" our body, seated

on our animal nature. The second part of this last sentence is the metaphorical meaning of the first part of the sentence. Man, with the life he chooses, constantly swings between the two poles of his individuality. We call this human nature. But man has the ability and the opportunity to change his nature. When he attaches himself to the negative pole of his individuality, his “Ego”, his nature also changes and becomes animalistic, which we call satanical, devilish etc. But man is also capable of choosing the positive pole of his individuality. It is only then that he expresses divine nature within himself. We call this the Christ nature or God revelation within the person. Then, should we not follow the example given to us by Jesus and change our nature?

The enthusiasm and the rejoicing shown by the crowd as Jesus was entering Jerusalem also represents the rejoicing in heaven for the one person that manages to be worthy of salvation and enters eternal life. It is written in the Gospel:

“... Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents...” (Luke 15: 6-7)

It is also interesting to note Jesus' reply to the Pharisees when they demanded that He tells the crowd to be quiet.

“I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.” (Luke 19: 40)

Entry into eternal life is at energy level and not physical. But within the creation, everything is formed by the energy of the Holy Spirit; hence, “the stones will cry out” is a reference to this truth. In the Gospel of Thomas found only 65 years ago, Christ says: “Lift up that stone and you will find me there”. “Stones will cry out” is reference to the whole universe rejoicing because of the creation having reached its goal. And that goal is God-revelation, but not unconsciously but rather with full consciousness, which is possible only through men.

Therefore Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is a lesson for us, so that by following His teachings, we can succeed in entering the "supernal Jerusalem", be worthy to enter into eternal life. And this is true salvation and not by going around and repeating "I am saved".



JESUS GOES TO THE TEMPLE



Matthew 21: 12-16

Mark 11: 15-19

Luke 19: 45-48

John 2: 13-22

Jesus went to the temple in Jerusalem and, whip in hand, drove out all those who were selling cattle, sheep, pigeons as well as all the money changers. This was the first time in His life that Jesus showed anger. This was in keeping with what was written: **“Zeal for your house will consume me.”** He evicted everyone, including their animals that had defiled the temple by turning it into a market place. Jesus was very zealous and jealous about the temple.

It is very easy to interpret this event as just being concerned about the defilement of the temple that we consider to be a holy place. Today our churches also for us represent holy places and we enter a church with utmost reverence and make sure we do not defile it.

Jesus with this deed was giving us a much more important lesson. He made this lesson much clearer when he said: “Destroy this temple and I will build it within three days”. This was a reference to His death and resurrection.

Hence, the temple represents our bodies. Just like Jesus, we should also be zealous and jealous about our bodies and should not defile them and we should always keep them “holy”, clean. Jesus expelled the animals; similarly we also should get rid of our animalistic nature, satanic thoughts, words and deeds from our lives. The vendors and the money changers who had defiled the temple represent all our undesirable characteristics. All that Jesus evicted out of the temple represent the seven deadly sins that defile our spiritual lives. It is also our duty to “evict” them all from our “temples”. Who had given permission for the vendors and the moneychangers to thusly “defile” the temple? Without a doubt, this happened with the permission of the chief priest. Then by whose permission are we defiled by the seven deadly sins? Our “chief priest” is our “Ego”.

Jesus has constantly taught us to control our emotions and on numerous occasions, He has also shown us throughout His life. He has even told us to love our enemies and to turn the other cheek if and when someone strikes us on one side and not to have a reactionary show of anger. But this time, Jesus himself did not curtail His own emotion of anger. Hence, we also should show intolerable anger against all those undesirable characteristics of ours, including the seven deadly sins and drive them out of us, our “temples”. This is the only anger allowed for us to have and it is the only war allowed to us to have against the “Ego”. When we succeed in doing so, we also succeed in being worthy to have God-revelation within us. It is also interesting to note that Jesus evicted seven things out of the temple. Let us first consider the first three. These were: cattle, sheep and pigeons. These three animals represent our animalistic nature and the following three deadly sins: Sloth-laziness, Lust and Anger, which block flow of the energy of the Holy Spirit through the first three chakras which are common to both

man and animals. The next three evicted from the temple were: the vendors of these three animals. They represent the undesirable aspect of our human nature and are related to the next three deadly sins: Envy, Gluttony and Avarice. These block the energy flow from the next three chakras. The seventh eviction was that of the money changers. They correspond to the seventh deadly sin, which is Pride. This one blocks the energy flow from the seventh chakra. Pride is the strongest of all the deadly sins and to get rid of pride is the most difficult undertaking for the individual. To get rid of it is possible only with the help of the Christ within, by completely ignoring the “Ego” and by concentrating the mind only on Christ.



JESUS CURSES A FIG TREE



Matthew 21: 18-22

Mark 11: 12-14, 20-24

Jesus feeling hungry approached the fig tree to eat some figs. But because it was not the season for figs, He found none and He cursed the tree by saying: **“May no one ever eat fruit from you again”**. A short time later, the fig tree had withered from the roots. According to the Gospel, this was a lesson given about faith. That which man wishes without hesitation and wavering and with full faith, gets it. It is imperative that the desire be with prayer and the prayer with a “pure heart” and centered mind and full forgiveness for all.

Many times Jesus has spoken about the strength of faith. Instead of withering the fig tree, He also had the ability for the tree to be fruit bearing within a short time. Why did Jesus curse and wither the tree? Perhaps he chose this venue to teach us another lesson. Let us consider that the metaphorical meaning of the fig tree is the human being. It is true that a fig tree has a specific season to be fruitful, but a human being, to be spiritually “fruitful”, does not have a specific time or season. Hence, Jesus was telling us that all those who are not spiritually fruitful are condemned to die. As indicated in my previous publications, man has an individuality and as a result of the presence of that individuality, he has the ability and the opportunity to reveal

God within himself and consciously experience the presence of God everywhere all around him. And this is to be spiritually fruitful. If the individual, during this life on earth, does not succeed in realizing the God-revelation within himself, with the death of his body, his individuality also dies and disappears permanently. It is true that his soul is immortal and returns back to God, but not his individuality. Salvation is to keep the individuality after the death of the body. In the gospel, this is written in the following way:

“For the wages of sin is death, ...” (Romans 6: 23)

If we read this passage about the fig tree with the above understanding in mind, it becomes much more compelling. Jesus is trying to tell us that as a result of faith and yearning and without hesitation or wavering, we have the ability to realize God-revelation within us. If we do not realize this in our lives, in other words if we do not become “fruitful”, we are condemned to death. Death does not wait for us to be “fruitful” and can present itself any time, even “out of season”, in other words, before old age, as occurred to the fig tree out of season. Hence, we need to follow the path of perfection today and not wait for tomorrow.



JESUS VISITS MARY AND MARTHA



“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her”. (Luke 10:41-42)

In my previous publications, the meaning of this event was presented. Jesus simply visits the two sisters. One was Mary who sat near the feet of Jesus and listened to Him. The other, Martha, was busy preparing the meal. Martha asked her sister to also help with the preparations. When Martha asked the sister, Jesus spoke the above quotation from the Bible.

With this event, Jesus once again gives us an important lesson. Undoubtedly, both Mary and Martha represent humanity in general. Jesus visiting the two sisters represents Christ visiting us, being with us in each individual. The fact that they are two sisters is also interesting and important. Every person’s individuality also has two poles, one negative and one positive. Martha, who was preoccupied, represents our individuality’s negative pole that is always preoccupied

with multiple worldly thoughts, desires and wishes; hence, the mind is not free to contemplate on Christ. On the other hand Mary, who simply was sitting at His feet, listened to Him, represented the individuality's positive pole, which is in communion with the Christ within. It is also interesting to note the word "chosen" used by Jesus. Man also has the freedom to choose the negative pole of his individuality and be a "Martha", busy with all sorts of worldly pursuits. He also has the freedom to choose the positive pole of his individuality and be a "Mary" and be in communion with the Christ within. It is also our duty to control our thoughts and emotions and not be swayed by them. A mind cleared of thoughts, emotions and feelings is a mind ready to be in communion with Christ. The "clean" mind, concentrating on Christ only, becomes the means to "see God". Is it not written?

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." (Matthew 5:8)



THE LAST SUPPER



Matthew 26: 17-29

Mark 14: 12-25

Luke 22: 7-23

John 13: 1-30

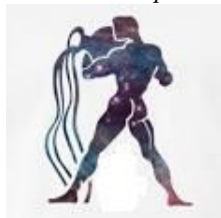
1 Corinthians 11: 23-25

Within the event of “The last supper” of Jesus along with His disciples, for the celebration of the Passover several points need to be considered.

- a- Where the supper was held
- b- Jesus washing the feet of His disciples.
- c- The betrayal of Judas
- d- The blessing of the bread and the wine.

A – Where the Supper Was Held

Among the above indicated readings from the New Testament, the Gospels of Mark and Luke clearly indicate where Jesus had told them to arrange for the last supper. In these verses there are two important points. The first is that two disciples were sent to the city, but how would they have known where in the city? Jesus had told them that they would meet a man carrying a jar of water and to follow him into whichever house he enters and to tell them to prepare for the supper. Why was it essential to give this information and write it in the Gospels? What would be the benefit of such information? If it had no significance it would be superfluous.



It is highly possible that Jesus metaphorically was trying to tell us something. The picture to the left represents the constellation of Aquarius in astrology. In my book titled “From Light to Light (I)” in Chapter 8 titled “What is Astrology?”

this hidden meaning was explained and below is a quotation from that chapter. Before that, we should also consider as to why a point is made that the last supper was in the “upper room”. Why give such information, of what use can it be?

“The Bible should be read and interpreted without preconceived ideas and superstition. Then one may actually start seeing certain truths expounded in the various verses. Let us read the following:

“So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, ‘Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.””(Mark 14:13-15)

“He replied, ‘As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there.””(Luke 22:10-12)

Is it possible that the “man carrying the jar of water” other than its literal meaning, in an allegorical way, refers to the age of “Aquarius”? It was during the Feast of Passover (Easter), during the “Last Supper”, that the sacrament of communion was established. Is it an indication that there may

be another level of human evolution and an increase in the level of man's consciousness during the next astrological age, the "Aquarian age"? Perhaps because of this, symbolically, the Last Supper was celebrated in the "Upper Room" of the house, depicting an elevated level of consciousness. It is for the same reason that Altars in churches are elevated from where the congregation stands. To reach God's Altar, there has to be an elevation in our level of consciousness."

B - Jesus Washing the Feet of His Disciples



Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. (Matthew 5:5)

For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

(Matthew 23: 12)

The meaning of washing of the feet appears to be obvious when we read the above quotations from the Gospels. Hence, just like Jesus, we also should be meek and humble and not proud. Is it possible that this deed of Jesus' has another meaning as well and a lesson given to us? Washing is the process of cleaning and cleansing. With this deed, Jesus was trying to tell us that the spiritual cleansing of

the individual is only possible through Christ. For the mind to cleanse itself of all thoughts and emotions, it should be centered only on the Christ within. Such a concentration also changes all the future thoughts, words and deeds of the individual. They all become conscious thoughts, words and deeds rather than reactionary. This is living according to the silent voice within, which represents God's will. Such an attitude elevates the individual's level of consciousness and makes it possible for him to reveal God within himself.

C – The Betrayal of Judas

Below are quotations from the Bible that show the foretelling by Jesus of Judas' betrayal, as well as His order to Judas: **“What you are about to do, do quickly”**. Also Jesus' **“woe”** for the one who betrays and also Judas' regret and the punishment he gives to himself.

“And while they were eating, he said, “I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me.” ... The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.” (Matthew 26: 21 & 24)

“While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, “I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me.” ... The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.” (Mark 14: 18 & 21)

“But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ... The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed, but woe to that man who betrays him.” (Luke 22: 21-22)

“After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, “I tell you the truth, one of

you is going to betray me." ... As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. "What you are about to do, do quickly," Jesus told him, but no one at the meal understood why Jesus said this to him." (John 13:21 & 27-28)

"I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility." So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself." (Matthew 27: 4-5)

It is extremely important to understand the lesson hidden in this event. It actually forms the basis of our lives on earth.

First, we should realize that the betrayal by Judas was well known before the event. This is also obvious from Jesus' foreboding. The following words of Jesus also make it obvious that His suffering, crucifixion and death were foretold: **"The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed"**. If it **was** pre-determined centuries before as per the Old Testament, then is it right to blame Judas? When Jesus' death was "decreed", Judas was not even born. But we also should not forget Jesus' "woe" when He says: **"It would be better for him if he had not been born."** What Jesus said was correct, because we see that even Judas did not tolerate what he had done and hung himself.

The issue is that did Judas have free will or not? This is a very important point because it applies also to all the decisions we make in our lives. Do we have free will or not? We say that God knows everything, the past, the present and the future. Hence, God knows all that we have done in the past and what we are doing in the present. But the problem becomes more complicated when God knows what we are going to do in the future, because with our free will we have not yet decided what to think, what to speak or what to do in the future. If prior to our decision, if what we will think, say

or do is previously decreed because God already knows, it appears that man does not have free will. For thousands of years philosophers have not been able to solve this riddle. Today as well there are various opinions about it. It is highly likely that Jesus, in this event, with what he has said during it, is giving us the solution to the problem that for millennia the philosophers have not been able to resolve. God created the entire creation with animals and humans. Within the creation, everything follows the nature given to it; hence, none appear to have free will. But we also say that God created man different from the other animals, giving to him intelligence and free will. When we read the book of Genesis carefully, we will see that God created man on the sixth day along with all other animals and said that “it was good”. Therefore man did not appear to have any difference from the rest of the animals. The difference between man and the other animals took place on the seventh day. God finished “His work” of creation on the seventh day and rested declaring the seventh day holy and a day of rest. But what was it that God finished on the seventh day before resting? It was to give man individuality and it is not written that for the individuality of man God said: “It was good”. Then, is it true that man does not have free will? But we constantly make decisions the way we want and continue to do so. Is it possible that all those decisions that we make are not actually our will but some other will. In the books titled “From Light to Light II – Awakening”, “From Light to Light III– Universal Laws” and “Meditation” as well as previously in this book, it is indicated that man has an “energy body” and the frequency of vibration of its energy is dependent on the individual, his way of life, his attitude, his thoughts, his words and his deeds. But it also appears that his thoughts, words and deeds are also dependent on the frequency of vibration of his “energy body” and correspond to the information contained in them. In the book titled “From Light to Light III – Universal

Laws” Chapter 6 information is given regarding the individuality of a person. The individuality has two poles, one positive and the other negative. The negative pole represents the individual’s “Ego”, the Satan, and the positive pole is in communion with his Spirit, the Christ within. Throughout his life, just like all the other animals, man thinks, speaks and acts according to his nature. Therefore all the decisions that we appear to make in our lives are not of free will, but they all correspond to our natures. Then why punish the murderer? He has behaved according to his nature. We should not forget that we have a free will and using the free will, we can change our natures. And it is this ability of being able to change our nature that represents the free will we have. At this juncture it is appropriate to quote the following regarding the betrayal of Jesus: **“As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him.”** In general, people think that Satan is an outside entity that enters into the person and possesses him and forces him to behave according to its will. This is an incorrect understanding as is also inviting Jesus Christ to come into his being. There are some sects and denominations with such beliefs. Christ is every person’s life and the true Self; hence, all we need to do is to give the reins of our lives to Him. The “Ego” of every person is also the Satan already in him and does not come from outside. Man can build a nature that tends toward the positive pole of his individuality or to the negative pole. Hence, all his decisions represent either the will of the Christ within, the will of God, or the will of his “Ego”, the will of Satan. In general, man tends to swing between the two and sometimes behaves according to the will of God and sometime according to the will of Satan. All his decisions are according to his nature. He is the only architect of his own nature and has the ability to change it. The nature is dependent on the frequency of vibration of the energy forming his “energy body”. The frequency of vibration of the

“energy body” is determined by the level of consciousness he has achieved. When it is written in the Gospel: “**Satan entered into him**”, it means that Judas, under the influence of his “Ego”, had certain thoughts that changed the frequency of vibration of his “energy body” to a low frequency; therefore his actions became the will of his “Ego”, Satan. Jesus, having a very high frequency of energy was able to see people’s energy bodies and their vibrations and know their natures. By seeing the change in the energy frequency in Judas He said: “**Satan entered into him**”. If Judas had followed God’s will and “Satan had not entered in him”, what would have happened? The death of Jesus was pre-ordained. Judas would have refused betraying Jesus. But at the same time, the “death” of Jesus was the will of God. After the last supper, in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus Himself said “Your will be done, not mine”. Therefore there is no question that the “death” of Jesus was God’s will. It appears that Judas was born specifically for this reason, this one deed. If Judas had refused betraying Jesus, it is highly likely that Jesus would have ordered Judas and forced him to go and tell the priests where He would be. Judas would have done it against his own will only to have obeyed Jesus and would not have been cursed. He would not have betrayed but he would have obeyed. But, Jesus Christ preferred the version in the Gospels to give us a lesson. Is it possible that Jesus chose Judas as one of His disciples, knowing that he had low frequency energy? The energy that forms us is the energy of the Holy Spirit. How much we benefit from the energy of the Holy Spirit depends entirely on us and our nature is entirely dependent on the frequency of this energy we allow and accumulate. If our decisions and the good or bad situations that we experience are all dependent of our natures, don’t we think that the source of our energy, God, will not know or foretell our behaviour?

Man has three characteristics that other animals do not

have. This way of thinking is also wrong. It would be more appropriate to say that the other animals do not have all three together in one animal.

The first one of these three is man's ability to concentrate his mind. Unfortunately he rarely uses and benefits from this ability. Some animals can concentrate their minds much better than man. To see this, it suffices to watch a snake or a lion concentrate on its prey. Living with the mind centered on the present task at hand is known as living consciously. This has been indicated multiple times in my previous books. The purpose of the highest form of prayer, meditation, is to first train the mind to concentrate and secondly to concentrate the trained mind on the Christ within. Only with such concentration can one think, speak and act according to God's will.

The second one of these three characteristics of man is his ability to judge and to choose. This corresponds to his free will as indicated above. Unfortunately man constantly swings between the two poles of his individuality and is incapable of choosing one or the other. Of course there are always exceptions. The true saints have managed to choose the positive pole of their individuality and are in communion with the Christ within. On the other hand vicious murderers, who take pleasure in torturing others, have chosen the negative pole of their individuality, Satan. Most of us swing back and forth between Christ and Satan. But did not Jesus say that we can not serve two masters? The presence of the free will is the ability of man to choose the driver of his individuality. After that, all his thoughts, words and deeds follow the will of his chosen driver.

The third of the human characteristics is the ability to ignore one's individuality. When a person is able to ignore his individuality, he also completely ignores his "Ego". It is only then, that God-revelation takes place within him. It is only then, that just like Jesus he can say: "I and the Father

are one". There are denominations who claim to have been saved and constantly repeat everywhere that they are saved. Salvation is a gift given by God to an individual who succeeds in fulfilling the purpose of his life. That purpose is the revelation of God within the individual. The gift of salvation is for the person to keep his individuality after the death of the body. The purpose of life, the revelation of God within the person, is possible only after the individual ignores his individuality. Those who consider themselves saved show that they are attached to their individualities and also to their "Egos". Hence, they are incapable of realizing the real purpose of their lives, God-revelation within them. How is it possible without realizing the purpose of life to receive the gift of salvation?

In summary, man sometimes lives according to the positive pole of his individuality and sometimes the negative. Often he hesitates between the two and often wavers back and forth and does not choose a permanent guide for his life. Exactly because of this he also is subjected at times to pleasant situations and at times suffering. These are all the results of his fate that he has created himself.

D – The blessing of the bread and the wine

During this "Last Supper" Jesus taught us the purpose of our lives, which is to have communion with God. With this in mind by blessing the bread and the wine He established the sacrament of Communion. The following quotation is from the book titled *From Light to Light (I)* Chapter 14 titled "Interpretation of the Holy Mass of the Armenian Apostolic Church" and explains the meanings of the bread and the wine.

"This is followed by the **ANAMNESIS**. During the last supper Jesus said: "Do this in remembrance of me." The celebrant repeats Jesus' words as He took the bread and the wine and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body, which is distributed for you and for many, for the expiration and remission of sins.” “Drink ye all of this; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for the expiration and remission of sins.”

The bread is the staple food for the nourishment of the body. The wine, because of its alcoholic content, also known as “spirit”, represents the life-giving blood. When we drain someone’s blood, the person dies. By setting this sacrament, Jesus was trying to tell us to live this physical life but to do it in remembrance of Him. This means that the purpose of our lives is to remember Christ and to reveal Him fully. The blood - the wine, represents the life-giving force, the “prana”. One of the quatrains of Omar Khayyam’s Rubaiyat goes as follows (translated & paraphrased):

“Which is better, to drink wine and to love a beauty, or to listen to some fanatics? If the drunkard and the lover will go to hell, no one will ever see heaven.”

His comment actually is about the “prana”, the life force, the Holy Spirit. When he talks about getting drunk with wine, he means “getting drunk” with the Holy Spirit. To be in love is to be enamored or being in love with God. It is the same love that earlier we quoted from the deacon’s part, **“filled with love”**. We also see a similar comparison in one of the hymns of the **“Sunrise Service”**. The last verse of the hymn “Jknavork ...” (translated meaning “Ascetics ...” has the following words (Translated & paraphrased):

“Children of light, with voluntary sacrifice and perfect wisdom, instead of the milk, drank the enchanting wine.”

The voluntary sacrifice is the sacrifice of the EGO, and they have done this with wisdom. Instead of the milk which nourishes the body, they drank the enchanting wine, meaning the Holy Spirit. The priest says:

“And thine of thine own unto thee we offer from all and for all.”

This also indicates that the only Reality (Truth) is God. Whatever man offers to God already belongs to God and has come from God. Our true gift should therefore be the sacrifice of our EGO on the cross as Jesus showed us. Then Christ would reveal fully through us and the resurrection would have taken place. This would be the second coming of Christ and we would know it, not intellectually, but experientially. Exactly for this Jesus said: **“take up (your) cross daily and follow me.”**

The fact that the wine represents life is indicated in this quotation. In the following quotation it is obvious that the cup that Jesus is drinking from represents this human life.

“You don't know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

(Mark 10:38)

After this quotation: **““And thine of thine own unto thee we offer from all and for all.”**, which is also within the above quotation, it is easier to understand that the only “Truth” is God and the entire creation represents His “body”. Therefore, we also being within the creation are part and parcel of His “body” as if every single individual is a cell in the “body” of God. Man usually lives as if he is a free entity.

This view is the result of his ignorance. As an example let us consider a single cell of our body. Does that single cell know that it is only a very tiny part of a large body? That is very doubtful. It is very likely that this tiny cell is conscious only of its immediate neighbouring cell. But this cell has a duty to perform, which it does to the best of its ability for the benefit of the total body. Most likely it is not aware of this fact. Sometimes selfish cells, disregarding their actual duties, which are to serve either knowingly or unknowingly for the benefit of the entire body, without giving any thought to the consequences, work only to promote their own type, in other words they behave selfishly. We call these cell “cancer cells”. Usually they are cut out of our bodies and condemn them to destruction and death. In the same way each person is a “cell” in the “body” of God and every individual has a task to fulfill and it is imperative that he performs it perfectly for the benefit of the entire “body”, which is God revelation. The creation is Gods expression and revelation. The level of consciousness of man is far greater than the level of consciousness of a single cell in his body. Man also has the ability to increase his level of consciousness to infinite degree. He has the ability to know not only intellectually but also experientially that he is nothing but a cell in the “body” of God. And it was exactly this that Jesus Christ was trying to teach us through the sacrament of Communion, to live this earthly life of ours as a cell, but to do it to remember Him, to remember Christ and understand that we are part of his body. But if the individual lives only selfishly, he becomes a “cancer cell” in the body of Christ. His fate would also be the same as the cancer cells in our bodies. The following quotation from the Gospel of Luke shows the words of Christ, that the purpose of the physical life is to remember God and to live accordingly. By blessing the wine Jesus also shows us that the purpose of His life and death was to show us the path of perfection and the path of righteousness that we

need to follow in our lives. Jesus died so that Christ could resurrect. The second quotation from the Gospel of John confirms that we are only a cell in the “body” of God. Jesus uses the vine as an example and as a metaphor.

“And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you”(Luke22:19-20)
“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.” (John 15: 1-8)

At this juncture, it is appropriate to interpret the above quotation from the Gospel of John and learn the lesson given by it. When Jesus says: **“I am the true vine”**, He is actually saying that He is the entire creation, because vine is used as a metaphor representing the total creation. This corresponds

to the previous statement that the entire creation is the body of God. The statement **“and my Father is the gardener”** is an indication that the entire creation has come about by the energy of God, the Holy Spirit. The expression of that energy in the physical realm, as matter is Christ. Hence, the body of God is Christ. Then it becomes appropriate to quote the following from the Bible.

“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.”

(1 Corinthians 12: 12)

God the Father is the source of all; hence, He is the “gardener”. The statement, **“He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.”** tends to indicate that every person or every thing within the creation that does not “bear fruit”, namely does not serve God revelation is thrown away, but those who become “fruitful”, namely serve the purpose of their lives, which is God revelation are nurtured, meaning they become worthy to receive the graces of the Holy Spirit. The following statement, **“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”** Is also a reference that we are part of “God’s body”; hence we are in Christ. But we should not forget that the energy of God has formed us and is in us, therefore Christ is also in us. When Jesus says, **“apart from me you can do nothing.”** tends to indicate that our spirit, the life giving force in us is the Christ that is within us. Without His presence in us we can do nothing, we would be dead. The meaning of the following statement **“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.”** is reference for us to remain on the path of righteousness and the path of perfection and never

ceasing constant effort to change our nature and tending towards the positive pole of our individuality, towards the Christ within. If we succeed in increasing our level of consciousness and the frequency of our “energy body”, whatever we wish will also be the wish of Christ within, then it is impossible for it not to come true. What we think to be our wish, in fact would be the wish of God; hence, God’s wish always comes true. The following verse is also a repetition of the same idea.

“I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.” (John 16: 23)

It is unfortunate that while praying most asks of God to fulfill all desires that come from their “Ego”, but by ending the prayer with the words “we ask in the name of Jesus Christ”, they think that they automatically will have their desires come true. **“Whatever you ask in my name”** is a reference to the communion of our nature with that of Christ’s nature, at which time all desires are His that become our desires and they are not desires coming from the “Ego”. The last statement **“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”** is a reference to God revelation within the person. Revelation of God is His glorification. **“To bear much fruit”** refers to the individual’s sanctity and the peak of this is the realization of the true purpose of human life, which is God revelation.

What happened in the “upper room” during the “last supper” should be analyzed in the light of the above understanding and see the colossal lesson given to us. This lesson is the way we are to live our lives and this should be to fulfill the purpose of our lives. The meaning of the sacrament of communion is to teach us so that we also literally have communion with Christ within. This is possible only when the mind is centered on Him. When a person’s mind functioning through the brain is centered, all other

thoughts disappear and the only thought that remains is Christ. When the centered mind functions through the heart, all feelings and emotions disappear and only the emotion of pure love remains along with the yearning to be one with Christ.

It is very important to take part in all the church rituals and sacraments as well as taking communion. Through this participation, we remind ourselves the true purpose of our lives. Prior to receiving the sacrament of communion, the repentance of sins is our word given to God that we will change our nature and bring it closer to the positive pole of our individuality. This is the only way to realize the purpose of our lives, God-revelation in us.

To receive the sacrament of communion is not to commit sins and then say sorry and to think that all is forgiven by taking the communion and to go out and commit the same sins again and repent again and come back the following Sunday and take communion again. If taking communion does not cause a total basic change within the individual with genuine effort of changing his nature and his way of life, than it just becomes a tradition without any spiritual benefit for the individual. Is it possible to think that we can fool God by taking communion? Even if a person just thinks that, without even taking the communion, is an affront to God and a sin. Therefore when we decide to take Communion, we should first know the purpose and prepare ourselves appropriately. After that all our thoughts, words and deeds should also change and correspond to the path of perfection.

“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.” (Galatians 6: 7)





Why did Christ say “this is my body” for the bread and “this is my blood” for the wine?

The entire creation represents God’s body; hence, within the creation everything is part of God’s body, including bread.

Why Christ did choose bread and wine?

He chose bread, because shortly after eating it, it ceases being bread and becomes part of our body. In the same way, wine also ceases to be wine and as a liquid, becomes part of the blood and circulates within us as part of the body.

With the sacrament of Communion, Jesus Christ taught us the purpose of our lives. As indicated previously, each individual is a cell within the body of Christ and is part of it, but he is unaware of this and thinks he is separate from others. Just like the bread and the wine, we should also lose our identity with the “Ego” and dissolve into Christ, to be one with Him and to do this consciously, knowingly. And this is the meaning of Communion.



JESUS' HEALINGS



Jesus cured so many people, that if I list all the verses in the Bible pertaining to His healings it may fill a whole page. Below, a few are quoted.

Today, we believe that medicine has advanced considerably. In fact, this is absolutely wrong. Undoubtedly compared to hundred years ago, gigantic advancements have been made. But we should also admit that what medicine is able to do today is still very primitive compared to what it can be. Doctors try to heal the sick body without really knowing as to why the individual gets sick in the first place. They do not know the real cause of their illness. It is true that they do know the immediate cause of some illnesses. Doctors, based on their knowledge, also advise and caution patients so that they do not experience a recurrence of the illness. The causes that they know are actually only the intermediaries between real cause and the illness. The true underlying real causes escape their knowledge.

When Jesus healed the sick, He healed the real cause of the illness. After that, the sickness without its cause also disappeared. The real cause of any illness is the weakening of the energy vibration within the individual and the poor distribution to all parts of the body of the life giving energy of the Holy Spirit. The cause of this is our own conduct and the deadly sins we are guilty of that block the flow of energy through the energy centers, the chakras. (*See also the book titled "From Light to Light II – Awakening" Chapter 4 titled "Sickness and Death"*). The physical ailment within the individual is the last step. Before the body gets sick, the "energy body" has already been "sick" for a long time and finally it surfaces as physical weakness. The "energy body" gets "sick" as a result of the sins the person commits.

Jesus Christ cured the "energy body" of the person. Just because of this, in all four Gospels, we frequently read that whenever He cured a person He frequently said; "your sins are forgiven".

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." (James 5:16)

"Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you."(John 5:14)

Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." Then Jesus said to her,"Your sins are forgiven."(Luke7:47-48)

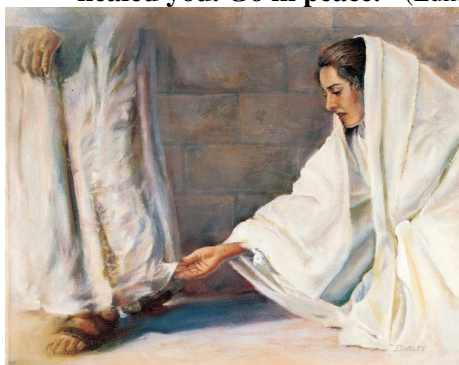
Jesus Christ frequently has said: "Your faith has cured you".

"Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." (Luke 17: 19)

When Jesus Christ healed, he transferred energy from Himself to the sick, healing his "energy body". But to receive that energy was dependent on the faith of the sick person. A sick person with strong faith was able to benefit from the

energy of Jesus Christ even when He was not trying to cure. The following quotation proves this point.

As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped. "Who touched me?" Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you." But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me." Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace." (Luke 8: 43-48)



Also see

Matthew 9: 20-22

And

Mark 5: 25-34

From this example it is obvious that the healings occurred at the level of energy and by a transfer of energy. It was imperative for the person being healed to be receptive to the energy. The weakness in the person's "energy body" was the results of his sins that had effects and reactions on his "energy body", by preventing appropriate flow of life force

to vitalize it. With the cure of the “energy body”, the reactions left by the sins having disappeared, the sins were also considered “forgiven”. Any person, who as a result of a sickness, does not change his ways, can not be receptive to the energy. Undoubtedly there were many other sick individuals that Jesus did not cure.

Man in general commits three types of sin (*See also the book titled “From Light to Light II – Awakening” Chapter 3 titled “The Man” Pages 160-163*). The first two are the sins committed against God the Father and against the Son, Christ. But the third sin committed against the Holy Spirit is not forgivable.

“Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.” (Mark 3:28-29)

“And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.” (Luke 12:10)

“And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.” (Matthew 12:31)

All sins committed, anything and everything that is formed by the energy of the Holy Spirit, is considered to be sin committed against the Holy Spirit. We should note that within the creation, everything is formed by the energy of the Holy Spirit.

“But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca, ' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.” (Matthew 5: 22)

Therefore all the sins that one may commit, lying, stealing, laziness, swearing, avarice, gluttony, murder, vicious acts against animals and plants ..., all are sins committed against the Holy Spirit. Based on this, it is imperative that we suffer the consequences of all these sins and pay our dues. If the sins against the Holy Spirit are not forgiveable, then how is it that Jesus forgave the sins of so many people that He cured and they did not have to suffer their consequences? The pay back of all unforgiveable sins is mandatory, but all the cured persons then had not payed all their dues yet. Jesus, being as merciful as He was, took them all upon Himself and he paid them all with His suffering and crucifixion. Jesus paid all those debts with His death.

“When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him. When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.”” (Matthew 8:14-17)

Even today, after His ascension, Jesus Christ, through His mercy, is able to “forgive” our sins and take upon himself their negative effects. But how much do we love Him? If we truly love Him, is it possible that we commit the sins we want and then expect Him to suffer the punishment of it? Would this not be the epitome of selfishness, which in itself is an unforgiveable sin? But the sin against the Son is forgiveable, but only if the person has truly repented and not just given to lip service. When I was small and misbehaved, my mother, to remind me that I was sinning would say: “You are crucifying Jesus again”. Is it possible that a person commits some felony and ends up in jail and wants someone

else (perhaps a spouse) to pay the penalty, in other words to be jailed and he himself to go free? If a person does not want his loved ones to take on his suffering, how is it possible that he would want Jesus Christ to take on his suffering and pray that Jesus Christ frees him of the suffering? Such a mentality is to abuse the mercifulness of Jesus Christ. Every person should accept his own punishment and suffering. He has been the architect of it. But one can pray for God to give him acceptance, patience and the ability to endure until all is paid back. This should be the mercy that he asks of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is merciful and compassionate; hence, when the individual realizes the errors of his ways and corrects his ways and accepts the suffering, Jesus Christ takes pity on him and ameliorates his suffering without him asking for it. All the suffering caused by our sins are for our own good, so that we learn our “lessons”, improve ourselves spiritually and be worthy for the Kingdom of God. If we do not want to get sick, to experience unpleasant situations in our lives, it is imperative the we choose the path of perfection and the path of righteousness and constantly be engaged in the highest form of prayer, meditation, to achieve the bliss we all seek.



JESUS REVIVES THE DEAD



John

11: 1-44

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Luke

7: 11-17

8: 40-42, 49-56

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Matthew

9: 18-19, 23-26

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Mark

5: 22-24, 35-43

According to the Gospels, Jesus revived three people that had died. Of these, the best known one is the resurrection of Lazarus, a dear friend of Jesus'. This occurred four days after he had died and he already had been buried. The second revival was that of the son of a widow, during the funeral procession on their way to the cemetery. Jesus felt compassion for the mother and resurrected her son. The third revival was the sick daughter of a chief. By the time Jesus had reached the house, the girl had already died. Jesus took her hand and asked her to get up and resurrected her.

At the time of the last two resurrections Jesus said: **"She is not dead but asleep."** In the case of the young girl, when Jesus took her hand, He said to her: **"My child, get up!"** In the case of the young man, the son of the widow, He touched the coffin and said: **"Young man, I say to you, get up!"** The man got up and sat up in the coffin. But in the case of Lazarus, when Jesus heard that he was sick, He delayed His visit by two days and said:

“...This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.” (John 11: 4)

According to this verse, it is obvious that Jesus knew that Lazarus was going to die. It appears that all this took place to show the “Glory of God”. It is very easy to interpret this verse as the glorification of Jesus through this miracle. But, is it possible that Jesus, who had triumphed against His “Ego” in the wilderness and also had full control over all His emotions, with pride would perform any deed or speak any words for His own glorification? These words of Christ show that all of humanity has his glory, his life, which is the presence of God within him, as a result of the grace of the Christ within. When Christ, the spirit within man is present, only then will the person have life. Christ’s words in the above quotation are a reference to the resurrection of a dead body. The metaphorical meaning of this also tells us that it is only through the union with Christ is it possible for us to “resurrect: from our spiritual “death”. When God-revelation takes place within a person, then the true Being of the individual, the Christ within, the Son of God becomes glorified.

“After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.”(John 11: 11)

“So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” (John 11: 14-15)

As Jesus had said for the two young people that He had resurrected, that they were not dead but sleeping, in the same way for Lazarus also He said that he sleeps. But sometimes the word “asleep” or “sleepers” is also used to indicate the dead. It appears that in the case of Lazarus this is what Jesus had meant, because this time He did not say that Lazarus had not died. When the disciples misunderstood Jesus and

thought that he was not dead but only sleeping, He corrected their misunderstanding. Jesus clearly said that Lazarus had died. When Christ says “sleeping”, His view-point and understanding is very much different from ours.

In the whole of the universe, the only Truth is God. Hence, as the total creation, every single individual within the creation are various expressions of God. The Truth of an individual is his Spirit, the Christ within him, which is the presence of God in him. The level of consciousness of an individual reflects the degree of God-revelation within him. Christ, incarnating fully within Jesus and thanks to the infinitely high level of consciousness achieved by Jesus, showed us the ability of humans to be able to reach very high levels of consciousness. The usual man, even when he is awake, expresses a very low level of consciousness, much much lower than that of Jesus. The true saints have a much higher level of consciousness than the common man. They also reveal the “Truth” much much more than the common man. During the phase of dreaming sleeping man’s level of consciousness is even lower than while he is awake, and in deep sleep, much much lower. When the body dies, the organ that could express that consciousness, the brain, is no longer available. The brain is the receiver of consciousness. Without the receiver, the brain, consciousness can not be expressed and without the expression of consciousness, “Truth” can no longer reveal itself through that individual. But, we should not forget that the spirit of the individual is immortal and is with God even after the death of the body. The soul, still being present but not being revealed, indicates that it is in a very very deep sleep and does not express any level of consciousness. Based on this, Jesus’ words “**not dead but asleep**” should not surprise us. Because of this, in our church the dead ones are called sleepers.

“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even

**though he dies; and whoever lives and believes
in me will never die. ...”** (John 11:25-26)

In this verse, when Christ says: “**I am the life**” clearly indicates that Christ is our lives, our consciousness and the fact that we are alive and living it is because of His presence in us.

Metaphorically Christ also makes a reference to our spiritual life. When Christ, our true “Being” says: “**I am the resurrection**”, He means that He is also able to resurrect us from our spiritual “death”, slumber. His following words are of most importance: “**He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.**” This is a reference to the reincarnation of the soul and gives another opportunity to fulfill the purpose of life, namely God-revelation within oneself. “**Will live, even though he dies**” is a reference to the body being mortal, but the spirit is immortal. The last statement in the above quotation: “**whoever lives and believes in me will never die**” is a reference to salvation. Believing in Him is to give the reins of one’s life to Christ and not to his “Ego”. Everything created has a beginning; hence, it will also have an end. Because all physical bodies are created, they will all also have an end that we call death. Since man is also created, he also is subject to death, even the saints. Even Jesus died on the cross. With the death of the body, man’s individuality also dies. But when Christ says: “**will never die**”, He does not mean that he will live an unending duration of time. It is the individuality that is going to live on and not die. And this is the true salvation. It is the resurrection. Eternal life is not living during unending time, but eternal life is being in eternity, which is outside of the restraints of time.

**“When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who
had come along with her also weeping, he was
deeply moved in spirit and troubled.”**(John 11: 33)

**“Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the
tomb. ...”** (John 11: 38)

Why was Jesus “moved” and “troubled”? When he saw the crying widow, whose only child had died, He was not “moved” or “troubled”, but He felt compassion for the widow. Jesus, who had full control over all His emotions, was suddenly affected. What was the reason that Jesus lost His peace? Is it possible that He saw the crying public and metaphorically, also their ignorance and lack of faith and said the following?

“Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?'”

(John 11: 40)

Is it possible that there may be another reason for Jesus being “moved” and being “troubled”? More information is given below in the part with the quotation **“Jesus cried”** in this section and also in the section in this book regarding the crucifixion and death of Jesus.

“So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.’” (John 11: 41-42)

With this prayer Jesus thanks His Father for giving Him the ability to resurrect Lazarus. With this act the public would also believe that Jesus was sent by God. The Spirit in every individual is part and parcel of the Spirit of God. Every individual is sent to the world by God. According to the Bible, are we not all children of God? With these words Jesus reveals that God, Christ is always ready to listen to our prayers and realize them, of course only if we have faith and we have centered our minds on Him. By the realization of our prayers, we also understand and learn that we are also sent by God.

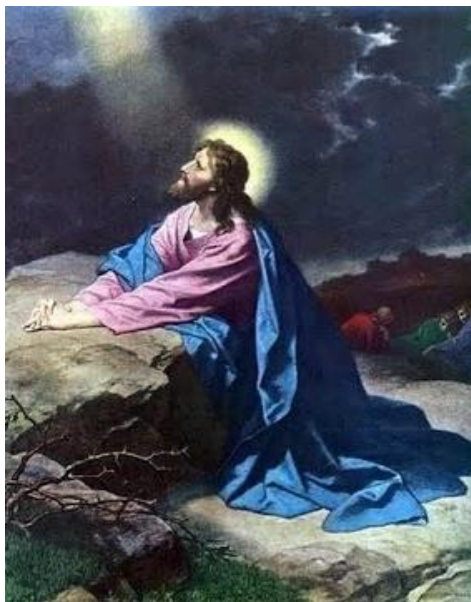
“Jesus wept.” (John 11: 35)

Why did Jesus weep? As indicated above, Jesus had

full control over His emotions. Despite this, in His life, Jesus showed emotion three times. Twice He wept. Once, just before resurrecting Lazarus and the second time, He wept over the fate of Jerusalem. The third time Jesus showed the emotion of anger was when He cleared the temple of vendors. The Jews near the tomb of Lazarus thought that He was weeping because He loved Lazarus very much. It is very natural for someone to be sad and weep over the loss of a loved one. But Jesus knew very well that Lazarus was going to resurrect and Jesus would see him alive again. Therefore His weeping over the death of Lazarus was meaningless. Is it possible that resurrecting Lazarus was not a good thing for Lazarus? It is written that after the resurrection of Lazarus, the chief priests were contemplating killing Lazarus as they did Jesus (John 12: 10). We do not know whether they succeeded in doing so or not. It is not written. Jesus weeping over Jerusalem was His expression of compassion on the inhabitants of the city who would suffer with the destruction of the city and the fate they were creating for themselves. This occurred approximately forty years later in the year 70AD.



JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE



**Matthew
26: 36-46**

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**Mark
14: 32-42**

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**Luke
22: 39-46**

Jesus aware of what was waiting for Him, prior to His arrest, went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray. With this, He was showing His human nature.

“Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” (Matthew 26: 38-41)

“My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here

and keep watch." ... "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." (Mark 14: 34 & 36)

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground." (Luke 22: 42-44)

Obviously Jesus was not afraid of death, but no one enjoys physical pain. It was a last resort for Jesus that He made this supplication to His Father hoping to avoid pain and suffering. But when Jesus said: **"yet not my will, but yours be done"** he proved that He was living His human life according to the will of God. It was three years before, in the wilderness, that He had decided to live His life according to God's will. The real purpose of this prayer was also a lesson given to us. We should learn to accept all situations in our lives, pleasant or unpleasant, as the will of God. Jesus, because He was merciful, accepted all the sufferings which were the consequences of others' trespasses. In our case, all our sufferings are the consequences of our own trespasses. Hence, the purpose of our prayers should not be to escape these sufferings, but rather to ask for and accept the will of God. Despite being sad with the suffering we should also be happy that we are accomplishing a "pay back" and at the same time learning an important lesson, to not repeat similar trespasses. If we pray with this type of approach in mind, just as the angel that came to Jesus to strengthen Him, in the same way God will also give us the ability to endure and with patience, wait for the end of the unpleasant event and suffering.

It was on this "mount of olives" that Jesus lost His peace for the second time. The first time was before

resurrecting Lazarus and according to the Gospels, He was “moved and troubled”. Is it possible that at that time Jesus also became aware of His coming suffering and death? When Jesus was curing the sick, He was taking the retribution of their sins upon Himself. Is it possible that when He was resurrecting the dead, He was giving His days of human life to them, shortening His own life?

The presence of Jesus’ three disciples with Him at this time is also of importance. When Jesus left them to go to pray, He had also requested that they stay awake and pray. He returned back to them three times and each time found them sleeping. An individual, during difficult and trying times, gets strength from supporting friends and loved ones. In the same way Jesus, also at this difficult time in His life, wanted for His dear disciples to support Him and pray with Him. Because the disciples, instead of praying were sleeping, they were not a support for Him.

That was Jesus’ time to pray. Prayer is the means to commune with God and requires no intermediary. When we pray, we should also go into seclusion and pray with such an understanding.

When we face difficulties in life, just as Jesus did we should also face them alone because they are results of our own trespasses and the “pay back” is our own duty. At the same time we should not forget that Jesus, through His mercy, took on others’ sufferings. If there are those who have extreme love, compassion or mercy as Jesus did, they may lighten our burden and suffering. This also is one of the graces of God and it will happen only if we have learned our lesson.



CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS



Matthew 27: 32-55

Mark 15: 21-41

Luke 23: 26-49

John 19: 17-30

Why did Jesus suffer and why was He crucified? Why did Jesus' earthly life ended at such a young age of only 33?

The answer to the first of these two questions may be easier to comprehend. Every person that lives in this world is subject to God's following, immutable universal law: "You reap what you sow". Hence, every individual must reap the results of all of his thoughts, words and deeds. When an individual's way of life is pleasing to God, all the events in his life also turn out to be pleasing. But when the individual's behaviour is satanical, as a results of all the sins promoted by his "Ego", then all the events in his life also turn out to be unpleasant, promoting suffering for him. Jesus had no sins, therefore, why was He subjected to all this suffering? The next quotation from the Gospel of Matthew gives the answer to this question.

"When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the

**prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities
and carried our diseases."** (Matthew 8: 16-17)

Don't we say: "Jesus died for the sins of humanity"? Every person is responsible for the sins he commits and also is in debt for them.

To best understand this let us consider the next allegory. An individual borrows money from the bank to buy a house. He is in debt to the bank and has to pay back the borrowed money with interest. This represents his "debt" caused by the sin he has committed. He works hard day and night to be able to pay the instalments of the mortgage. The hard work represents what he is reaping as a result of what he has sown. The sowing was borrowing the money or we may say, the original sin he committed. When he becomes incapable of keeping up with the payments to the bank, the bank threatens to take the house and sell it to recoup its money. This corresponds to the unpleasant and tragic events within the life of the individual. A loving friend takes pity on him and to help him out of his difficulties, he pays the money owed to the bank and saves the house for his friend. He suffers the financial loss so that his friend will find his peace. If the friend had not been convinced that the individual had learned his lesson of not getting into debts "over his head" and would not repeat the same again, he would not have helped.

Jesus, who loves all of humanity, with His compassion, paid all the debts of those who had learned their lessons from their life experiences. Therefore Jesus' suffering and crucifixion was not the result of His sins, "debts", but for the "debts" of all those He healed and cured. In the above quotation this is clearly indicated with the words: "**He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases**". Based on this, today some say that Jesus died for the sins of all humanity, meaning from the beginning of human life to the end of it sometime in the future. There is a slight truth in this because, with His life, Jesus showed us the path of

righteousness and the path of perfection. But He did not die for the sins committed by all of them. There will be more information regarding this point below.

The answer to the second question as to why Jesus died at such a young age is somewhat more controversial because there is no reference to this in any of the Gospels. Is it possible that Jesus, being “moved and troubled” at the grave of Lazarus as noted in the verse quoted below, is the result of the explanation given below?

“When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.”(John 11: 33)

In general it appears that Jesus’ preachings contradicted the perverted religion practiced at the time and made them very uncomfortable and they had tried to kill him several times, but Jesus had “escaped” their anger.

“All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.”

(Luke 4: 28-30)

But Jesus knowing His fate, when the time came, sent Judas to get them to arrest Him. In the section “Jesus Resurrects the Dead” above, when Jesus resurrected the three dead people, is it possible that He gave part of His time on earth to them, lengthening their lives and shortening His? Sometimes in medical circles, jokingly it is said that God has given “so many” heart beats to every baby born and when the number is reached, the person dies. It is possible that our time on earth may well be pre-determined, but at the same time somewhat dependent on our lifestyle. Jesus had realized and completed the purpose of His earthly life; hence, the time had also come for Him to leave the world. We think that the

authorities of the day killed Jesus. This view and understanding is also wrong. They were only the intermediaries who had to carry out what was to be, decreed by God. At the same time the crime committed by the individuals of authority who are not absolved of the “debts” gained by their crimes and sins will eventually have to repay them all. The following verse clearly indicates that the decision was not that of the authority.

“Jesus answered, “You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.” (John 19: 11)

Even from the cross Jesus showed His compassion when He prayed for those who were crucifying Him.

“Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.” (Luke 23:34)

What was the purpose of Jesus’ life? In general we say that He came for the salvation of mankind and with His crucifixion he paid all the “debts” of all our sins. Based on this understanding, there are even sects that consider themselves saved because they believe in this view. If this was actually true, Jesus would not have said: “Lift up your cross and follow me”.

“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.” (Luke 14: 26-27)

“Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

(Matthew 10: 37-39)

Again, if that view had been correct, Jesus would not have said: "The sins committed against the Holy Spirit are not forgiveable." Jesus suffered for all the "debts" that He took upon himself by healing and curing the sick of His time. But Jesus Christ resurrected and He still lives today. Due to His infinite compassion, even today He is capable of saving us from our sufferings. But, would we want for Jesus Christ to suffer for the sins that we commit? Would this not be the epitome of selfishness? Then what was the purpose of Jesus' life? Jesus, with the example of His life, showed us the purpose of human life. Man, ignorant as to the purpose of his life, lived only to eat, to drink, to sleep and to procreate. Unfortunately, even today man lives exactly that same way and does not follow Jesus' teachings. Jesus showed us that man within himself has the ability and the opportunity to realize God-revelation and experientially to get to know the "Truth". The "Truth" is God. Don't we say the dictum: "the only truth is God". Jesus makes clear the purpose of His life in the following verse.

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

(John 18: 37)

If today we do not strive to realize the purpose of our lives, it means that we do not listen to His teachings and we disregard them. Then as Jesus indicated we are not "**on the side of truth**". The members of the sect that consider themselves saved say that they believe in Jesus Christ, that He was the Son of God and died for our sins; hence, they are saved. But to believe in Jesus Christ means to believe all that

He has taught and to implement them in our lives.

Jesus Christ had two natures. He had a human nature; hence, He was a man. But having realized God-revelation within himself He also had a divine nature. Then, who died on the cross? Is it possible for man to even contemplate the killing of God? Heaven forbid. On the cross Jesus the man died and not Christ. When we read carefully the recounting of Jesus' crucifixion and death in the Gospels, we will see how Jesus made this clear to us. On the cross when Jesus said:

"... Jesus said, "I am thirsty." (John 19: 28)

He showed His humanity. God does not thirst. Jesus Christ's forty days in the wilderness did not bring about thirst, because He was living according to His divine nature. Jesus expressed the breaking off of the tie between His consciousness and His divine nature in the following way.

"About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"--which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27: 46)

"And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"--which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mark 15: 34)

When Jesus lost His tie with His divine nature, His suffering reached its peak. For the first time since the wilderness, He once again was face to face with His "Ego". Even then He did not give up His compassion and said: **"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing"**. One of the other criminals that was crucified with Jesus said that if He was the Son of God, He should bring Himself down from the cross and save Himself as well themselves. This was as if it was Jesus' "Ego" that was talking. Jesus, by not listening to the criminal, he was actually was ignoring His own "Ego" and once again showed His mercy and compassion to the other criminal who had learned his lesson.

Jesus the man, by realizing the purpose of his human life, had fully revealed Christ within himself. Christ is the Spirit in each and every man. He had shown us our ability to do the same and to see the truth about the creation with a higher consciousness which is the gift given by revealing the Christ nature from within. Once one becomes privy to such knowledge, his life changes completely because he gets to know what is real and what is not, what is important and what is not. A short time later Jesus also left his human nature along with His body and His individuality and joined His divine nature, His Father, as he called out with a loud cry and bowed His head.

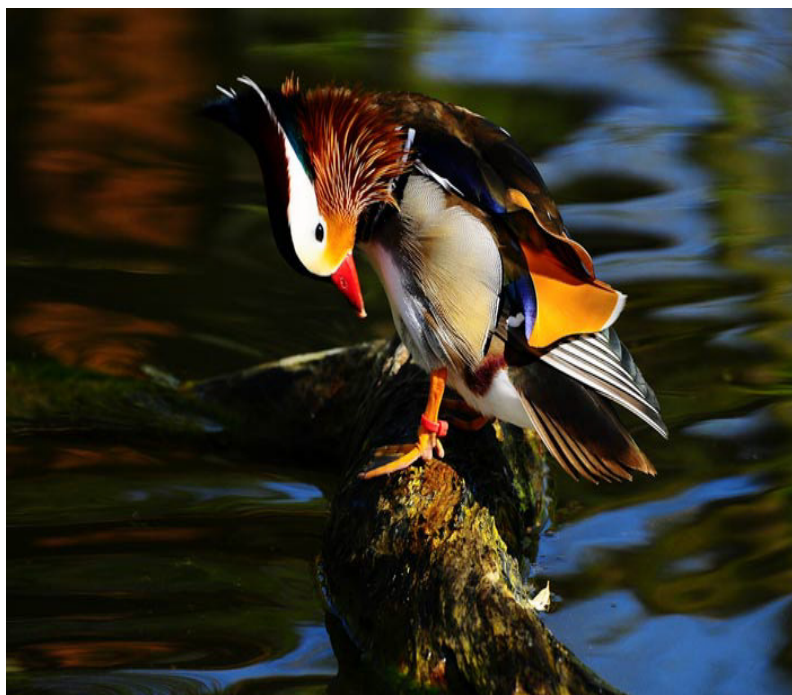
“Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.” (Luke 23: 46)

“With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.”
(Mark 15: 37)

“When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” (John 19: 30)

Why was Jesus crucified in between two criminals? Is it possible that this was not a simple coincidence and has a more important and significant allegorical meaning? On the cross, when Jesus cried: **“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me”**, He was left alone with His human nature and the two poles of His individuality; hence, only the man Jesus was left nailed to the cross. Metaphorically, the two criminals on either side of Jesus represented the two poles of His individuality. One, who said: **“Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us! (Luke 23: 39)”** represents the negative pole of His individuality, His “Ego”. The other who rebuked the first criminal for what he had said represents the positive pole of Jesus’ individuality. As Jesus, at the onset of His “mission” in the wilderness had ignored His “Ego”, Satan, similarly on the cross at His most vulnerable time he

ignored the words of the first criminal, in fact once again He ignored His own “Ego”. To the one who rebuked the first criminal’s words who represented the positive pole of His individuality, Jesus said: **“I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”** (Luke 23:43)”. Once again the metaphore here is that Jesus’ individuality, without the “Ego”, united with Christ, would be in “paradise”, would be one with God. This was also the foretelling of His resurrection. The release of Barabbas and the crucifixion of Jesus is another example of His mercy and compassion.



JESUS' BURIAL AND RESURRECTION



A – Jesus' Burial

Matthew 27: 57-61

Mark 15: 42-47

Luke 23: 50-56

John 19: 38-42

These verses suggest the burial of Jesus' body after His death. There is a belief that after His death and before His resurrection during those three days, Jesus descended to hell and freed some souls. It is even said that He destroyed hell. Regarding this view, there have been many varied opinions. There is absolutely no proof for this in any of the Gospels. Some feel that the next two quotations from the Bible, which are not from the four Gospels but one from Acts and the other from one of the letters, is proof enough. According to theologians, this view has come forth from the "Creed". But, neither in the Nicene Creed, nor much later in the revised creed at the ecumenical meeting of Constantinople do we encounter such a statement. It appears that three words were added in 390AD for a very short time. But later, in 650AD,

once again it was included in the Credo. Today there are some denominations that include the words (in Latin): **“Descendit ad inferos”** meaning **“He descended into hell”**, but this is not true of the Orthodox churches. Let us take a look at the so called supportive verses.

“...He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison.” (1 Peter 3: 18-19)

Who are the spirits that are in prison? Is it not true that our spirits also are imprisoned in our bodies? It is written: **“He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit”**. Hence, Christ in spirit preached to the spirits that are prisoned in the body. Jesus was the incarnation of God, of Christ; hence He came to the world in a physical form and preached to us, where our spirits were imprisoned in our bodies. And after the death of His body, Christ, which is the spirit of every individual continued to preach. That preaching is the silent voice within.

Also the verses from Paul's letter to the Ephesians 4: 8-10 are considered as proof as are the previous verses. But, these also are a reference to the incarnation of Christ and not His descent to hell after death.

“Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay.” (Acts 2: 31)

This verse has many presentations according to which version of the English Bible we consider. The above quotation is from The NIV Bible where all my biblical quotations are from. Part of this verse has been changed from the original. The second last sentence should read: **“that His soul was not left in hell”** instead of **“He was not abandoned to the grave”**. The Armenian classical version agrees with **“that His soul was not left in hell”**, and in the vernacular, it is written **“That His individuality was not left**

in hell". Since internationally it has been recognized that the classical Armenian translation of the New Testament is the closest to the original Greek version, I will consider that version. In this verse, we read that Jesus' soul did not remain in hell nor did His body decay. From the words "**was not left in hell**", it is assumed that He descended to hell, but did not remain there. But it is also possible to assume that He never went to hell. He did not allow His soul to go to hell. It is also interesting to note the usage of words between the classical Armenian where it is written "His soul" and the vernacular, where it is written as "His individuality". Regarding this difference, further explanation is given below in the section of His resurrection. Is it not true that man's soul is imprisoned within the body and subjected to suffering? Hence, Is it not in hell?

The important point is what the four gospels say about this issue. As indicated above, there are no verses indicating that "Jesus" went to hell after His death either by His spirit only or by His soul only or with His body. But there is a verse that completely and totally opposes this belief.

"Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23: 42-43)

According to this verse from one of the Gospels, Jesus tells one of the criminals crucified with Him that he will be in paradise with Him that same night. Hence, Jesus, after death on the cross, did not descend to hell but went to paradise.

B – Jesus' Resurrection

Matthew 28: 1-8

Mark 16: 1-8

Luke 24: 1-12

John 20: 1-10

Many think that the huge stone covering the entrance to His tomb rolled away as a result of an earthquake opening

the entrance so that the resurrected Jesus could walk out of the tomb. This is a totally incorrect understanding. According to the Gospel of Matthew, the two Marys that came to anoint the body of Jesus were witnesses to the movement of the stone and the opening of the tomb. When they looked in the tomb was already empty and they did not see Jesus walking out. Then what happened to the physical body of Jesus? According to the Bible, the body comes from the soil and returns back to the soil. Before the body becomes soil, first it has to decompose, decay. But according the next quotation, His body did not see decay.

“Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay.” (Acts 2: 31)

The body of a person who has lived only the path of perfection and righteousness, meaning that the individual has accomplished the purpose of his life, revealing Christ within himself, is formed from high frequency energy. Such a body does not decay, but from matter, directly transforms to energy and within three days, completely disappears. Did not the body of Moses also disappear after his death? He saw the Promised Land but did not enter it and stayed in the land of Moab and died there. He most likely willingly left his body. Neither his body nor his tomb were ever found (Deuteronomy 34: 5-8). Elijah also went to heaven in a fiery chariot (2 Kings 2:11). This does not mean that Elijah got into a rocket and went out into space. Fire represents energy. The body of Elijah also changed to energy and he disappeared. Jesus Christ, after His resurrection had an energy body and was able to physically appear or disappear, pass through closed doors and travel at the speed of energy (light). When He reappeared physically, He used to take different forms, to the point that those with him that knew Jesus very well could not recognize Him.

The above indicated special abilities expressed by the resurrected Jesus Christ, are actually taken from the four Gospels where they are recounted regarding the forty days that He remained on earth after resurrection. Further explanation and examples are given below.

Let us first understand as to what resurrection is. Every person's spirit is Christ. After the death of a person, his spirit, which had come from God, returns to God. As Christ is everyone's spirit It was also in Jesus, but Jesus had fully revealed Christ within himself. This we do not accomplish in our lives. Our bodies that come from the soil, after our death, return to the soil. The soil is also formed from the energy of the Holy Spirit. Today "quantum physics" has proven that all matter has come forth of energy. The soil is the intermediary between our bodies and God's energy, the energy of the Holy Spirit. As in the wilderness, Jesus survived 40 days without getting His life-sustaining energy through the intermediaries such as plant or meat, but received it directly from the Holy Spirit, in the same way after the death of His body, as energy, returned to God without first returning to the intermediary soil. Then what was it that resurrected? Every person has an individuality that has both a positive and a negative, two poles (*see the book titled "From Light To Light – Universal Laws" Chapter 6 titled "Individuality"*). With the death of the body, the individuality also dies. This is the meaning of this next quotation.

"For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6: 23)

While teaching, multiple times Jesus has said to ignore our individuality, especially its negative pole, the "Ego". The following verses attest to this.

"Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it." (Luke 17: 33)

"The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." (John 12: 25)

I am somewhat puzzled as to why the English translation has used the word “life”. Christ said I am the life. Hating life would be to hate Christ. In the Armenian translation, instead of the word “life”, the word “individuality”, that one may translate as “self”, with a small “s”, is used which liking it would mean selfishness and therefore attachment to the “Ego”. I find this much more meaningful. It may have been better to indicate it as “tries to keep the worldly life, loses the eternal life”. This would mean attachment to the world.

Jesus had totally ignored His “Ego” in the wilderness. He personally lived what He had preached for us to do. On the cross, His “Ego” finally died, but His individuality resurrected without its negative pole. His individuality did not die with the body because He had no sins. The negative pole represents the “Ego”. His individuality no longer had poles; it had become one with his Spirit, the Christ within and one with God, representing singularity or unity of all. During His life on earth, Jesus did not like His individuality and did not try to save it, therefore kept it for eternity. What He taught us was also to do the same, so that we also like Him would crucify our “Egos” and reveal the Christ within us and be able to be worthy for the resurrection of the individuality after the death of the body. And this is the salvation. Yes, Jesus conquered death and showed us the salvation so that we would follow His example and do the same ourselves.

“Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay.” (Acts 2: 31)

At this point it is appropriate to quote this verse again, but with the proper wording that it should have, namely **“that His soul was not left in hell”** or **“that His individuality was not left in hell”**. The spirit is Christ within the person and the soul is the spirit together with, and attached to, the

positive pole of the individuality. These words tend to indicate that Jesus' individuality did not die.

At this juncture it is appropriate to present various events that took place after the resurrection during the 40 days that Jesus Christ was still on earth. Jesus Christ was seen by many individuals but mostly His disciples. In the four Gospels, there are only six indications when Jesus Christ revealed Himself.

He first revealed Himself to the two Marys going to the tomb. According to the Gospel of Matthew, they fell to the ground (prostrated) and held His feet. Jesus Christ told them to tell the disciples that He will be going to Galilee and will see them there. But according to the Gospel of Mark, only the angel gives this information to the women and Jesus Christ reveals Himself only to Mary Magdalene. On the other hand, according to the Gospel of Luke, many women go to the tomb and there is no indication that they saw Jesus. According to the Gospel of John, first, only Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb, but later returns to the tomb along with Peter and another disciple. When she was alone and crying, Jesus Christ reveals himself to her, but Mary does not recognize Him and she thinks that He is the gardener. But when Jesus Christ calls her name, "Mary", she recognizes Him, but Jesus Christ does not allow her to touch Him.

The second time occurs when Jesus Christ reveals Himself to two disciples going to the farm. According to the Gospel of Mark, He appeared to them in a different form. There is no further information about this encounter. But it is highly possible that the encounter described in the Gospel of Luke, when Jesus Christ reveals Himself to the two on their way to Emmaus, may be the same event described above in the Gospel of Mark. The two travellers also did not recognize Him because of His altered appearance. But when he asks to have a meal with them and He broke bread, they recognized Him and He disappeared.

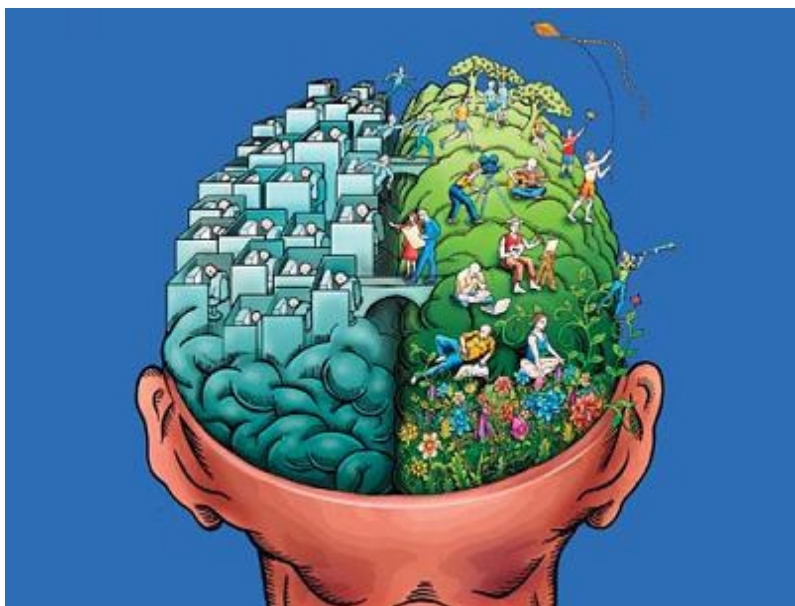
The third time, as He had promised, Jesus Christ revealed Himself to His disciples in Galilee. Because the disciples were fearing the Jews, they had locked the doors. Jesus Christ, without opening any doors, suddenly appeared amongst them. They were scared because they thought that He was a ghost. But when Jesus said: "Peace be unto you", they recognized Him. Thomas was not there at the time and when the disciples later told Thomas what had happened, he did not believe them.

The fourth time, Jesus Christ once again revealed Himself to His disciples, but this time Thomas was also there.

The fifth time, Jesus Christ revealed Himself to seven disciples at the shore of the sea of Galilee, when they had attempted to catch fish all night long without any success (John 21). The same or a similar event is described in the Gospel of Luke in Chapter 5, but this occurrence was before Jesus' crucifixion, death and resurrection. Jesus makes the recommendation of throwing the net into the sea from the right side of the boat. They catch 153 large fish and despite the very heavy weight, the net does not rip. At first the disciples do not recognize Him, but later they realize that He is their Lord. Jesus Christ, completely "physical", had started a fire and they all ate fish. It is very interesting that the number of fish caught is indicated as 153. Could there be some significance to this number? In numerology that number reduces to $(1+5+3)=9$. The number nine represents man's ability to judge and to choose. Did not Jesus Christ also correct the wrong choice of the disciples who threw the net on the wrong side of the boat, by recommending that they throw it from the right side? With this last deed, Jesus Christ was giving us a last lesson. In the same way in our lives, all our decisions should be according to the will of the Christ within us and not according to the negative pole of our individuality, namely the will of our "Ego". It is perhaps

appropriate at this point to quote from the book titled “From Light to Light (I)” Chapter 7 titled “What is Prayer”, to fully understand the metaphorical meaning of throwing the net from the right side of the boat.

In the present era, the education of children is focused on training the left brain. This allows the child to learn to live in this present societal environment, to make a comfortable living and enjoy as much of recent technological advancements (toys). This is what is considered to be of utmost importance. The left side of the brain categorizes and compartmentalizes everything.



The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the heart of the fool to the left.(Ecclesiastes 10:2)

The wise person trains the right side of his brain and the ignorant (fool), the left.

Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. (Proverbs 3:16)

“The long life” is the experience of eternity, which is an experience that comes from the right side of the brain. “The riches” is the riches of thoughts and is the function of the left brain.

Restraining her is like restraining the wind or grasping oil with the (Rt) hand. (Proverbs 27:16)

We need to change the way we use our brains. From a predominantly left-brain function, we need to switch to a predominantly right brain function. According to the Bible, the revelation of Christ appears to be a right brain function.

Mankind is only a novice in the use of the right brain, but an expert in the use of the left brain. Because of this, he even has classified prayer. Prayer before meals, prayer post meals, prayer for the sick, prayer before going to bed, prayer after waking up, prayers for the souls of departed loved ones, ... etc. There is absolutely nothing wrong in the classification of the prayers. But it is essential to know what it is that we are praying for.

For the sixth time, Jesus Christ revealed Himself to His disciples in Bethany where and when He ascended to “heaven”.





**If you are depressed,
You are living in the past.**

•

**If you are worried and anxious,
You are living in the future.**

•

**If you are at peace,
You are living in the present.**

EPILOGUE AND REFLECTIONS

What we read is understood by the mind and is dependent on the comprehension ability of the intellect. Hence, when we also read the Bible, the path of perfection and the path of righteousness presented to us is understood by us according to our level of comprehension. Therefore it is important to understand the mind and its workings.

The mind has a very close relationship with the level of consciousness. Man, as most other animals, has a primitive mind that functions mostly subconsciously. This is known as the subconscious mind. This part of the mind contains much information and man usually thinks, speaks and acts according to this information. Based on this, we live 95% of our lives by just utilizing this portion of our mind. This represents living according to our nature. All animals also live according to their natures. The nature of an individual depends on the information stored in the subconscious mind. As indicated in the book titled "From Light To Light III – Universal Laws" Chapter 3 titled "Man and His Idiocy" on page 93, man is subject to eight different memories, which are all part of the information accumulated within the subconscious mind. The following is a quotation from the above mentioned book presenting these eight types of memories.

"Man is subject to eight different memories. These are: elemental memory, atomic memory, evolutionary memory, memory of destiny both physical and psychological, sensory memory, inarticulate memory, articulate memory and pure intellect."

All these memories, which are within our subconscious minds, govern our lives. Even an individual's soul, energy body contains information in it from previous lives, which also form part of the information within the subconscious

mind. The subconscious mind also contains all negative feelings and emotions, desires, envy, avarice, hatred, anger But also there are positive feelings and emotions, compassion, love, mercy, forgiveness ... , that are present in those who make an effort to follow the path of perfection and righteousness and to some degree succeed. It is always possible to develop new virtues and pass them onto our subconscious mind. To be able to do this, one requires a conscious mind. The subconscious mind also governs function of all the internal organs of the body.

The subconscious mind can not differentiate truth from a lie or reality from an illusion or a dream. A negative childhood experience may imprint on the subconscious mind and many years later, in adult life, it may be a cause of anxiety or panic. Psychiatrists using hypnosis are able to instill new information within the subconscious mind that oppose the effect of the childhood experience and cure the person's anxiety or panic attacks. This is possible because the subconscious mind can not differentiate between real experience and just suggestion. Man, starting from his childhood and throughout his life, as a result of numerous experiences, stores numerous informations within his subconscious mind. The great majority of information stored there usually is information collected from here and there as beliefs, even though they may not have any bases in truth. Is it not true that even within the same religion, because of various beliefs, we have multiple denominations?

The second part of the mind that has a higher level of consciousness is the conscious mind. It is the conscious mind that has intellect and also the ability to judge and to choose. It is in this part of the mind where man's free will operates. Some animals do have a primitive conscious mind, but in man, it is fully developed. Man works best with his subconscious mind. When a toddler first starts walking, he

tries to do it consciously, trying to mimmick his parents, therefore his walk is awkward and he constantly falls. We say he is learning to walk. The truth is that he is teaching walking to his subconscious mind. When the process is well engrained there, he not only walks but also can run. Is not the case the same for adults as well? When we are starting to drive a car, we try to do it consciously. The teacher sitting beside us often cautions us and prevents the accidents that we would have caused. When the teacher is convinced that we have transferred the driving information to our subconscious successfully, he recommends that we take the driving test. Is it not the same in many professions and trades as well? The period of apprenticeship is to teach the subconscious mind the appropriate skills. It is only then that a person becomes a specialist in his field and does the best work. Hence, the purpose of the conscious mind is to put new information into and teach the subconscious mind. This is part and parcel of living consciously. This is the meaning of an individual's effort of trying to change his nature. For that change to occur, one needs patience and perseverance because it may take a long time to succeed. It appears that man in general does not use this ability of his appropriately, or perhaps not very much at all. When a person hears a new idea or a new perspective or understanding, which contradicts the beliefs engrained within his subconscious mind, without trying to analyze, assess and judge without bias to see if it reflects the truth or not, he disregards it. Compared to all other animals, a fully evolved conscious mind is unique to man, and part and parcel of his individuality which is also unique, given to man only. Hence, the individual has the ability to judge and to choose. Based on this, he also has the ability to judge appropriately and choose the positive pole of his individuality, the Christ within or the negative pole, his "Ego", Satan. Man rarely

uses this gift given to him and he prefers to be governed by his subconscious mind. The duty of the conscious mind is to instill virtues into the subconscious mind and not negative ones. And, this is the path of perfection and righteousness. The human mind has infinite abilities, but alas, man does not utilize them. When he becomes aware of this reality and starts to use his intellect appropriately, he opens the door to self-realization. This opens the path of perfection in front of him. The yearning to know himself is the first sign that he has started using his intellect properly.

As indicated above, the subconscious mind contains all sorts of animalistic tendencies and emotions. When the conscious mind of an “awakened” person progresses on the path of perfection and righteousness, the individual becomes aware of all his animalistic tendencies and slowly he learns to control and/or eliminate them from his subconscious. Is it not exactly this that is in the Book of Genesis when, after creating man, God gave him dominion over all other animals? This dominion is misunderstood and based on this misunderstanding, people often abuse and kill animals. The true dominion is the ability to have dominion over our own animalistic tendencies and nature. When an individual succeeds in properly and in a positive way of using his intellect, he opens the door to a higher level of consciousness, known as superconsciousness and intuition. As much as the conscious mind tends towards the superconscious mind, his animalistic mind, the subconscious mind drags the conscious mind down. The more an individual succeeds in the path of perfection and elevates his level of consciousness; he also receives more of the graces of the Holy Spirit, including wisdom. He becomes more aware of the “Truth” and starts noticing Its “Light” everywhere. At that level, he becomes aware of many types of hidden knowledge and therefore abilities that he did not have before. As a result of

our low level of consciousness, in other words, our ignorance we consider those abilities to be superhuman. This thinking is wrong. Did not Jesus say that we can do even greater things than He has done? Again, as a result of our ignorance and as a result of the various beliefs engrained in our subconscious mind, without using our intellect and logical thinking, we read the Bible and interpret it and we create a Christianity that is far from the teachings of Jesus and the path of perfection and righteousness.

As indicated in the preface of this book, the writings in the Gospels do not directly give the secret of the Kingdom of God and the path of perfection and righteousness, which Jesus taught in an indirect way.

The purpose of this book is to present the first one or two steps I am attempting to take in the right direction so that in the future, I may succeed in self-realization and experientially get to know my true Self, the Christ within. Is Christ not everybody's true Being? Is He not everyone's Spirit? Is not Christ the presence of God in every individual? Is not man the means for God-revelation? Was it not just this that Jesus taught us by example?

**Have mercy on me,
O God,
According to your
unfailing love;
according to your
great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
(Psalm 51:1)**



**It is nothing to die.
It is frightful not to live.
To live is an art,
it requires the use of
all the abilities of
an individual for the
realization of a purpose.**

(Victor Hugo)



-II- ADDENDUM

- A - The Value of Life**
- B - What is Meditation?**
- C - What is Prayer**
- D - 7 Wise Sayings**

VALUE OF LIFE

A little boy went to his old grandpa and asked, "What's the value of LIFE?"

The grandpa gave him one stone and said, "Find out the value of this stone, but don't sell it."

The boy took the stone to an orange vendor and asked him what its cost would be.

The Orange Vendor saw the shiny stone and said, "You can take 12 oranges and give me the stone."

The boy apologized and said that the grandpa had asked him not to sell it.

He went on and found a vegetable vendor. "What could be the value of this stone?" he asked the vegetable vendor.

The vendor saw the shiny stone and said, "Take one sack of potatoes and give me the stone."

The boy again apologized and said he can't sell it.

Further ahead, he went into a jewelery shop and asked the value of the stone.

The jeweler saw the stone under a lens and said, "I'll give you 1 million for this stone."

When the boy shook his head, the jeweler said, "Alright, alright, take 2-24karat gold necklaces, but give me the stone."

The boy explained that he can't sell the stone.

Further ahead, the boy saw a precious stones shop and asked the vendor the value of this stone.

When the precious stones vendor saw the big ruby, he lay down a red cloth and put the ruby on it. Then he walked in circles around the ruby and bent down and touched his head in front of the ruby. "Where did you get this priceless ruby from?" he asked.

"Even if I sell the whole world, and my life, I won't be able to purchase this priceless stone."

Stunned and confused, the boy returned to the grandpa

and told him what had happened.

"Now tell me what is the value of LIFE, grandpa?"

Grandpa said,

"The answers you got from the Orange Vendor, the Vegetable Vendor, the Jeweler & the Precious Stones Vendor explain the value of our lives...

You may be a precious stone, even priceless, but people will value you based on their intellectual status, their level of information, their belief in you, their motive behind entertaining you, their ambition, their risk-taking ability & ultimately their calibre.

So don't fear, you will surely find someone who will discern your true value."

Respect yourself.

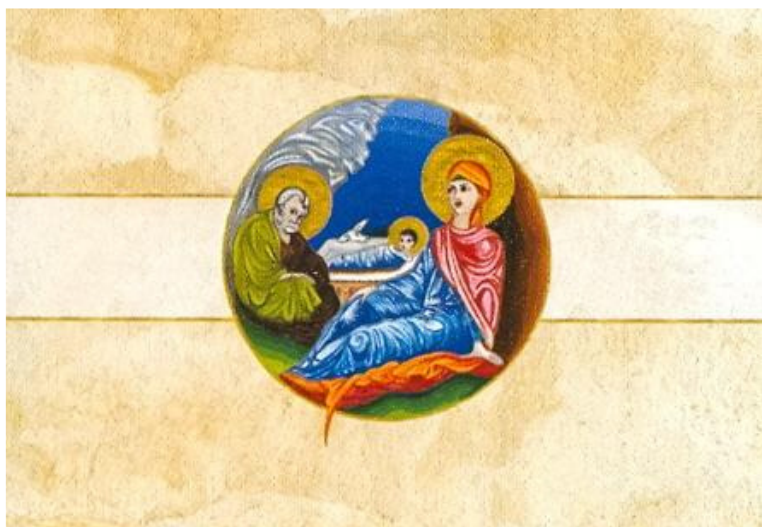
Don't sell yourself cheap.

You are rare, Unique, Original, only one of a kind.

You are a masterpiece created by our Master Creator.

No one can Replace YOU.

***Have a Great LIFE*.....**





What is meditation?

**This was a question haunting a small boy.
His parents were at wit's end, as they could not
explain it in a simple language the boy could
comprehend.**

**Once, the family went on a pilgrimage
to visit a monastic recluse.**

**The boy put forward his question to the recluse.
The recluse laughed to himself.
Then with smiling face,
he asked his disciple to serve the boy some cherries.**

**So, the cherries were served.
The recluse looked at the boy and said,
"Now I will say "Hmm"
Then only you should start eating.
Then again I will say "hmm"
After that no more eating cherries, they should be
left on your plate."**

**The boy agreed.
He was so excited. Others were watching
expectantly.
Now the boy was eagerly waiting for the signal by
looking at recluse's face.**

When he gave the signal "hmm" the boy started eating. Now his attention was on the recluse. He wanted to finish the cherries before the signal. The boy was eating the cherries in a hurry spitting the pits out, keeping his attention on the recluse. The cherries were reducing in numbers gradually. There were only a few left. The boy was looking anxiously at the recluse for the second signal. The moment he gave the signal, the boy immediately put the last cherry in his mouth. Now the recluse asked him "Where was your attention till now, on me or on the cherries?" The boy replied "On both". The recluse said "Yes. You were actively involved in finishing the cherries, with your attention on me. You were not distracted at all.

***Like this when you do your daily activities with your attention or thoughts on God in the background, it is known as meditation.*
The two signals "hmm" are birth & death. Within these two events, one can engage in meditation, as demonstrated by the recluse.**

But to understand this we all need divine grace to mellow & mature. We all differ from each other just by the time taken to comprehend this great truth.



**Where there is no trust,
there can not be faith.**

**Where there is no faith,
there can not be love.**

**Where there is no love,
God cannot be there.**

Do you Pray?

**I loved this interpretation of Prayer.
What is a prayer? Prayer doesn't just
happen when we kneel or put our hands
together and focus and expect things
from God. Thinking positive and wishing
good for others is a prayer. When you hug
a friend. That's a prayer. When you cook
something to nourish family and friends.**

**That's a prayer. When we send off our
near and dear ones and say, 'drive safely'
or 'be safe'. That's a prayer. When you are
helping someone in need by giving your
time and energy. You are praying. When
you forgive someone by your heart. *That
is prayer. Prayer is a vibration. A feeling.**

**A thought. Prayer is the voice of love,
friendship, genuine relationships. Prayer
is an expression of your silent being.**

Keep praying always



Thank You God

for everything
in my life.

The good
and the bad.

Some were
Blessings and some
were Lessons.

Amen



"Yet there is always the fear that people may discover that they were deceived for the sake of power and that truth may be different from what they were taught in religious class.

In Germany, there is a saying which expresses certain folk wisdom:

**The King says to the Pope: "You make sure that people stay stupid and I make sure they stay poor."
(Maria Wirth)**

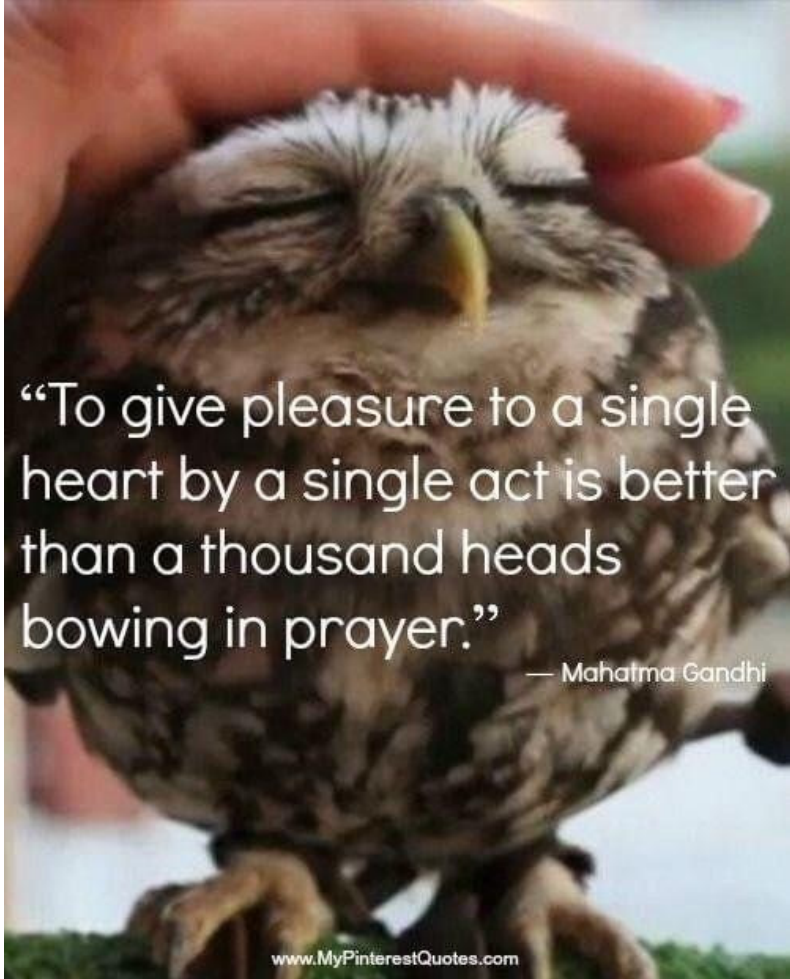


**Confucius
551-479 B.C.**

**“He who knows and knows that he knows
is a wise man - Follow him;
He who does not know and knows that he
does not know is a good man – Teach him;
He who knows and does not know that he
knows is a sleeping man - Awaken him;
He who knows not and knows not that he
knows not is a fool - Shun him”**

*** * ***

**“Learning without thinking is useless.
Thinking without learning is dangerous.”**



“To give pleasure to a single heart by a single act is better than a thousand heads bowing in prayer”

"I said: what about my eyes?
He said: Keep them on the
road.

I said: What about my
passion?

He said: Keep it burning.

I said: What about my heart?

He said: Tell me what you
hold inside it?

I said: Pain and sorrow.

He said: Stay with it.

The wound is the place
Where the Light enters
you."— Rumi



Please remember:

- Your job is the dream of the unemployed
- Your house is the dream of the homeless
- Your smile is the dream of the depressed
- Your health is the dream of those who are sick

Don't let difficult times
make you forget your
blessings 🙏

PERSPECTIVE



**Forty is the old age
of youth;
fifty the youth of
old age.**

Victor Hugo

**The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not be in want.**



**Even though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil, for
you are with me**

