ISSUE # 6 - TWO KINGDOMS

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Category: The Main Issue

There is a kingdom of light.
There is a kingdom of darkness.
Jesus verifies both kingdoms.
The Bible often makes reference to the kingdom of light.
The Bible often makes reference to the kingdom of darkness.
Every Christian is a citizen of the domain of light.
Every non-Christian is a citizen of the domain of darkness.
There is an escape from the realm of darkness.
Jesus came to save us from darkness.
Those escaping the kingdom of darkness are instantly translated into the kingdom of light.

Welcome to the sixth issue of The Main Issue, Two Kingdoms.

If someone reported to you that you had an enemy, someone who knew all about you even though you never met this person, someone who hated you and was persistently scheming to harm you, to destroy you, to take away all you have, it would be very important to determine if in fact the report

were true. If you learned the report is a hoax you can relax and carry on. But if you conclude the terrible warning is accurate you should certainly make major adjustments in your life.

Occasional references were made in past issues of The Main Issue to an extremely perverse and dangerous person who hates you and is working through an army of equally perverse underlings to destroy your life and lead you to a place you don't want to go. This report of a diabolic enemy is not a strange invention; it is indeed an age-old warning declared by Christians to every generation of every century for two thousand years.

But is the report of satan true? Is he real? If he is not real but merely, as some would suggest, a myth having survived the centuries, an invention of Christians to draw people into their fold, a mere allegory to convey the dark side of human nature, then you can relax and carry on. But if the report is true, if the enemy is real, it would be wise to make some major adjustments.

When reading Two Kingdoms keep in mind there is an escape from the kingdom of darkness.

You are inside a house, you open the door, walk out, and suddenly you are outside. How did you get out? You simply walked through the door. You are in one room, you walk through the doorway and you are suddenly in another room. That was simple – you simply walked through the doorway. You will never get out of a house or out of a room unless you use the door.

You are now in the kingdom of darkness. How do you get out of this place? How do you get into the kingdom of God?

There is only one way out and in. You must walk through the door. On the other side of the door is another kingdom, another world. It is the “kingdom of His dear Son.” To get into that kingdom you must go through the door. If you do not go through the door you will remain in satan’s domain. That door is Jesus Christ.

SHOWDOWN IN COW TOWN

You have seen the movie, white hat verses black hat, good guy verses bad guy, each with a six-gun in a holster slung low on the hip, the town taking refuge behind saloon doors and store windows and empty wagons. A real showdown.

Black Hat held Cow Town in fear. The sheriff was six feet under and his replacement was one of Black Hat's men. Law and order became lawlessness and havoc - booze and shootings and killings and stick-ups. Women, no longer safe on the streets, huddled in their homes. And the men huddled behind the women. Black Hat seemed invincible. Until White Hat rode into Cow Town on his white horse.

White Hat didn't drink much and didn't curse at all. Didn't even smoke or chase women. Had Black Hat just ignored him, White Hat would probably have rode out of town the next morning. But he took

exception to Black Hat making fun of his “sissy-white hat,” the hat his girl Molly had bought him. White Hat had steel in his spine, and told Black Hat his black hat smelled of sweat and grime. Besides, he didn't like the way he and his gang held the town in fear; it was hard to get good service. Well you know what happened. Soon the two were facing each other on the street in front of the saloon. One-on-one. Showdown.

It was high noon and it was hot. The horses were fidgety, kicking up dust. A couple of youngsters fled in panic. Bulky barber and slim storekeeper and bald banker peered out their windows. Black Hat was confident, smirking, cigar stub in his mouth, real mean looking. No one faster. White Hat was a stranger, too dumb to know who he was up against. Didn't have a chance and everyone knew it.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Black Hat goes down, pain and disbelief filling his face. Wasn't supposed to happen this way; always the other guy bit the dust. White Hat holsters his gun, stares down at his motionless opponent, his black hat looking silly upside down in the dirt, and then challenges the rest of the gang of black hats. Seeing Black Hat laying in his blood took the nerve right out of them and out of town they galloped. White Hat mounts his horse and slowly rides out of Cow Town. An old man removes his hat, scratches his head and stares perplexed at the stranger riding off. The women come out of their houses, men close behind. The entire town sighs in relief, happy to be minus one bad dude.

" Black Hat held Cow Town in fear"

"Until White Hat rode into Cow Town"

SHOWDOWN IN THE WILDERNESS

This showdown happened 2000 years ago, another one-on-one of much more grave importance to us all, history's very best versus history's most evil. This showdown determined the direction of humanity for all eternity. It happened in a wilderness.

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into this barren country at the age of thirty. Jesus fasted forty days and nights, and during this time Black Hat tempted Him in several ways to get Him to compromise. You see, compromise is sin, and if Jesus sinned just one time He could not be the innocent sacrifice God required as payment for our sins. It really was a most crucial dual between the ruler of the world of darkness and the man Christ Jesus. If Jesus faltered in His weakened state, if He succumbed to the devil's temptation, it would have been game over. No heaven for anyone, eternal hell for everyone.

Don't think the devil appeared in a black robe and a couple of horns on his head. Chances are he had the appearance of a compassionate angel as he suggested Jesus simply turn stones into bread to alleviate His hunger. He was the benevolent one, offering Jesus the kingdoms of the world if He would just worship him, not long, just a couple of minutes would suffice.

What would have happened to Jesus if he lost this dual? He would be like us, a man under sin, fully guilty. His Father would have instantly disowned Him, and Jesus would be an outcast with no chance of returning to heaven. Yes, He would be our eternal companion in that awful place He came to save us from.

But Jesus was victor of that one-on-one, that forty-day dual. He walked triumphant out of the desert straight into a three year ministry that was to culminate in Black Hat's defeat on Calvary's cross. Jesus remained spotless and innocent and therefore an acceptable sacrifice, sufficient to redeem us from our sin.

SHOWDOWN IN EDEN

Don't think Black Hat loses all the time. He doesn't.

About seven thousand years ago Black Hat and White Hat had a confrontation over the rulership of the earth, resulting in a complete altering of God's plan for mankind. God gave Adam authority over everything on the planet. Things were real nice back then, no spoiled apples or mosquito bites or even bad breath. Lots of food and lots of fresh air and lots of time for hikes. No flus, no headaches, no arguments. Adam was real happy, especially after God gave him a beautiful wife. Now satan also lived on the earth, and he wanted something Adam had, and he wanted it real bad - the authority that God had given to Adam, the right to rule.

You know the story. God told Adam they could eat of every tree in Eden, except one. That wasn't asking much, one tree out of thousands. Obey this one command and they would live for all eternity, they and their offspring. Offspring, that's you and me. It was our multi-great grampa wearing the white hat, running around in his birthday suit. God warned Adam if he disobeyed he would surely die.

So here comes a serpent, sent by Black Hat, and has a chat with Gramma Eve. Now back then serpents weren't ugly and they didn't crawl on the ground. Matter of fact, he was the smartest of the animal kingdom, perhaps the most beautiful. Did the serpent speak or did Black Hat speak through

it?, I don't know. Did the serpent have previous conversations with the pair?, I don't know. The serpent tells Eve God wasn't all that serious about the tree of knowledge, the forbidden tree, and if she ate its fruit she would become like God. Sounds good to me, Gramma says, and chomps away.

Adam was there and could have, should have, dealt with the serpent. But he didn't. Something about that forbidden fruit. Can it really make me like God? And he too chomps away. At that instant White Hat lost the showdown. At that instant Adam lost the valued authority to rule the earth. At that instant satan became earth's new ruler. At that instant Adam and Eve were under God's curse.

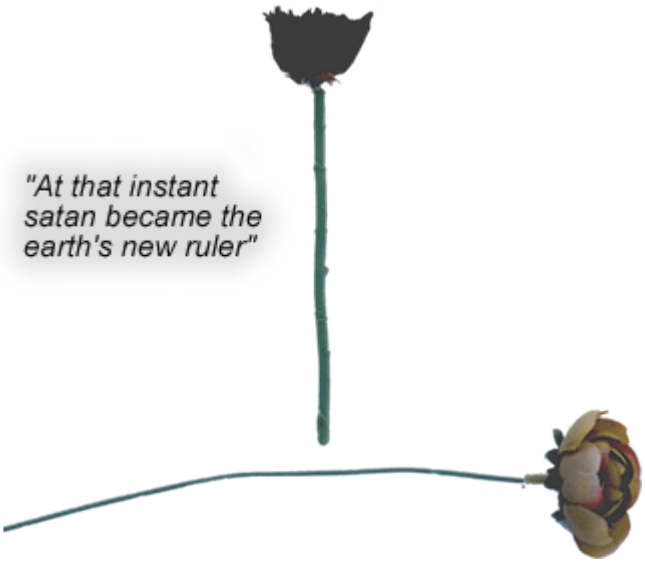
Yes, Black Hat won this most crucial showdown. Not only was Adam and Eve the losers, but you and I and all. Our enemy got his prize that day, the authority over all the earth. The earth was now his kingdom, and still is. You see, God couldn't take it back, it wasn't His to take, He had given it to Adam. Adam forfeited the authority to the one now called "the ruler of this age."

And Adam? Well, he lost his white hat immediately. No longer was he a good guy, but a sinner, a rebel, an outcast from God's manifested presence. He and God were now in different camps. Adam was warned, "You will surely die," and that's what happened - he was now spiritually dead.

And so are you. Yes, alive in your body but dead in your spirit. You do not have fellowship with God like Adam had before he sinned. Spiritually you are dead. But there's hope. There was to be another showdown; it took place at Calvary, just outside Jerusalem.

God cursed that serpent, and said from now on you crawl on the ground. And He cursed Black Hat, and told Him a descendant of Eve would one day crush his head, a prophecy partly fulfilled at Calvary, the rest to be accomplished at another showdown some time in the future.

"About seven thousand years ago Black Hat and White Hat had a confrontation over the rulership of the earth"



"At that instant satan became the earth's new ruler"

SHOWDOWN IN EGYPT

White hat, in this story, is Moses. Black Hat is Pharaoh. God sent Moses, a nobody, to go have a little talk with Pharaoh, king of Egypt. God wants you to let the Israelites go, White Hat says to Black Hat. You gotta' be kidding! responds the mighty Pharaoh. Who do you think is going to build my pyramids and my great cities?

Moses was eighty years old at the time and God allowed him to take older brother Aaron with him. In a display of the power of God Aaron threw down his rod, they used to carry rods in those days, and the rod turns into a serpent. I'm sure Moses is thinking, This is really going to impress this guy. But what does Pharaoh do? He calls in his magicians, they each throw down their rods, yes, magicians had rods too, and their rods likewise turned into serpents! Now Moses wasn't expecting anything like this, and he was probably quite relieved to see his serpent swallow up their serpents.

We know where Moses got his power, but what about the magicians? The magicians got their power from the world of darkness. Let's look at Ephesians 6:12: We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

There is a chain of command in the kingdom of darkness, much like an army, satan at the top ruling

"spiritual hosts of wickedness" through powerful intermediates. This army managed to make inroads into the Egyptian nation over the centuries, perhaps more than any other people in world's history. There was ongoing communication between demons and humans through sorcerers and magicians and, to varying degrees, the general population of Egypt. One might say there was an attachment or agreement between Egypt and the world of darkness, strengthened by worship and human sacrifices. The Egyptians worshiped almost everything that breathed and everything that didn't. At the head of this mighty nation, whose architectural feats are still a tourist attraction today, was Pharaoh, revered as a god but in reality a mere pawn of darkness.

Not far away from Pharaoh's palace lived the children of Israel, the children of God, about six million people by some estimates. They long ago became slaves of the Egyptians, labor for their ambitious building projects. They got into that mess because of disobedience, losing God's protection. God heard their prayers and chose Moses as the man to set them free from their bondage.

Pharaoh was a real obstinate fellow and refused to release the Israelite nation. So the next morning Moses is back with his brother standing before the big guy. Aaron lifts his rod and smacks the water in the river, and the river turns into blood, not only the river but all the water in the land. Now you and I would have said, Okay, okay! Take your people and get out of my sight! But not stubborn and mean and dumb Black Hat. Pharaoh refuses to release his free labor and orders wells to be dug so they can have water.

The showdown continues. Pharaoh sees Aaron stretch his rod over the waters of Egypt, frogs, zillions of frogs, came up out of the water and covered the land, Black Hat says, Get those frogs out of here and I'll let your people go, Moses asks God to remove the frogs, God obliges and..... Pharaoh changes his mind, just like that. My free labor isn't going nowhere. So up goes the rod and dust turns into lice "on man and beasts." Black Hat doesn't budge. Next, God sends thick swarms of flies. Flies, flies flies everywhere, driving the Egyptians nuts. Pharaoh relents, God removes the flies, and..... Pharaoh changes his mind again. Next, God sends "a very severe pestilence" killing much of the livestock. Then Moses and Aaron threw ashes in the wind causing an outbreak of boils "that break out on sores on man and beast." And then up goes the rod and down comes "hail, and fire mingled with the hail" destroying much of the crops. The rod goes up again bringing thick clouds of locusts into every building and house and field, destroying whatever crops survived the hail. The magicians told the boss, Can't you see Egypt is being ruined? Tell White Hat and his people to pack up and go! But no, Pharaoh's heart was hardened.

Now get this: The Israelites, living in the same vicinity, were unharmed by all those plagues - no frogs or flies or boils, no pestilence or hail or locusts. Black Hat must have thought, How does he (He) do that? Pharaoh hadn't yet learned, God can do anything. He still refused to bow to God's demand, so Moses stretched out his rod and thick, and I mean thick, darkness covered the land for three days. "But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."

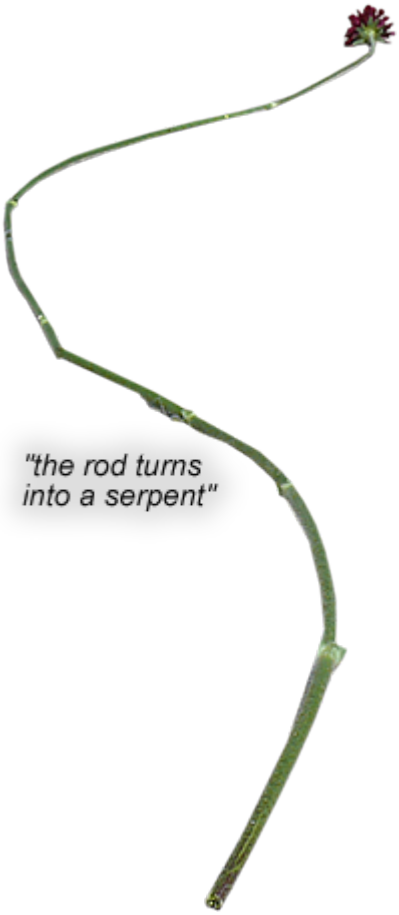
God tells Moses of the final plague: "All the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the maidservant." Moses instructed the head of every Israelite family to kill an unblemished lamb and splatter the blood of the lamb upon the lintel and doorposts of their dwellings. Around midnight the Lord moved over the land killing the firstborn of every woman and beast, but spared the households having the blood of the lamb around their door. His son and heir to his throne dead, Pharaoh had enough, sent for Moses in the night, telling him to get his people out of the country immediately. But the showdown wasn't over yet.

A week or so passes, Black Hat gives his head a shake and says to himself, What have I done? My laborers are gone! Gotta' get them back! It wasn't hard for him and his horsemen and chariots to catch up to the tribe of Israelites traveling on foot with their kids and livestock. They would have taken them that night if it wasn't for the cloud. A huge cloud reaching to the ground made it dark for the Egyptians but the other side of the cloud illuminated the way for the Israelites. So into the Red Sea they go, a wide path opens before them, walls of water on both sides, the ground at their feet dry from a mighty wind. In the morning Pharaoh is amazed and perplexed to see that the Red Sea had opened up for the evacuees. Well if they can do it so can we! Charge, boys! Don't let them get away!

And you know what happened. Maybe Black Hat saw White Hat way off in the distance on the other side of the Red Sea lift his *#*#*#*#* rod again, and he knew by now when that happened something bad happens. And so it did. Pharaoh and his entire army got slurped up as the walls of water crashed in on them. Black Hat goes down, end of the showdown.

But let's back up a bit to the slain lambs and the blood on the doorposts. This was done to prefigure the Christ, "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." God commanded that every year they were to slay a lamb as a memorial to this great day. The feast day is called the Passover because the angel of death passed over the children of God because of the blood. As the Israelites were protected by the blood of the lamb, so every born-again Christian is protected by the blood of The Lamb. That is why Jesus is called "our Passover."

"SHOWDOWN IN
EGYPT"


"the rod turns
into a serpent"

"How does he
(He) do that?"

SHOWDOWN AT CALVARY

This was the showdown of the ages, one between Jesus Christ and the kingdom of darkness. It occurred at Calvary, just outside the city of Jerusalem. First, let's go back in time from Calvary thirty-four years, to the city of Nazareth.

The entire kingdom of darkness, perhaps billions strong, knew the Messiah was coming but didn't know when or where. It seems reasonable everyone was on the lookout. Did one of the demons overhear the angel Gabriel tell Mary she was going to have a very special baby?

Joseph got a summons to go to Bethlehem for a consensus. The demon world knew the Babe was in Bethlehem; if they didn't know beforehand the wise men from the east surely gave it away, and influenced Herod the king to kill all the babies in town to make sure they eliminated Jesus. Now one

might say, How do you know demons were involved? Maybe it was all Herod's idea. Well, could be. But where there is blood of babies splattered in homes and on the streets you can be reasonably sure the powers of darkness were involved.

An angel warned Joseph in a dream and they fled to Egypt for safety. Undoubtedly the underworld watched every move of the holy child when in Egypt and after the family returned to Nazareth, keenly awaiting an opportunity to snuff out His life. And undoubtedly an even greater army of angels stood guard over their precious charge.

When thirty, Jesus and satan had their confrontation in the wilderness. He later said of satan, "He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." Make no mistake, Jesus was well aware of the presence of the devil, his army of despots, and his evil intent. Every day Jesus opposed the kingdom of darkness, setting many free from demonic oppression and demonic diseases.

What was clear to Jesus was not obvious to satan. Jesus knew that to set men free from the grip the kingdom of darkness held over their lives He must become the sacrificial lamb. To Jesus, the cross was victory because it was there He, the only innocent Man to walk planet earth and the only acceptable sacrifice, would make full payment for man's sin. To dumb satan the cross was the defeat of Jesus, and his rulership over the people of the earth would be secured. So he schemed to do what Jesus wanted him to do. Jesus never devised anything, didn't resist, just let it all happen.

Jesus had several confrontations with the religious leaders, the Pharisees, who held the population in spiritual bondage. He once told them, "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do." Undoubtedly many had unknowingly opened the door of their lives to the kingdom of darkness and were influenced to plot the death of Christ. They paid Judas Iscariot thirty pieces of silver to betray his Master. Jesus knew of the betrayal and after exposing him before the other apostles, the Bible records, "Satan entered him." Jesus told Judas, "What you do, do quickly."

Jesus knew that Judas knew He would be at "the Mount of Olives" that evening at "a place called Gethsemane," and Jesus knew His traitor would be there with temple guards to make the arrest. The devil undoubtedly thought he had taken Jesus by surprise, and things were going his way. Jesus was beaten with rods, spit upon and falsely accused in the secret of night. The jealous and revengeful Pharisees brought Jesus before Pilate and coerced him to have Jesus scourged and crucified. Behind the scenes was an army of despotic demons influencing, suggesting, inspiring, whispering, coercing the Pharisees, Pilate and the frenzied mob to shout, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

Gleefully the underworld witnessed their greatest enemy hang in shame and defeat on a wooden cross. There must have been myriads of angels looking on, doing nothing to interfere. The Pharisees jeered at the victim. His disciples were totally downcast. The pathetic figure on the cross breathed His last and died.

But what looked so bad was so very good. Payment for all sins of mankind, past and future, were paid in full. Man now had access to God, just like Adam had before he sinned. Heaven was opened to all who would come to Christ, embracing Him as savior and lord.

How deflated the entire army of darkness must have been at the news of the resurrection of Christ. Perhaps it was not until that Sunday morning Black Hat finally realized he had been defeated. Since then multi-millions, perhaps billions, have escaped his kingdom of darkness and have entered the kingdom of light, sons and daughters of the most high God.

"where there is blood of babies splattered in homes and on the streets, you can be reasonably sure the powers of darkness were involved"

"Jesus had several confrontations with the religious leaders, the Pharisees"

WHAT IS THE OCCULT?

Hunt and McMahon (America, The Sorcerer's New Apprentice): The “occult” (or ‘hidden’) has traditionally referred to an ancient perennial wisdom involving mysterious powers pursued and practiced in secret. Reflecting a recent change in attitude, however, the 1980’s brand of occultism is out in the open, having gained wide acceptance and respectability in mainstream America.

Ellis (The Occult): The occult is rather like counterfeit money. It is not the real thing, but it looks like it. It appears to promise some of the products of real spirituality, such as healing, happiness and peace. But in the end, time runs out, the goods have to be handed back, and a penalty has to be paid. Things were not as they seemed.

OCCULT PRACTICES

Editor: The list is long: automatic writing (writing while under a trance), seances (whereby contact is made with the dead), horoscope reading, astral travel (leaving the body), fortune telling, crystal ball gazing, reading of palms and tea leaves and tarot cards, ESP, astrology, numerology, hypnosis, telepathy (mind reading), witchcraft, santeria (the worship of saints), acupuncture, psychic healing,

UFO involvement, transcendental meditation, yoga, etc. Behind every architecture there is an architect (yes, the evolutionist would disagree). Who is the architect of these strange occult practices? (Think Black Hat.)

HOW WIDESPREAD IS THE OCCULT?

Hunt and McMahon (America, ...): Today's world confronts a strange and growing paradox that could very well mark a pivotal point in human history. Even as the scientific and technological advancement which ushered in the space age is accelerating at an exponential rate we are witnessing far and away the greatest occult explosion of all time. The evidence seems to indicate that something of unusual historic significance is in process. Primitive pagan religious practices that were generally confined to underdeveloped Third World countries (and were regarded in the West with suspicion and ridicule only a few years ago) are now being embraced by increasingly millions of enthusiasts worldwide.

Hunt and McMahon (America,....): The present revival of sorcery is evident in modern trends in art, psychology, medicine, education, the military, business, music, and especially in the media, from children's television cartoons to major feature films.

Larson (Satanism, The Seduction of America's Youth): Teenagers today grow up in a world saturated with satanic symbols and suggestions – black metal music, Dungeons and Dragons, horror movies, occult emblems, and diabolical paraphernalia. Some parents mistakenly presume it's harmless, that kids will grow out of it.

Lindsey (quoted from article in New York Times by Hunt and McMahon): Representatives of some of the nation's largest corporations, including IBM, AT&T, and General Motors, met in New Mexico this summer to discuss how metaphysics, the occult and Hindu mysticism might help executives compete in the world marketplace..... a thread of alternative thought..... scholars say is working its way increasingly into the nation's cultural, religious, social, economic, and political life. On one level, they say, it is evidenced by a surge of interest in new metaphysical religions, mediums, the occult, reincarnation, psychic healing, Satanism, "spirit guides," and other aspects of supernatural belief.

Johnston (The Edge of Evil): Victoria on Vancouver Island, British Columbia is one of the major centers for religion, witchcraft and the occult in the world. Every major religion in the world is represented, for instance, Saltspring Island has one of the largest Buddhist monasteries in the western hemisphere. The island has the highest percentage of Transcendental Meditation practitioners per capita of any place in the world. Every cult you can imagine has a representative office or headquarters here. Tarot card reading and table strolling fortune-telling of all sorts is expected in Victorian restaurants. Major tourist attractions such as the Crystal Garden, routinely offer seminars in ESP. The native Indian population is particularly dedicated to traditional spirit worship

and spirit dancing.

Hunt and McMahon (America,....): The last time anything approaching this mass flight from reason to mysticism occurred was in the 1920's and 1930's. It was very likely this great occult resurgence in Western Europe, and particularly in Austria and Germany, which helped to set the stage for Germany's acceptance of Nazism. Some historians, in fact, have referred to Hitler as "Occult Messiah."

Carr (The Twisted Cross): Occultism has had more to say about politics in the twentieth century than has hitherto been recognized. For example, the Adolph Hitler connection is obvious. However, an awful lot of nineteenth century western and central and eastern European politics were involving people who were ardent occultists. The Rasputin thing in Russia is an example. Most of the French hierarchy in the late nineteenth century were occultists.

REINCARNATION

Ellis (The Occult): Reincarnation is the theory that when a body dies, the soul transmigrates – it is reborn into another body. Because of this, everybody will have experienced previous lives, and death will herald the entrance into yet another life by means of reincarnation. This never ending process of death and rebirth is called the Wheel of Samsara. New Agers have taken this ancient belief and packaged it for the modern consumer. Today, it has become that sense of deja vu which says: 'I've been to this place at some time before; maybe in my previous life I was a famous king, politician or public figure.' Many leading New Agers have claimed just that. It is seen very much as a kind of 'upward evolution' whereby mankind is gradually being upgraded, both on an individual level and as a race of people.

Hunt and McMahon (America,....): Evolution has always been recognized as the vehicle that makes reincarnation seem credible. There is no point in being reincarnated back to earth countless times unless one is evolving higher. Of course one could as a result of "bad karma" (so the theory goes), drop lower on the scale as well. As evolution gained official status as the only religious view sponsored by the government in public schools it was only natural that its religious twin, reincarnation, would enjoy a renaissance in the West, and so it has. Since reincarnation is a belief basic to witchcraft, it is not surprising that it is amoral. Instead of solving the problems of evil, it perpetuates it. If a husband beats his wife, the cause-and-effect law of karma decrees that he must be reincarnated as a wife who is beaten by her husband. That husband (who will have been prepared by his karma to be a wife beater) will in turn have to come back as a wife beaten by her husband, and so forth endlessly. The perpetrator of each crime must become the victim of the same crime, which necessitates another perpetrator, who in turn must become a subsequent victim at the hands of another, ad infinitum, ad absurdum.

TEEN PROBE

S-T-R-A-I-G-H-T T-A-L-K T-O T-E-E-N-S

Education. That's why you go to school, right?, to learn how, to be able to do, to steer away from poverty and failure, be a winner and all that. So let's look at it. Is your education really a ticket to the land of the triumphant? Is success measured in awards and diplomas? Just how valuable is your education? What and where will it get you?

Education can be a good thing. To know is okay. Learning has advantages. And limitations. Wisdom, not knowledge, gets you there. Unfortunately, schools major in knowledge, not wisdom. Schools cannot transform the fool, but simply educate him. The product is an educated fool.

Knowledge knows, wisdom does. The educated knows what to do, the wise does it, the fool doesn't. Fools don't make it, ending up where they don't want to be. Theirs is remorse. Hey! how did I end up here?

A fool chooses flimsy leaning posts. Looks to others for a point of view. Majors in minors and minors in majors. His heroes are anemic. He goes with the flow without question.
Fools do dumb things. Like leaving a sign on the door, Key under doormat. Like going to a nerd for advice. Stuff like that. Education won't change him.

Education is okay but it's not the answer. I'm not down on education, okay?, I just want you to get it in right perspective. There are major flaws in your education. Hey, I know you don't like to hear it, but I'm getting a rep for saying things people don't like to hear, and I'll say it again: The education you are getting has some very major defects. Now I'm not talking about 2+2=4 and H_2O and not forgetting the silent p in psychic. I'm talking about perspective. I'm talking about things that matter. I'm talking about purpose and direction and attitude. I'm talking about life, where you're going and why bother getting there. So when life on earth is over you would have done more than frittered away a pile of years.

Your education doesn't come from school only. It comes from family, the boob box, the media, movies, friends, and whoever you hang with. Words, words, words – they come at you from every direction, this one says this and that one says that, and there is this way of looking at it and that angle and wow!, it seems like everyone has the answer. Words affect you, don't think they don't. Words are powerful little critters that get inside through your ears, swim around your brain for a while, nestle in your memory, bring a change or reaffirm an opinion and then, often, leak through your mouth for others to hear. Words can bring sorrow, pain, accusation, deception, false promises, bad advice. Or truth, hope, joy, healing, prosperity, laughs.

Your education consists, largely, of the words you hear and read. The value of your education is relative to the quality and quantity of these words. Who are your teachers? – they are simply the

people you learn from, paid or unpaid, qualified or unqualified. By their words they influence you to think and behave the way you do.

If you looked at Mary's life you would say Hey! that's far out, the poor kid, what a raw deal. Mary, not her real name, and her five sisters were never allowed out of their father's influence. He pronounced a curse over them if they dared disobey his every command, and they lived in fear. Never drove a car, held a job or many other things we consider routine. They were prisoners in their home. Daddy educated them, Daddy provided, Daddy did everything, Daddy was their only influence. They rarely heard another point of view and if they did they would probably think Hey, that's kind of kinky because it didn't go with what they had been taught. Their perspective was distorted and yet, because they could not make comparisons, they considered their life normal. Finally Mary "snuck out from my Daddy" and got set free. She was 54.

You have to see that, to one degree or another, what happened to Mary is, right now, happening to you. Your perspective is being defined and limited by others. You are being taught weird things. Like your multi-great grampa swung from trees and ate bananas for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Like right changes with the times and circumstances. Like if it feels good do it. Like 'me' is god. Like life ends at the grave. Stuff like that. You are a prisoner to mentalities passed on to you. But from your perspective life is normal.

You have to see you are going in a particular direction for no other reason except most everyone else is going the same way. You never had an opportunity to assess what's the right way to go. You were simply placed. I said, you were placed.

You are driving down a four-lane highway, lots of traffic, zoom, honk, screech. You don't know it but up ahead there is a break in the road. People driving one second and flying the next, flying to their death down a thousand-foot chasm. But from your perspective, cruising down the highway, all is well. All these people you're following must know where they're going, right? There is safety in numbers and all that.

Suddenly you are picked up and lifted high in the sky, don't ask me how, okay?, it just happens, and now you can see all around for miles and miles and you see the highway you were driving on and the disaster ahead. Your perspective is different.

You see, that's what I'm trying to do, lift you up above yourself, above your life, above your circumstances, above the crowd. Why? So you can see! Seeing is okay, isn't it? See what? See reality, see things the way they are, like maybe for the first time in your life. Are you listening?

You really are heading for destruction. What you lean on will not hold you up, what you trust in will fail you, the education you deem sacred won't help a bit. So what if you know that the square of an hypotenuse of a right angle triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides. Where will that get you?

How good an education are you getting? Is your education steering you in the right direction? Or are you, like Mary, only getting one point of view?

Your education is limited. There is so much you are not being taught. I mean, important stuff. There is a whole world out there you know little about. God and the devil, angels and demons, hey they are real even though you can't see them, even though they are not taught in school. Wars on earth only reflect the real war. The real war is over the souls of men and women and children.

Jesus was the most profound, gifted, knowledgeable teacher who ever lived. Jesus has more enemies than any other person, but few dare to publicly negate His ability to teach. Even many atheists declare His teachings profound.

Question: If that is true how can you ever hope to get a sound education while ignoring the greatest teacher who ever lived? Let's do that again: If Jesus was a profound teacher how can you hope to get a sound education while ignoring His teachings?

Answer: You can't.

Back to perspective. The only true perspective is God's perspective. All other, yes all other perspectives are distorted..... riddled with misconceptions, foolishness, bias, lies, stuff like that. These distorted perspectives come in the form of religion, humanism, New Age, atheism, feminism, socialism, psychology, etc., etc.

And the only true book is the Bible. Because the Bible is God's book and it contains God's perspective. Why does the education system ignore the Bible? Why isn't Jesus Christ expounded on the education channels? If Jesus was so wise why aren't the biggies talking about Him? Why highlight guys like Shakespeare and Freud and Darwin while ignoring Christ? Hey, the answer is in the Bible. Listen up.

2 Corinthians 4:3,4: If our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose mind the god of this age has blinded, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Hey, who is this 'god of this age'? Never heard about him in history class. Freud never mentioned him in his enlightened writings. Sure, the cartoonists poke fun at him but they don't think he's for real. Hey, satan is real, I don't care what they have told you. Jesus spoke to him, was tempted by him, rebuked him, warned people about him, trained His disciples to do battle against him, called him "the father of lies," "the wicked one," "the evil one." As a matter of fact His reason for coming to earth was to free people from satan's kingdom.

Yes, the devil has a kingdom and you are part of it. The word 'god' means ruler. Rulers have kingdoms to rule over. Jesus said to His religious enemies, "You are of your father the devil." Hey, that's heavy. Jesus said that satan was their (spiritual) daddy. Wouldn't the same be true of you?

“He has blinded the minds” of the unbelieving. Hey, who is being blinded? Hang on to something while I tell you. The people who are blinded by the kingdom of darkness are most people. The people around you, the ones teaching you, the ones you lean on and emulate, the guys that say if it feels good do it and Ha ha, if there really is a hell I wanna go there cause that’s where my friends will be and funny stuff like that. They are commentators, newspaper and magazine columnists, cartoonists – not all, but most. The blind guys are “those who are perishing,” the majority, you know, the people driving down the (zoom, honk, screech) highway.

And the blinded guys is also you. Yeah, you have been blinded by "the god of this age." You can't see things as they are. “Lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ... should shine unto them.” Hey, them is you! You have been blinded. Why? Because if you ever come to the place where you understand the gospel and respond to it, you will be set free. Black Hat would have lost one of his pets – you.

What is the “gospel of Christ”? Well, for starters, it's the truth, something you’re not too accustomed to. It is accurate information about God’s plan of salvation. God’s plan of salvation is Jesus Christ. Jesus paid the price of your sins with His life. Gospel means ‘good news.’ The good news is you no longer have to be at enmity with God, the sins separating you from God can be wiped away by simply accepting Christ (that means accepting His lordship over your life, a decision to live life His way) and His sacrifice as payment for your sins. The good news is there is another road you can be placed on, a road taking you off the highway leading to eternal remorse and destruction and pain, and unto the road leading to indescribable joy and purpose and abundance. That’s the good news. dummy has blinded you to the truth of the gospel and threw you other philosophies and mentalities to entertain you and keep your mind off your need for salvation.

Hey, I am talking about a conspiracy. dummy is after your eternal life. He is the one who has kept Jesus and the Bible out of your education, out of your school. Jesus called this fallen angel “the father of lies.” He invented lying and is the champion liar. Deception is his specialty, always in the background affecting people and programs and happenings. He is fraudulent, crafty, merciless. And he hates you. I said, he hates you. If he’s got you when you die, he’s got you for eternity. He has blinded you from the reality of Christ’s atonement for your sins, from the many promises from God to you if only you would believe.

So if Jesus is such a great teacher, doesn’t it make sense to hear what He has to say? So listen up and get educated. Jesus said, “Unless a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Jesus said, “This is the condemnation , that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For every one that does evil hates the light.” Jesus said, “The gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it.” Jesus said, “The gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.” Jesus said, “God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son , that whosoever believes in Him , shall not perish but have eternal life." Jesus said, “Do not fear those who can kill the

body, but are unable to kill the soul, but fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

The words of Jesus bring life. They bring joy and peace and prosperity and healing and purpose and joy and goodness. Only His words will bring good to your life, affect you positively, steer you right.

Jesus spoke truth. Jesus spoke from true perspective, God's perspective. The Bible says, "The wisdom of the world is foolishness with God." And, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom." You cannot get a sound education in the things that matter if you ignore the Bible. There is no wisdom outside of a relationship with God.

What determines if a person is wise or foolish? Jesus gave a simple lesson. He taught that a wise man is one who hears His words and builds his/her life on His words. The fool is the one who hears His words and does not build his/her life on His words. For example, you have just heard some of Christ's teaching. Jesus would call you wise if you responded to, accepted, and built on what you have just heard. But if you reject His words, if you continue to build your life on the words of others, Jesus would call you a..... yep, you got it.

Before closing I would like to point out a few more differences between Jesus the Teacher and any other teacher you have had. First, Jesus was innocent. No other person could say that about themselves. It was an innocent person nailed to a cross on your behalf. Secondly, Jesus loves you unconditionally. I am not saying Jesus only tolerates you, but He loves you. Tell me, what teacher would love you if he knew you rejected him and his teachings? Or if you told him all the rotten things you did and thought all your life? How many teachers do you think would be at your funeral if you died, say, five years from now?

But Jesus loves you unconditionally. That kind of love is called agape love. He never forgets you. He has always been there waiting for a response.

When Mary fled from her father she ran to a man of God and by the power of God became a restored person. Next came her sisters one by one and then her dad. All saved from their sin and prisons by the love and power of God. God did what no psychiatrist could. And what He did for them, what He did for me, He will do for you.

Truth: Almost two thousand years ago someone, a very special someone, freely suffered a shameful death in payment for your sins.

Truth: You have a despotic enemy who has blinded you to that reality.

Truth: Most people in the world will enter eternity deceived by this enemy of their soul, including the people you walk with, admire, study, listen to.

Truth: If you reject the words of Christ you will go to that horrible place you don't want to go. Every moment for all eternity you will wish you were never born.

Truth: Jesus loves you. The Father loves you. You are their creation. They long to have fellowship

with you.

Truth: You can, right now, receive this great gift of life. Simply pray this prayer with all the sincerity you can muster.

JESUS, I CONFESS I AM A SINNER. I HAVE DONE MANY SINFUL THINGS. I HAVE BEEN FOOLISH. BUT NOW I TURN TO YOU. PLEASE WASH AWAY MY MANY SINS WITH YOUR BLOOD THAT WAS SHED FOR ME ON THE CROSS. I SURRENDER MY LIFE TO YOU. I AM FROM THIS MOMENT YOUR PROPERTY. I ENTRUST MY LIFE TO YOUR KEEPING. I BOW TO YOUR LORDSHIP. I WILL LEARN YOUR WAYS AND WALK YOUR PATH.

And now tell someone of your decision for Christ. I said, tell someone, anyone.

Thanks for listening.

"Knowledge knows,
wisdom does"

"and whoever
you hang with"

"She was 54"

"I said, you were placed"

"If Jesus was so wise why aren't the biggies talking about Him?"
"Wouldn't the same be true of you?"

" dummy is after your eternal life"

"If you reject the words of Christ you will go to that horrible place you don't want to go"

WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

Children are at the mercy of adults. Adults lead, children follow. Children become what adults are. Their schooling begins early, in the crib. In a world dripping with the occult the child has little hope of staying clean. When just an infant he hears if he were to just "wish upon a star, makes no difference who you are…your dreams come true." The bombardment of the occult upon their lives starts early, is very intense and unceasing.

The children's library is loaded with the occult, from the section for toddlers to the teen section. Children learn early that Wish Wind is obligated to fulfill every child's wish, Cinderella merely has to appeal to a friendly hazel tree to get a silver dress, and witches are friendly ladies who get their kicks out of making people happy. Well, at least some are friendly.

Children find out from Hanzel and Gretel that witches are not always pleasant, plump ladies but some actually like to kill children, cook them up and eat them for supper. This type of witch, children are taught, has red eyes, is shortsighted and has the clever ability to track down humans with their keen sense of smell. One wicked witch put a spell on a prince and, would you believe it?, the prince became a frog. Fortunately a nice princess took the frog to bed with her three consecutive nights, the spell thus broken, and froggy prince became a boy prince once more.

Children learn if they are generous they might be rewarded with a golden goose by a really tricky old man. Snow Maiden will live happily ever after, with the farmer she was given permission to marry by Frost and Wind, if she could just learn to stay out of the sun. Education in the occult has no interludes; there is plenty for every age. In the young adult section there is The Spell of the Sorcerer's Skull, The Curse of the Demon, Glinda of Oz, The Seven Go Haunting, and oodles more.

Toys are not like they used to be. dummy has infiltrated the toy world for the purpose of gaining access into children's lives. To think children are unaffected by these toys is a mistake. It is most harmful for a child to be educated in the occult, whether this education comes through cartoons, toys or whatever.

Perhaps it is their innocence that dummy hates, getting a special thrill in destroying the defenseless. Whatever his incentive, dummy is determined to wreck the lives of children. How demented is he? Search today's newspaper and you will probably read at least one account of child-molesting. I am of the opinion that behind every assault on a child there is a demented demon at work, perhaps dozens. Not to say the molester is not guilty, but simply that there is at least one invisible evil entity influencing, pushing, tempting, whispering, demanding, lying, provoking – until a person commits an act against an innocent child, a sin that will later fill him to overflowing with remorse.

It should be obvious the entire kingdom of darkness is behind the pro-choice movement. The pro-life vs pro-choice debate seems to hinge on whether the life in the womb is a non-human fetus or a human baby. If it is merely a fetus, then Canada is a nation that kills fetuses. But..... IF IT IS A BABY, Canada is therefore a nation that kills babies!! Said slightly different, IF IT IS A BABY, Canadians are therefore baby-killers!!!

Jesus loves children. Anyone deliberately harming a child will one day meet Jesus face to face to give an account. It will not be pleasant. Unlike you and I, a child is innocent. It is a terrible sin to murder a baby for convenience, or lead a child onto the path of wickedness by introducing him to the occult.

Jesus said, “Woe to the man who does the tempting. If he were thrown into the sea with a huge rock tied to his neck, he would be far better off than facing the punishment in store for those who harm these little children's souls. I am warning you!”

I have warned you, dear reader, that you have an enemy intent on your destruction. And now I warn you the spiritual underworld is also after the children – the preborn, the infant, the toddler, the youngster, the teen.

Parents want the best for their child. But what a child really wants and needs is Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me.” Yet most parents are the children’s greatest obstacles. By example they are keeping their precious children from coming to Christ – for salvation, for happiness, for security. When a parent rejects Christ, that parent could also be choosing a Christless life for his/her children.

Children need Jesus. He is their only answer. It is easy to lead a child to Christ where he will find safety and peace. Parents should certainly consider Christ, for themselves and for their children.

WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

Phillips (Terror In the Toybox): A great number of toys on the market today, especially the more popular ones are based on.....witchcraft, idolatry, emulations and murders.

Phillips: Let us consider Black Star. Every figure in the Black Star series comes with its own glow-in-the-dark alien demon…Some of the action figures in the series are Overlord the invincible wizard, and Karday, the wizard king. Like the other Black Star figures Overlord and Karday come with a glow-in-the-dark alien demon.

Phillips: The Saga of the Crystal Warrior action figures include so much of the occult it becomes almost redundant.

Phillips: He-man and Masters of the Universe…The entire series is based on occult practices: magic, sorcery, witchcraft, necromancy, etc. The show also blasphemes God by placing a mortal on the same plane as He.

Phillips: Most of the transformer based cartoons are extremely violent. Others, such as Voltron, have heavy inferences to the occult. While still others, such as Roboteci, are filled with sexual innuendos…There are many cartoons that are filled with violence and the occult. Among these are The Thirteen Ghosts of Scooby Doo, Speed Racer, Tarzan, Spider Man and G.I. Joe.

Brown (He came To Set the Captives Free): Halloween has, since its inception by the Druids in England been a special holiday for human sacrifices to Satan. It continues the same in our day. The sudden epidemic of harmful substances and objects being placed in the various Halloween treats for “trick-or-treaters” is no accident. It was a carefully planned effort by Satanists. The children injured and killed by these treats are sacrifices to Satan.

ANGELS: THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE

Angels. The un-fallen angels, God’s creatures who did not join satan’s rebellion, who were not cast out of heaven, who have remained in their pure estate.

Paul (Hebrews 13:2): Be not neglectful to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Editor: In light of the above Scripture verse, it should not surprise anyone that people do occasionally see angels. I personally know four people who have seen angels (and I am sure there are others), angels that look like angels, and also others who felt certain they “entertained angels”

who appeared as men.

Baker (Visions Beyond the Veil): The angels were dressed in seamless garments of white; their faces were perfect, one was not more beautiful than another. “When they smiled – Oh, I can’t describe that,” the boy said later, “there is no way on earth to describe an angel’s smile.”

Brown (He came To Set the Captives Free): Suddenly I felt a “presence” on the couch next to me although no sound had been made. I jumped and looked up. There on the couch next to me sat the tallest and most powerfully built young titan I had ever seen. I knew immediately that this man was not a human. He had shining golden hair, deep blue eyes and the most beautiful smile I have ever seen. He was clean shaven and deep creases slashed his cheeks as he smiled at me. He was dressed in shining white with a golden belt and a huge sword at his side. His tunic-like top was trimmed with gold braid which I had no doubt was made of pure gold. He also wore loose fitting white pants and golden sandals. His skin was bronzed as with a beautiful deep suntan. Light radiated from him with a power I had never experienced.

Jesus (Matthew 26:53): Don’t you realize that I could ask my Father for thousands of angels to protect us, and he would send then instantly.

Baker (Visions….): Inside the gates! Angels, angels everywhere. Angels talking, angels singing, angels rejoicing, angels playing harps and blowing trumpets, angels dancing and praising the King.

Paul (Hebrews 12:22): Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless multitudes of angels.

Luke (Luke 2:13): Then suddenly there appeared with the angel an army of the troops of heaven (a heavenly knighthood).

Luke (Acts 5:17-20): The high priest rose up, along with all his associates (that is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with jealousy; and they laid hands on the apostles, and put them in a public jail. But an angel of the Lord during the night opened the gates of the prison, and taking them out he said, “Go your way, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message of this Life.”

David (Psalm 91:11,12): For He will give His angels, charge over you to accompany and defend and preserve you in all your ways . They shall bear you up on their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Crocker (a friend): Cheryl was almost five when she woke up in the dead of night with an ear infection. I staggered out of a dead sleep and threw myself down at the foot of her bed, placed my hand on her forehead and began to pray. Suddenly, unexpectedly, I could see into the spiritual realm. I saw angels. There was intense activity. They were moving about in urgency, responding to orders that I heard given to them from the Lord. Of course I was captivated by all this. The only words I remembered, it was like a declaration, were from Psalm 33, “For he spoke and it was done;

he commanded and it stood fast." Cheryl was instantly healed and from that day I never doubted the reality of angels.

Brown (He Came To Set....): The angel sat back, crossing his legs into a more relaxed position. "Well, Jesus is so beautiful! One flash of His smile lights up the whole universe with warmth and love. Jesus works so intensely and tirelessly for His church. No detail of the care of each one of His people is too small for His undivided attention. He is constantly at work both caring for and bringing others into His church. His glory extends out and out, through the whole universe and beyond. It never ends."

Brown: One of the angels looked directly into my eyes and said to me in the most loving voice I had ever heard, "Won't you please accept Jesus as your Lord? If you pursue the course you are taking you will be destroyed. Satan really hates you, but Jesus loves you so much that He died for you. Please consider turning your life over to Jesus."

Baker (Visions Beyond the Veil): I well remember how one of our boys was given a vision of what happens at the death of a Christian. As relatives and friends gathered about the dying one, an angel stood by the bed awaiting the liberating of the Christian's soul. When the man was set free from his bodily encumbrance, the angel took him by the arm and ascended with him into heaven. The principalities and powers of evil hosts in mid-heaven in their attempts to hinder the passage of the angel and his charge were overcome by the angel's faith and praise as the ascent continued toward the heavenly city. Having been welcomed at the gate, this new arrival was received by hosts of angels, singing, dancing, rejoicing all uniting in giving him a royal welcome into the eternal city of the redeemed.

Baker: Inside the city, the children knew the meaning of the Scripture which says, "Ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels" (Heb. 12:22). Not only about the gates of the city were these happy angels, but also throughout the city everywhere were these heavenly hosts. Angels were always ready to escort the children from place to place throughout the city, angels walked with them and talked with them; angels explained to them the meaning of things they did not understand.

Baker: Angels, also, had a large part in the work of the first Church. The early disciples were often protected and directed in their work by the angels. In this way they were delivered from the imminent dangers of earthly powers. An angel spoke to Philip, directing him to Gaza (Acts 8:26). An angel stood by Paul and talked to him, encouraging and directing him (Acts 27:23-24). Cornelius, his household, and his friends were led into the way of salvation and into the Baptism of the Holy Spirit through the words of an angel who came to him. This angel appearing in bright apparel, talked with him, directed him to send for Peter, and then departed (Acts 10:1-3). When Peter was in prison an angel rescued him. This angel loosened the chains from Peter's hands, told him to get dressed and put on his shoes, opened the prison door and the city gate that was locked, and led Peter into the street (Acts 12:7-8).

Editor: Angels work hard to bring you God's salvation. God gives the orders and angels respond accordingly. These angels work in cooperation with Christians, helping Christians carry out their mandate to bring you to Christ. Angels oppose the works of the world of darkness; there are two major armies in continuous battle in which you are the coveted prize. Prize. It is a good word to describe just how valuable and coveted you are, by both Jesus and the dummy. If you really understood your choices you would quickly turn to Christ to be delivered from satan's rulership over your life. Angels work, in cooperation with Christians and under God's guidance, to that end.

Crocker: Years ago there was a fellow worker on a construction sight who I could never talk to about Jesus. The job was coming to an end for me and it was the last day and the last opportunity to share Christ with him. It came to me to ask the Lord to send the angels onto the scene and open this fellow up. Maybe ten or fifteen minutes passed and we were both engrossed in conversation in which I was free to express what Christ meant to me.

Luke (Luke 15:7): There is joy in the presence of the angels of God when one sinner repents.

Angels and demons are opposites – in looks, in character, in objective. They live in different camps and are opposed to each other. Though angels have probably come to your aid at different intervals of your life, they are not a part of the kingdom to which you belong. The fact is that you are in the enemy's camp. It is the angel's purpose, and enormous desire, to rescue you from the kingdom of darkness.

Heaven is as real as the Bible is true. Heaven is where angels live and serve God. Heaven is where Jesus lives, seated on a throne, ruling His kingdom. Heaven is where believers live, those who have put their trust in Christ, those who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb (Jesus is the Lamb), those who have escaped the kingdom of darkness. And heaven is where you can live. If your name is found in the Book of Life when you die heaven will be your eternal home. If it is not you will forever share the company of the depraved and perverted. "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

So what will you do?

What do you choose?

What will you do with Christ?

"I personally know four people who have seen angels"

"Angels, angels everywhere."

"Won't you please accept Jesus as your Lord?"

JULIE'S ANGEL BY GARRY LEFEBVRE

In the spring of 1984 our family came very close to a real disaster. Sandy was awakened at 5:00 am with the sound of Jesse crying.

"Quick, get up!" she shouted. "Something's burning!"

Brad had taken the shade off of his reading lamp to see better and had fallen asleep. The bulb had somehow burned a hole through his jean jacket, through the bedspread, the sheets and four inches into the mattress. I picked up the smoldering mattress and ran it outside.

All the children seemed unaffected by the whole thing except for Julie who was about eleven at the time. She kept repeating, "What if we hadn't woke up? We would have died!" She had been really shaken.

Later that summer God removed that fear permanently. One day I was walking back to the house with some kids when all of a sudden Julie let out a gasp.

"Dad! Look!" Her eyes were popping out of her head.

"What? What is it?"

“There! There on the porch! Daddy, can’t you see him?”

“Who? What?” I shouted as I moved left and right, straining to see what she was staring at.

“Can’t you see him?”

“Who?”

“The angel on the porch.”

“No, I don’t see anyone. What does he look like?” I had never seen an angel in real life.

“He’s about two feet above the roof,” she said. “He’s wearing a white robe that falls to his ankles, and his feet are bare. And his arms are folded across his chest..... like he’s a guard or something.”
“He is,” I declared. “He’s guarding our house.”

“His hair is blonde and comes down to his shoulders,” she added excitedly. “Dad, how come his hair isn’t moving?”

It was then that I realized that God had opened her eyes to see into the spirit realm. “Honey, if his hair were moving in the wind we would all be able to see him. You are looking into the realm of the spirit where the angels live.”

From that day Julie was never again afraid of fire.

THE VALLEY OF DECISION BY RICHARD CROCKER

“Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision. For the day of the Lord is near. (Joel 3:14).”

Today multitudes are not knowing, not discerning that their eternal fate hangs in the balance.

Eternal judgment and punishment. These matters you should be aware of. Eternal destinies. Eternal separation from Christ if you reject Him. In this world so many pressures, so many things to preoccupy, things and more things – to buy, fix, store. Chasing rainbows. Pleasures. Drinking, smoking, eating. Stressed out.

Emptiness. Empty relationships. Phony put-ons and masks. But in the quietness you hate to face up to the inner void. You tried so hard to satisfy this void. The lights, the glitter, the noise – their end is bitterness.

Jesus created you. You were made for Him. For a special relationship with Him. He came to live by His Spirit in your heart. He lives to satisfy you. All old things pass away and all things become new when you accept Jesus.

For some it is a sordid past, so mixed up, messed up, hopeless and joyless. Yet Jesus is The Door

through which, when you enter, the old is left behind and the new begins. Hopelessness gives way to hope. Humpty Dumpty's life was broken and couldn't be put back together again. But not so with your life. Amazingly, Jesus can make you new. Not just repaired, but new. He renews the broken crushed spirit.

A Door stands between you and a glorious new beginning. On one side death; on the other is life. On one side guilt and shame; on the other forgiveness and release. On one side hurts, grudges and anger, so many things going wrong; on the other side Jesus and His host of angels at your service. On one side darkness, the eyes of your understanding darkened through unbelief; on the other glorious light.

God said, "Let there be light…And He called the light day (Genesis 1:3,5)." He still speaks light to darkened hearts. God's provision is for all and has paid for all. In Christ's name be saved! Be redeemed! Accept the provision which God provided for you. Why would you choose death? Because of stubbornness? Too preoccupied? Unbelief?

I must remind you that "there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12)." You must be born again. Jesus is The Door out of the old life into the new. Your destiny is determined by yourself and none other, upon whether you accept or reject Jesus. Where will you spend your eternity? Will yours be an eternity of remorse with satan and his demons? Or an eternity of joy with Jesus in a place beyond your wildest hopes?

Eternity is forever. It is real. Heaven is forever. It is real. Judgment is coming. And it is real. A time and place is set for every man, woman and child to give an account before God. The Supreme Court of our land is not the highest court. The injustices of life will be dealt with.

Death is the shepherd of all mankind. Harvest time is passing. Are you saved? Strange how life's most relevant issue is ignored, pushed aside. Your eternal destiny is very personal and it should be. But I must provoke you to face it in a quiet hour. Ask God yourself, in the name of Jesus, to reveal Himself to you. After all, it was Jesus who said that He came "to seek and to save those that are lost." And Jesus declared that if anyone would call upon His name He would never reject him. If you called upon Him, if you asked Him to reveal Himself to you, you would know whether the things that Jesus said were truth. Prove Jesus.

He stands knocking at your heart's door. He did everything for you. All He went through was for you. Religion, no! Religion is stuffy, misleading, hard, full of rules, form without substance. But Jesus is life. Jesus said, "The words I speak to you, they are spirit, and they are life."

The battle to choose or reject Christ is really the battle between the flesh and the spirit. The spirit, that's what God came to make alive in you. It is that part of you that cries after God. That void that hungers to be filled. Choose life! Choose Christ!...and see for yourself.

God is for you; satan is against you. One liberates and sets free; the other blinds and binds. There

really is a heaven to gain and a hell to shun.

Jesus specializes in taking broken ones, hurting ones, and turning them into trophies of His grace. Will you be one of those trophies?

A PRAYER FOR YOU

Father, I thank You for the great salvation you have given to us through Your precious son, Jesus. Father, I am truly grateful, more than words can express. To think that You gave to us Your most valued possession, that which was so near and dear to Your heart.

But Father I look back at those still not saved, those walking in ignorance and confusion. Ignorant of the enemy out to destroy them. Ignorant of the reality of Jesus. Ignorant of their need for Him. Confused by many voices that point away from Christ. Confused by the many religions claiming special favor with You. Confused by the one who hates them and works tirelessly to destroy them. I take to heart the words of James 4:6, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Lord, I consciously humble myself in Your sight at this very moment. I profess my righteousness is in Christ and in Christ alone. Without the shed blood of the Lamb of God I am as dung. I recognize my best works, works done outside of my dependency on You, are but filthy rags in Your sight.

Father, I pray specifically for every person reading this edition of The Main Issue. Lord I realize the seriousness of the moment. I cry out to You, in the name of Jesus, asking that You help them in their struggle in their valley of decision. Father, I pray for mercy and I rejoice in the knowledge that Your "mercy endureth forever."

I remind myself of the words of Jesus (Luke 10:19), "I have given you authority and power..... over all the power that the enemy ; and nothing shall in no way harm you." So, Father, I do exercise that authority now:

satan I confront you, I speak to you, IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, the one, true God, the eternal One, the One who brought defeat to you at Calvary's cross, the One who will soon have you cast into the lake of fire. I recognize you are indeed, as Scripture validates, "the god of this world." But I remind you that I am not of this world. I have been purchased by the blood of the Lamb. I am the redeemed, a citizen of the kingdom of God. And I hereby exercise the authority over you given us by Jesus Christ.

I bind your abilities and power over the reader of this paper. Yes, you have blinded him/her with your powers of deception. But I bind that power right now IN THE NAME OF JESUS. Right now, as The Main Issue is on their monitor. Now, as they read this report of your evil intent to destroy them. IN THE NAME OF JESUS I set these readers free from every demonic influence, every entity from the kingdom of darkness, every lie, every fear – free to hear and understand and absorb the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Father, I ask the angels would go to and assist the readers of this paper. I pray the mighty, mighty power of the Holy Spirit would be applied to each life and instill in each a hunger for truth and righteousness and freedom. May they understand their choices. May, they repent of their sins and be deeply converted to Christ.

Father, I give You thanks. I rest assured in the promise of Christ: “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you.”

With much love and gratitude,

Larry Jones

"Without the shed blood of the Lamb of God I am as dung"
"the One who brought deafeat to you at Calvary's cross"