

The Lost Key

by Arthur W. Burt



Dedicated to those who have missed the bus,
but who got there just the same,
because someone gave them a lift.

*“God does much with little, most with least and everything
with nothing!”*

Preface

What claim can this little book make as it makes one more to the millions of books that vie like raucous street vendors for the eye and ear of a fleeting fickle public?

To Life there are many keys—
BUT ONLY ONE MASTER KEY!

What is it?

Where is it?

This unpretentious little book claims to declare it!

Chapter One

“I CAN’T find the key!

“You what?”

“I CAN’T FIND THE KEY!!”

“Well, where did you put it?”

“Oh don’t be silly — if I knew where I put it, I wouldn’t be looking for it, now, would I?”

How many times in life can this conversation be overheard! Fumbling fingers in the pale moonlight! Shivering figures on the front door step! Tired travelers by the kerbside, a cozy car, so near, so far, as it defies all efforts to enter! What is this scarlet pimpernel of an object — we seek it here, we seek it there — we seek it everywhere. Why is it so important? What does it do?

THE KEY!

Locks the door, starts the engine — allows me to enter my own home — prevents the stranger access to private territory — turns a door into a barrier — imprisons a man for a life sentence or with one flick of a finger allows me to leave rain, cold, storm and dark for warmth, comfort, light and friendship! So small — so vital! A hundred miles from my destination — here a machine that can eat up the miles but no key to enter or start its engine, making it almost impossible to get there!

Gibraltar the *KEY* to the Mediterranean — the code, *THE KEY* to decipher the meaningless message — the *key* man, the *key* word, the *key* job!

Has God got a key?

If so, what is it?

How many people are in prison — no key to the solution that would set them free! The inward prison and the inward chains are a thousand times worse than Wormwood Scrubs — black despair produces a more hopeless hopelessness than ever the bare-backed galley slaves experienced chained in rows by ankles and wrists, their cruel task masters lashing their bleeding backs as their oars dipped in perfect unison to cut swiftly through the gleaming waters! No blacksmith can forge, no key cutter produce, a key to open the dungeon of utter numbness that is the experience of millions in deadly vicious habits and fear! Pile up all your Blackpool Illuminations — and its breezes, all the best of psychiatry, the chemist's shop, the bingo hall, knees up Mother Brown at the Saturday night local, pep talks and pep pills — all this and much more will never meet man's deepest need and set him free! Is there a key?

While many will be quick to supply an answer such as Religion, a thousand voices challenge the reality of many religious people as they cry "We cannot hear what you say for the noise of what you are!" Next in the angling queue on life's pier is the Christian who, seeking to obey the word of Jesus, "Follow Me I will make you Fishers of Men," produces not a hook but a net — he declares Religion is not the Key but Christ is the answer! Going into a church no more makes a man a Christian than going into a garage would make him a motor car — "Ye *MUST* be born again."

He certainly is right but your wily worldly wise man does not swim into the net — he never reads his Bible but he does read his Christian and so politely, or impolitely, declines the offers

of his benefactor! Why? Does the answer lie in the sarcastic slur — “See how these Christians love one another?” Do our divisions and lack of love and unity preach more eloquently than all our preachers? After all BEING is more important than saying! — Although WHAT you say finds its authority out of WHAT you are! THE LORD BLESS ME AND MY WIFE, OUR JOHN AND HIS WIFE, US FOUR AND NO MORE, AMEN. Certainly one could well say that Love is a “lost” key if it is not THE lost key!

*Said Christ the Lord
I will go and see
How the men my brethren believe in Me!
Great organs surged through arches dim
Their jubilant floods in praise of Him
And in Church and Palace and judgment Hall
He saw His Image high over all
But still wherever His steps they led
The Son of God bent down His Head!
Then Christ sought out an artisan
A low browed stunted haggard man
And a motherless girl with fingers thin
Who pushed from her faintly want and sin
These set He in the midst of them
And as they drew back their garments hem
For fear of defilement. Lo these said He
Are the images ye have made of Me!*

What is the key to the situation? Where is the key? Or to end this chapter as we started it — “I can’t find the key!!”

“Well, where did you put it?”

“Oh don’t be silly — if I knew where I put it I wouldn’t be looking for it — in fact — *I AM NOT SURE I’VE EVER HAD IT!*”

Chapter Two

Robbie Burns said: — “Oh wad to God the gift wad gie us,
Tae see oorselves as ithers see us!”

This I believe was occasioned by a large and lofty lady majestically proceeding down the church aisle like a liner coming up river whilst from the behind view, a spider industriously was going up and down like a yo-yo from the back of her hat as it made its web! Oh would to God the gift would give us to see ourselves as HE SEES US! OR COULD WE BEAR IT? What a man believes rules him! He does not rule what he believes! This is important! When I believe I bow! What am I bowing to? Superstition? Fashion? Tradition? Custom? Lies? Or Truth? Never before was the man in the street subject to such an onslaught of canvassing, plotting and scheming to woo him as now, from newspaper column and shop window, from T.V. screen and hoarding the avalanche descends. The unsuspecting public slowly but inscrutably are being shaped to BELIEVE what the commercial juggernaut decrees! Our children repeat advertising jargon like they once repeated nursery rhymes! Their parents believe that the joy of living is in a tin of beans! Someone has said that six masterminds influence 18 million women through the columns of Women’s Weeklies as to what their vital statistics must be — what they eat — what they wear — what they must not eat — whether skirts are high or low or hair is long or short.

In other words we believe and therefore we bow! It matters what people think of me! I must keep up with the Jones’s! “All we like sheep,” says Is. 53, “HAVE GONE ASTRAY!” Hypnotized by Public Opinion I believe what everybody else believes!

The dying soldier on the battlefield was asked by the padre what he believed. "I believe what the Church believes" — he gasped. "Which Church?" "What does your Church believe?"

"The Church believes what I believe!"

"Well, what do you both believe?"

"We both believe alike!" — was the reply!

So many Christians' lives are like the packets of seeds sold at the nurseryman's. The picture on the packet is marvelous! The end product in my garden??? Negativism and unbelief are no fertilizers for the seed of God's Word! We are all familiar with the pot egg placed in the nest to encourage the hens to lay. The story goes — one man put an ostrich's egg in the laying place with the words "There you are girls — that's just to show what IS being done!" According to God's word which is the divine blue print of the Christian Life — it is oh so wonderful — the end product? Why? At this moment the villain of our story emerges and with great gusto many unbelieving believers will magnify the power of the devil. They will tell you that it is all the devil's fault and many who want to escape responsibility find a convenient scape goat by putting everything on the broad back of the devil! As the newly arrived Irish laborer said on the building site "Pwhats the government here? Sure bedad phwat ivver it is O'm again it!"

While some blame the government for everything many Christians blame the devil for everything! Is this the key? Jesus did say "Lo Satan hath bound this woman these 18 years." Resist the devil ... your adversary ... going about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour! ... the wiles of the devil (1 Pet. 5). We wrestle not (Ephes. 6) ... But against principalities ... powers ... the rulers of the darkness of this world, etc., etc. Are we the helpless pawns of a raging, mighty despot who has sent our God reeling back? Is this the ninth round in

a ten round contest in which our God, bruised and bleeding is despairingly looking to us, His seconds, to revive Him and thus avert a last minute knockout? Is this the picture? Well, you answer it, IS it? Is this the conception you have of God?

The attitude of many christians is one of blank negativism — they have a great big devil and a little savior! Fear rules their lives — they see devils on the mantelpiece — demons on the bedposts — in spite of God’s word. Psalm 91:5 which declares “Thou shalt NOT be afraid!” in spite of His word. 2 Tim. 1:7, “God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of POWER and of LOVE and of a sound mind!” — they encourage by negative thinking a God dishonoring fear as if they caught demons, like dirty people catch fleas, hopping from one to the other — no positive faith whatsoever! As someone has said, “There is not one negative note in the New Testament after Jesus rose from the dead” — Hallelujah! If God be for us who can be against us? THINE is the kingdom THINE is the power and THINE is the glory! God is not running around His universe like a scalded cat calling for volunteers to help Him defeat the devil! The devil is NOT going to be defeated — he is defeated! What else does calvary mean? Spoiled is in the past tense (Col. 2:15) regarding principalities and powers, Hath put (Ephes. 1:22) leaves nothing to doubt about the “all things under the feet of Jesus”. When God PUTS He is the greatest putter in the Universe and when He PUTS things stay PUT!!

We are not going to win! We have won! When Jesus died His last words were not TO BE CONTINUED! They were IT IS FINISHED!! He said what He meant. He meant what He said! Right believing produces right living even as wrong believing produces wrong living! Be ye transformed by the re-NEW-ing of your MIND! Roms. 12:2. So what? Where do we go from here?

ONE: The devil is defeated NOW!!

TWO: We have won! Roms. 8:2. The Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus not will make me free but HATH made me free!

If your experience does not tally with God's Word scrap it and find a new one! Satan is a creature and not a creator! You say "If God has all power why doesn't God kill the devil?" Surely a reasonable enough question! If God knows the end from the beginning why did He ever make the devil?

ONE God does not make devils; neither did God make the Devil a devil.

TWO The divine plan is to make responsible creatures of choice (they have the power to choose). You can't choose with less than two! You can't choose the way of Life unless there is a way of death, the narrow way, unless a broad way, God unless there is a devil!

THREE God made a responsible creature of choice who BECAME the devil! This is important! I must not charge the ALL WISE with folly! Satan, heaven's prime minister from many scriptures (Ezek. 28:13-19 etc.) it would seem plotted treason, took glory, exalted himself and was cast out of heaven as lightning. God knows the end from the beginning and declares it (Is. 46:10). He knew what the devil would be! He permitted him! A strong man destroys his enemies! A wise man uses his enemies! God is STRONG and WISE!

So then: The Devil is not the key to the situation! He is a secondary cause and not a primary cause! (Job 1) Satan said to God, "Hast not THOU made a hedge about Job!" "Put forth THINE hand!" God said to Satan, "Behold all that he hath is in thy power!" (So it obviously was not — until Satan got his permit from headquarters.) Notice too it was a limited permit — only "upon himself put not forth thine hand!" Jesus declared: (Matt. 28:18) ALL power is given unto ME in heaven and in earth! IS THIS TRUE? If it is — How much

power has the devil got? (John 8:44-6) Satan abode not in the truth. Jesus said, I am the truth, abide in Me (Jn. 15:4) I believe the man who abides in Jesus is devil proof!

Therefore: the power of the devil is a permitted power to deceive, (those who choose to be deceived, by making God a liar!) nothing else, nothing more, he is essential to the divine purpose of choice! The will of God is that man should choose but NOT to eliminate responsibility of choice from man and therefore robot-like make him choose God! God said to Pharaoh (Ex. 9:16): For this cause have I raised thee up to show IN THEE My power (not just around thee) THAT MY NAME MAY BE DECLARED THROUGHOUT ALL THE EARTH. This power of choice was originally given to man — not to cabbages and turnips, rats and rabbits or even mountains, oceans, sun, moon and stars! God decrees — An oak tree shall grow there! It has not the power to say “No I won’t, I’ll be a stick of rhubarb!” Only to mankind is it recorded (John 1:12) As many as received Him to them gave He the power to become the SONS OF GOD! The power to change from one to the other! As Jesus said of Pilate so may we say of Satan (Jn. 19:11), “Thou could’st have no power at all against me except it were given thee from above!” So the finality of the matter brings me to God and God alone! I must go past the commissionaire and caretaker, office boys and typists, clerks and secretaries, bumptious foremen and frowning managers — I want an interview with the head, the director, the boss, no one else — no one less!

Chapter Three

Another situation that arises, in life is when a man THINKS he has the key but hasn't — maybe it's the wrong key! Many declare that the key to power with God is prayer and fasting and will of course quote the words of Jesus "This kind cometh not forth but by prayer and fasting". Whilst obviously we dare not say that they are wrong we do say that many of them are not right! The greater includes the lesser and this may well be on the way to finding the key that will break the vicious circle that so many are in — the seeming impenetrable wall that many are running their heads up against — their only consolation being like the man in the asylum, who when asked why he kept running his head at the wall said, "IT'S SO LOVELY WHEN YOU STOP DOING IT!"

May I put this question to any who are fasting and praying — WHY are you doing it? What is the motive that impels you to fast or pray? WHAT I do in God's sight is not so important as WHY I am doing it! To do the right thing without faith is like owning a car and having no petrol — IT WON'T GO!! Without faith it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God! Better to have a scooter with petrol in the tank than a Rolls Royce revelation without faith! Of what use is the Rolls Royce — untaxed — no license — rusting in the garage? But make no mistake about this — MUCH better to have a Rolls Royce AND petrol! A man can fast and then write a book on it — "How I fasted for forty days" and his motive COULD be, to let people see how wonderful he is!

He would do well to fast from living to people — Jesus said, "How can ye believe who receive honor one of another and

SEEK NOT the honor that comes from God alone! Again, “Wash your face and TELL NO MAN” (see also Is. 58) Only prayer that is born of the Spirit and led of the Spirit is acceptable to God! James says, “Ye ask amiss that ye might consume it upon your lusts!” (James 4:3) As the Savior slept the disciples prayed, “Master save us we Perish”, in the midst of the storm on Galilee! If they had had real faith they would not have prayed — they would have rested. As the hymn writer says: NO WATERS SWALLOW THE SHIP WHERE LIES THE MASTER OF OCEAN AND EARTH AND SKIES! This is not a criticism it is a statement of fact; maybe if we had been there we would have shouted along with the loudest!

So then WHY I pray and WHY I fast will make or break this issue and send me on my way pursuing my course of searching for the LOST KEY! Why? Where? What? There must be finality somewhere. Most of us are familiar with the type of situation, and maybe have done such things as the young man who is trusting the Lord for healing — takes his spectacles off — jumps on them in the Name of Jesus and then three months later secretly and almost ashamedly sidles into the opticians for a new pair! Again with great gusto and loud Hallelujahs how many have thrown their pipes, tobaccos and cigarettes on the back of the fire and then gone back to the soothing weed afterwards! WHY? Well, answer it, why? Are you prepared to water down the standard and make God a liar because of YOUR experience? Somewhere in the past I have read a story of a young Irish policeman who found a dead horse in, I think it was, Mac Conachie Street and because he couldn't spell it in his notebook he pulled it around the corner into King Street!

How many of us have pulled our dead horses around the corner because we would not have TRUTH. Well, do we want reality or not? Most of us have heard of the ostriches supposed habit of sticking its head in the sand and thinking because it can't see that it can't be seen — I don't know whether this is so, but I do know that MAN does this! Nelson

declared “I see no ships” as he put the telescope to his blind eye. WHAT he said was TRUE but not the TRUTH! HE COULD HAVE SEEN IF HE HAD WANTED TO! So can you! Will you have truth in the inward parts? (Ps. 51) Are you willing for God’s Holy Spirit to x-ray you? To be stripped to be clothed! To be emptied to be filled! He taketh away the first that He might establish the second! Maybe, as I have had to do, you will have to say — Lord I am not willing — but I am WILLING to be made willing. Lord work in me to will and to do of your good pleasure (Philippians 2:13). God declares: “Sin shall NOT have dominion over you” (Roms. 6:14). If God be for us who can be against us? (Roms. 8:31) IN all these things WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS.

This is the divine plan for YOUR life! For MY life! How few christians ever seem to see the fulfillment of the plan of God for their lives!

“When Jesus was come near, He beheld the city, and WEPT OVER IT saying, If thou hadst known, even THOU, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace. . . because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation!” (Luke 19: 42) How many in eternity will look into the book of WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN! with bitter regret. It will be too late then!

At this point I would direct your attention to faith. Faith is A key — is it the key? Well, you say, Jesus said “Only believe!” Again like prayer and fasting faith can be well on the way, and of necessity must be because without it I cannot please God — BUT IS THIS FINALITY? If it is we have now found the key! Go on — do it! Only Believe! And make no mistake about it, this is the word of God: ONLY believe! Just when it would appear that I have attained the goal I am faced with this — there are obstacles to faith! Jesus said: “How can ye believe who receive honor one of another?” The principle that causes me to live to man will hinder the growth of faith like a canker worm will blight a plant! I may be in a position

of wanting to believe and yet cannot! Why? Whilst God will not have the works of the flesh — Faith without works is dead! God expects the works of faith. Your faith is in His word — His Word is a fact and therefore YOU ACT on a FACT! AND IF YOU DON'T ACT YOU DON'T BELIEVE! The Angel of the Lord said to Abraham (Gen. 22:11) when he “took the knife to slay his son” Now I Know!!! So then, whilst Abraham was NOT justified by works (of the flesh, Roms. 4:3) Abraham was justified by works (of faith)! Again faith works by love — you will find it very difficult to believe God after a row with your wife! How can you love and believe God whom you don't see if you don't love your brother who you do see?

Well, was this not your trouble? You did not SEE God in that situation that made you fall out with your God VIA your wife — Joseph said to his brethren — “It was not you it was God!” You only saw your wife!

Remember those words — “When were you sick Lord and we visited you not?” Verily INASMUCH as you did it not . . . you did it not to ME! So faith can be hindered and made not to work by a hidden principle operating in man that makes him fall out with his God and fall out with his brother! What is it? Again we push on through the jungle searching for one thing and only one — the Master Key! Many keys but only one Master Key! How easy to believe because I have keys that I have THE KEY!! The good is the enemy of the best — a key will unlock a door but THE KEY will unlock every door! The Greater includes the lesser, but the lesser does NOT include the Greater!

Psychology is a key — but not THE key. The Bible (the greatest book on psychology does not so much stress the educating of the mind as the RENEWING of the mind — Be ye transformed (changed) by the re-NEW-ing of your mind (Roms. 12:2).

Let this mind be in you — you have let the Savior in? Have you let His Mind in? Read Philippians chapter two!

Chapter Four

Whilst most christians would readily assent that the highest in God is His glory (how often have we heard the prayer, often droned out, “And we shall be careful to give Thee all the glory”, yet they will not concede or allow that the lowest in man is not SIN! Well, what about you ? Do you?

WE ARE NOW COMING TO THE MASTER KEY!’ At this point I very earnestly say to, you — WATCH THE WITNESS! Jesus said of the Holy Spirit: “He will guide you into ALL truth” (Jn. 16:13).

Because the Holy Spirit is holy He NEVER witnesses to a lie! (1 Jn. 5:10) He that believeth on the Son HATH THE WITNESS IN HIMSELF (not on paper). Every man needs a personal revelation of truth and a mental grasp in your head is no substitute for it! DON’T READ ON — don’t cross this line without in utter helplessness confessing your absolute need of the Spirit of God to give you light, life and revelation! Surely, dear reader, you know the difference between a worldly man who knows all ABOUT Jesus and a christian (born again of the Spirit) who KNOWS Jesus. Don’t fall into this trap in thinking you know what the glory of God is — a mental grasp will be no substitute for the revelation of the Spirit!

If you admit that the glory of God is the highest in God are you prepared to make room for this — that SIN is not the lowest in Man? In other words sin has a come-from — that it is not a cause but a consequence! If sin is number one in man righteousness is number one in God! If unbelief is number

one in man then faith is number one in God, but if neither of these are number one then we have an entirely different order — viz. The glory of God or credit due to Him is number one. The faith of God is number two and the righteousness of God is number three. Contrariwise, the sin of man is number three, the unbelief of man is number two and the glory of man, which is his pride, is number one! Genesis (the beginning) bears this out. “Ye shall be as gods” (1) (“glory”) Eve “took” — to do this she had to reject God’s word in unbelief (2) and thus fell into sin — number three. Face this in your own life — you were never in sin but first you were in unbelief and you arrived in unbelief because of the pride or self glory of your heart which caused you to become your own god and reject God as God! ONE, TWO, THREE! Notice that God has grace for sin — number three — but not for unbelief or pride! (Number two and number one) He did not many mighty works because of their unbelief! They could not enter in because of their unbelief!

God resisteth the proud (1 Peter 5:5).

It is vital to know what God WILL do and what He WON’T do! You don’t pray about pride or ask God to forgive you; you humble yourself under the mighty hand (1 Peter 5).

Is. 42:8 I am the Lord! That is my Name and my Glory will I NOT give to another! Is. 48:11. “I will NOT give my glory unto another!” Matt. 6:13 Jesus taught His disciples “Thine is the kingdom, and the power AND THE GLORY forever — Amen! “ Roms. 11:36 For of him and through Him and to Him are all things — to whom be glory (credit) forever — Amen! By glory we mean credit due! God cannot share the glory because OF HIM are all things. He would virtually DENY HIMSELF! This He cannot do! 2 Tim. 2:13. If half the work is God’s half the credit is God’s — if all the work is God’s, all the glory is God’s!

Are you still with me? Thine is the glory! NOT Thine will be the Glory! — it NEVER leaves His hand! Whilst man seeks to rob God of His glory there is a divine thermostatic control that operates as soon as man touches it! Was it not Voltaire the infidel who said, “A hundred years from now the Bible will only be in a museum”.

He defied the Almighty who put breath in his nostrils and expressed his infidelity as long as the long suffering of God gave him a body to do it with! And is it not true that Voltaire’s old house is now the headquarters of the Genevan Bible Society? The irony of God! Just as the copper ball in the lavatory tank rises and controls the inflow of water so God (Of whom are all things) the God of circumstances has everything under His control. His glory never leaves His Hand! Nebuchadnezzar exalted himself (Dan. 4:30). Is not this great Babylon that I have built by the might of MY power? — he touched the glory and was reduced to the state of an animal bereft of reason. The great (?) king dwelt with the beasts of the field, his body was wet with the dew of heaven — he ate grass with the oxen and his hair was like eagles’ feathers — his nails like birds’ claws — a lunatic without an asylum! Stripped! On one principle “Everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased”.

Notice in Acts 12:2 Herod “stretched forth his hand to vex the church and killed James the brother of John”. In verse 21 he made an oration and the people cried and said, “It is the voice of a god and not of a man and IMMEDIATELY the angel of the Lord smote him and he was eaten of worms! Why? Because he slew James? No! Because HE GAVE NOT GOD THE GLORY!!

The Church has never effectively dealt with the sin problem because it has never got down to the root, the cause! Sin is not the cause of sin — pride is! For the consequence there is grace, pardon — the blood of Jesus! For the cause — the onus is on the individual humble yourselves (I Pet. 5:6) All

that God does with the proud is — RESIST (1 Pet. 5:5) he is an abomination to the Lord (Prov. 16:5) and God abases those who walk in pride (Dan. 4:37). While ever men beat the big drum on sin or sins — whatever they may be — The sex problem, lust, vice, drug addiction, hatred, drunken or violent abuse, etc., etc., they are only dealing with effect and not cause!

To illustrate: I may have one pound, two shillings and three pence e.g. £1.2.3d.

Now the NUMERICAL value of the three is greater than the numerical value of the one — three is greater than one; but the STERLING value of the one is greater than the sterling value of the three — I would rather have one pound than three pence! In the same way God has an order that it is vital for me to recognize — £1.1.1 are not the same — there is a different assessment of grading. There is a one, two three with God — a one two three with man. Pride, unbelief and sin are NOT the same — neither is righteousness, faith and Glory! The worst in man is not his sin, the highest in man is not his righteousness — “except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the Pharisees” said Jesus. Remember the story of the righteous Pharisee strutting in the presence of God as he boasted of his fasting and tithing? His righteousness was the filthy rags of SELF righteousness — it was not “of faith” it was not to the glory of God!

The publican without righteousness was accepted — “Me a sinner!” Why? Because he humbled himself! Beneath man’s sin is unbelief — no man ever sinned who was not first in unbelief — no man ever arrived in unbelief but what first he exalted himself in pride and thus chose his own glory instead of God’s — to be a god instead of having a God! Self righteousness is a spurious coin that is not accepted at the counter of heaven’s bank because it did not come from the royal mint!

Anything that puts honor on flesh MUST be wrong — anything that puts honor on God basically MUST be right! What is the government's attitude to a man who says "Me? Oh, yes I am a rich man! Money? Fivers? I've thousands of them — I make my own — here — catch — have a bundle!"

This man is a danger to the structure of our society — he is a forger — his money is counterfeit and he must be put in prison! He that climbeth up SOME OTHER WAY the same is a thief and a robber! (Jn. 10:1) If you are not living to the glory of God — if you are seeking your own glory you are robbing God of His Glory! You are a thief and a robber! Every bank note must have the official water mark on it and the name of the cashier appointed.

"This is He that came by water and blood even Jesus Christ" (1 Jn. 5:6). There is no other name — no other way! I used to feel sorry for the man in the New Testament who was turned out of the marriage feast because he had not got a wedding garment on. I thought "poor man, he perhaps could not afford to buy one!" It seems a bit hard on him — and then someone pointed out to me that in the east the wedding garment is provided by the host consequently there was no greater insult to the host than not to accept his provision. Do you get the point? The word of God declares "With the heart man believeth" Rom. 10:10. So then, the function of man's heart is to believe! The function of my ear is to hear, the function of my eye is to see! This unseen action or function of the heart is either to bow to God or else in pride and defiance to lift up against God.

This goes on all the time in every man like the function of breathing from the lungs or the physical function of the heart in pumping blood as it beats, at each beat expelling four ounces of blood. The heart is a ceaseless organ, day and night, and pumps in a day the equivalent of 200 (two hundred) tons one foot high! Wondrous as the physical accomplishments of the heart might be, how much more the SPIRITUAL effect in

the course of a lifetime — every moment I am either bowing or rising — bowing and glorifying God — or rising and glorifying myself! So then finality is GLORY — either man's or God's. The Lord Jesus declared "THINE IS THE GLORY!" to His Father! I cannot see a sunset, a foggy morning, a roast beef dinner, a sink full of dirty dishes, or a pretty girl without some sort of reaction from within; I may see God in His creation, provision and grace and glorify Him as I bow and give thanks. I may be challenged by a situation that calls upon me to bow to the infinite wisdom that permits what the almighty power could prevent! I come against a situation that I would never choose if I ordered my own life. If I see God I bow — if I don't rise — this is going on every day — nay every moment in every life! This is going on in YOUR life! Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall SEE GOD!

Now then, upon every judgment that I pronounce — every function of my heart wherein I bow or rise God puts His seal or witness either pleasure or displeasure — "Let the Peace of God rule in your heart!" (Col. 3:15). There is purpose in the Peace! It is not just nice feelings to be enjoyed but a direct indication of the mind of God on my judgments — it is an umpire that tells me when I am out — a referee, a thermometer that operates inside me for the Glory of God. By pain or pleasure, God expresses in me an independent witness that tells me when I am out and when I am in — when I am bowing or when I am rising. The four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down (bowed) and worshipped God ... saying Amen and Alleluia (Rev. 19:4). This constitutes the whole of life! If I meet and see God in my circumstances two words suffice — AMEN — ALLELUIA! This is where Jesus lives — "I and My Father are One!" So strangely enough the fall of man is actually the rise — where I refuse to bow! This breaks communion — God resists the proud and EVERYONE that exalts himself shall be abased! Monotony, boredom, frustration, irritation, fear, depression, gloom, anger, envy, worry, hatred, etc., etc., are all very much feelings in me expressing the resistance of God — a sign of His disapproval against

judgments that my heart has “PASSED” on the dealings of God with me! My heart has risen up AGAINST GOD!! In the same way there is a corresponding peace or joy which tells me when I am “IN” with God! So then every moment of my life I know whether I am “IN” or “OUT” with God! Thou wilt keep him in perfect PEACE whose mind is STAYED ON THEE (Is. 26:3).

*What is that which harms thee if thou sayest amen,
Every grave a cradle of fresh bliss again,
Let not understanding look upon each grave,
Faith has better eyesight than all Nature gave.
Amen has within it, power as yet unknown,
Unfound faith is hiding long before its grown,
Amen has much sweetness while things are still sour,
Amen is the father of the gladsome hour.
Who withhold his Amen finds the source of pain,
'Tis a river flowing, pain and pain again,
Amen once repeated finds itself in glee,
Flowing, flowing, flowing through Eternity.
Amen is the finger opening to our sight,
Anthems loud and glorious made for darkest night,
Amen touches heartstrings, long at rest in sleep,
Making chords so wondrous rise from every deep.
...H. Webster*

Small wonder that the Name of Jesus is the AMEN!

Chapter Five

Humble YOURSELVES therefore under the mighty hand of God! (1 Pet. 5:5)

IF you have followed me this far — and have agreed with me, we are now at this point: GOD'S GLORY NEVER LEAVES HIS HAND! Thine IS the Glory!! By Glory we mean credit due! Whilst in actual fact man cannot rob God of His Glory or credit he seeks to do so, and so is answerable for that which he attempts to do — therefore man is guilty of stealing the glory! What is the answer? The remedy? This action in man of taking glory is where his heart functions out of order and instead of bowing, rises in self exaltation; this pride! When a man has a revelation of self glory or pride, instead of seeing it, as a great tailoring firm describes it as “pardonable pride” (Luke 16:15) — he sees it as God sees it! That which is highly esteemed amongst men is an ABOMINATION in the sight of God! My thoughts are NOT your thoughts! Pride is now seen to be the treason of the creature against its Creator — more damnable than any sin more vile than any injury I can do to my brother; is this refusal to bow to God — this rebellion of the heart in its uprising seeking to unseat God from the throne. To become a god instead of having a God! As Satan said to Adam and Eve “Ye shall be as gods! “ Notice this — Pride is always a lie, is the very nature of the devil the father of all lies (Jn. 8) who abode NOT in the truth! As revelation dawns pride emerges as the many headed monster that would wrest God from His throne; no longer to be dismissed as just the whim of a young girl to look her best as she keeps glancing in the mirror — the fleeting vanities of youth expressed in the tilt of a hat or the style of the hair but the challenger of the

very throne of God. The contender on every issue of the right of God to rule His own universe. Compared to the proverbial cat's nine lives pride has nine hundred lives! Pride of race, pride of face, pride of place or — even pride of grace. I need grace for grace (Jn. 1). So subtle that one can see its hideousness and humble on an issue and then finish up by being proud of ones humility! Hardly has the head of this Goliath rolled in the dust ere it is growing again, at the point of the sword that beheaded it! Of all the many angles and faces of pride or man's glory probably spiritual pride is the worst and, what makes it worse for the victim of the disease pride is blind — those who have most, are aware of its ravages least. With polished manners it will Agag-like, walk delicately in the presence of God and at an unsuspected moment bury its bloody dagger in the back of its victim! Notice this — God hates sin but loves the sinner, but never in the Bible does it say that God hates pride but loves the proud.

On the contrary God RESISTS the proud (1 Peter 5:5) and EVERYONE that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord (Prov. 16:5). Strong words these — dangerous too, when we recognize that one of the symptoms of the disease is that the victim does not recognize he has it — like bad breath! This produces the situation that any ministry on pride is never, never popular and those who need it most will welcome it least. As someone said to me regarding this ministry “castor oil is all right occasionally in the event of a blockage, but not as a diet”. So what? Where do we go from here? Once the disease is diagnosed what is the remedy?

The remedy for sin (the consequence of pride) is the blood of Jesus Christ. The remedy for pride? Humble yourself under the mighty Hand of God! (1 Peter 5:5). If the blood of Christ was effective for man's pride, then would all men be saved but the word of God declares “Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the SIN of the world” not the pride of the world. What is it that makes the difference with men? Some receive

truth some will not! A refusal to bow! Why will they not bow!

Because of pride which is man's glory — he refuses to humble himself under the mighty hand of his God. Life began when God breathed into the nostrils of Adam, the breath of life — life continues as long as man keeps on breathing — see how long you can live whilst holding your breath! In the same way — the Spirit of God breathed and I was quickened spiritually but that life, for its development and maintenance demands communion — the just shall live by faith, or by his faith — thus man — in the fall, to receive faith, must bow! A constant bowing is as vital, as necessary, as a constant breathing! The Lord Jesus Christ was sinless yet humbled Himself. How much more you and I. Did He not say “How can you believe who receive honor one of another and SEEK NOT the honor that comes from GOD ALONE? How? A question without an answer! You live to man instead of to God your faith will wilt — you will become spiritually asthmatical! So then the remedy for pride is not cleansing but humbling! Now I cannot make the excuse that I cannot humble because my heart was made to bow even as my lungs were made to breathe! Will not — yes, but cannot — never! It is as alien in the divine plan not to bow in my heart as it is not to breathe with my lungs! Man was made to breathe — man was made to bow!

Of course I can hold my breath and die! Will yesterday's breathing suffice for today's living? Will yesterday's bowing release me from today's responsibility to humble? Whilst the iron lung, the kiss of life or artificial respiration may substitute in an emergency — in finality this is NOT God's plan! God may and will abase the creature from without through circumstances but this whilst a pointer of His will is no substitute for me having to humble and bow in my heart! Thorns in the flesh, messengers of Satan, permitted of God as so much ballast, hold me down; the pressure of circumstances like the stake that the young sapling is bound to show me the way I

must grow — the compulsory mile precedes the voluntary mile where I humble myself. God will use the whole range, stomach ulcers and leaky taps, an untidy husband or a nagging mother-in-law to hold me down where I ought to BE down: — **LEST I SHOULD BE EXALTED ABOVE MEASURE!** His glory is, as it were, thermostatically controlled; and so in the day of measure, man has only been permitted a measure of exaltation — and as soon as he has reached this point in his life, as invisible but as real as the line of the equator, then an inexorable principle swings into operation — what is it? The principle of the glory of God! Is. 42:8 My glory will I NOT give to another!

Oh dear reader, if anything needs indelibly writing on your heart and mine it is this — God **WILL NOT** give His glory to another! He never, never permits it to leave His hand — you may think like the learner driver that because you have the steering wheel in your hand you are controlling but God's car has dual controls — **HE** can put the brake on at any time!! He who upholdeth all things by the word of His power can wrestle with Jacob and touch his thigh till it shrinks, speak to the storm and the great fish to deal with the runaway Jonah and owns every caterpillar, canker worm and locust as with one imperious claim He calls them “My great army” (Joel 2:15) which I sent among you! Who made all the brains, hearts, lungs, eyes, ears, kidneys, etc., etc. in the Universe? Who holds you up? **OF** Him are all things! What an insignificant word is of! Consider it! Put this book down for two minutes and consider **OF HIM** are **ALL THINGS!!** Roms. 11:36. So, God has only to lift His little finger, as it were to bring me into line and **PUT THE BRAKE ON!** He can touch your heart — your nerves, your limbs **NOW** and use the devil to do it — the messenger of Satan to buffet me — why? Lest I should be exalted — above measure! Do you see this?

You have blamed this one, that one or the devil for your troubles and all the time it has been Father! Why? Why has Father who loves me, permitted in His wisdom what He could

keep from me in His power? Well answer it, as a natural father — why do you shape and mould your child's life? Let him have his own way — spit on the floor — throw his gravy in his mother's face — make a bonfire of bank notes in the middle of the bedroom floor if he wants to. Why not? The misfits of society, the hooligans, the murderers of today were the sweet little horrors of yesterday who were left to have their own way! No greater punishment can any man have than to be left to have his own way!

THY WILL be done in earth — this earth — even me as it is in Heaven! As I humble to the truth and yield my will two vital things emerge: — (1) I can only humble UNDER THE MIGHTY HAND! God will show me the place! There is a counter to buy the truth — you don't usually buy cabbages at the news agents or fish and chips at the drapers. I have to humble myself to have truth at the counter indicated by the mighty hand! Confiding to the pastor is no substitute for confessing to the wife! (2) I do not humble to man! I humble BEFORE man but TO GOD! So then the sum of what we have said is: — HUMBLING is a way of life — nay THE way of life, if the sinless Son of God humbled himself so ought you. Let the mind of Christ be in you (Philippines 2). He MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION — HE HUMBLED HIMSELF!

What about you? Where you have exalted yourself — humble yourself! You took the highest seat — now take the lowest! You talked about you, what you had done, where you had been... "I"... "I"... "I." Now talk about Him! Challenge yourself! Why am I doing this? Why am I saying this? What you do doesn't count with God — it's WHY you do it! A motive for the glory of God will change both your habit and your habits — you will dress differently, talk differently and love differently! You always put yourself in every story as the hero or heroine. YOU are Mary having chosen the better part to sit at Jesus' feet, while your sister is in the back kitchen washing the dishes! Obviously from what Jesus said Martha ought to have "downed tools" and joined Mary but there are a lot

of people who think they are Marys who could have a bend and like the Master on another occasion “take a towel”. Revelation can come just as easily at the kitchen sink as in the Bible School — maybe more so! He giveth grace to the humble and hides from the wise and prudent!

No wonder they crucified the Truth! I can lustily sing “*Where He may lead I will follow!*” and then jib at going out of the coal house to fill the bucket! Bowing from the heart must be like breathing in the lungs — to every issue in life, you have a reaction, as the till in the shop registers the cash received by the pressure of a finger, as the piano responds to the note pressed — as the tape recorder or the camera capture what the eye and the ear for a fleeting moment have witnessed so your heart and mine are registering, registering ALL THE TIME!

The last entry against your name is YOU. *As a man thinketh in his heart SO IS HE!* One sobering or comforting thought is that while ever I am in this probationary school of life, a past judgment can be erased by a present one. I may own what I am to disown what I am. What is finally on my slate? By an act of humbling to the truth I can say “THIS IS ME but I am sorry!” Which now brings us to our next chapter which is:

GRACE AND TRUTH

Chapter Six

Grace and Truth came by Jesus Christ! (John 1:17). The undeserved favor of God and reality came into the world by Jesus Christ! God has married them and that which God has joined together man cannot separate — there is no divorce here! All men seek for and desire more of — the grace of God — they may not want the God of grace but they cannot live without the grace of God! The young man in the process of courting woos his sweetheart with pound boxes of chocolates — boating trips up the river on a Saturday afternoon — soft lights and music in some cozy little cafe — he will spend and spend on her — lavish a thousand attentions on her! Why? That finally he shall draw her to himself! What is his reaction if she takes all his gifts and goes off with another? Ex. 20:5: “I, the Lord thy God am a jealous God!” *God is the only one in finality who has a right to be jealous!*

There is no sin in God’s jealousy — no unrighteousness.

The glory, or credit due to Him is His by right of creation and redemption! Of Him are all things! What rights have you? You cannot curse Him except with the lungs and the air He gave you!

If, like Jonah, you run away from Him, there is no sea to cross, no mountain to climb, no cave to hide in, but belongs to Him! The earth is the Lord’s and the fulness thereof! Trespassers will be prosecuted! Could you fly to some far flung outpost of the universe — He owns all the galaxies — all the Milky Ways — flaming worlds like the teeming fish of the oceans darting hither and thither in their appointed orbits,

hurtling at millions, billions and even trillions of miles distance from each other were all created by Him. The mind reels as it attempts to grasp what one light year is — how much more when scientists tell us that the light from distant worlds traveling at 186,000 miles per SECOND left there before Jesus came to Bethlehem nearly 2,000 years ago! How great is our God!

Consider the favor and condescension of God who upholds every function of your house of clay — could you make your eye to see, your ear to hear, your heart to beat, your lungs to breathe, your brain to function? In Him we live and move and have our being! For every recognized function of your body there are dozens and dozens you would only appreciate when you lost them and they ceased to operate! Only then when reduced to a driveling, slaving, gibbering imbecile staggering into blind oblivion would it be apparent how utterly the creature is dependent upon the Creator — have you ever thanked God for your Reason?

We need the grace of God even to recognize the grace of God — grace for grace John 1:16. Now is the accepted time! Now is the day of salvation.

So then whether they admit it or not all men seek the grace of God, viz., health, wealth, prosperity, joy, peace, happiness — the things we wish each other every Christmastide on the cards we send — that which we pay into the Prudential or Pearl, etc., for — Security! God has a monopoly of them — He has no rival — no competitor. He is the sole distributor!

I may not like your brand of toothpaste, soap, chocolate on Woolworth's stall so — I buy another. I do not like the *Daily Wail* so — I buy the *Evening Shout!* What can I do when confronted with the ALL MIGHTY GOD, THE GREAT I AM who corners me, pins my ears to the wall and says, "What did you say?" You tell me I am scheduled to fight Cassius Clay or whoever else may reign as the world's champion boxer in

a fifteen round contest and I will find a convenient place to lie down at the feet of the referee and say, “Now then Mr. Referee you count me out quick and oblige yours truly — thank you!” Some of us have tried fighting God and know what happened, to our cost! An ex-heavy weight boxer took a young Irishman in hand to train him. “Now Paddy,” he said, “when you have had enough just cry out PAX! that means peace, I’ve had enough, I surrender — understand?” Paddy nodded. They went at it! If it had been a proper contest, round after round after round would have gone by — ripping, tearing sledge hammer blows, the two men, toe to toe, pounded one another until finally the ex-heavy weight could take no more and gasped out “PAX” as he collapsed.

“Shure Bedad and that’s the lovely wee word o’ive been trying to remember meself these last twenty minutes an’ more,” said Paddy as he helped his trainer on to his feet! David says: “The Lord is my Shepherd HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN” (Ps. 23). At times, it would almost seem as if the Lord had a job on to make some of us to lie down! What a “lovely wee word” PAX! Peace! I surrender is!

A rather large and ponderous lady married to a very thin and weedy little man was going out for the evening and had arranged for the baby sitter to put all the children to bed. Upon returning, she asked her how she had managed.

“Oh, no trouble, no trouble,” she replied. “Except with the ginger haired one, who came in after the others had gone to bed — he kicked and protested but I settled him all right — I held his head under the cold water tap until he gave in! “Needless to state the ginger haired rebel was the good lady’s husband! God always has a cold water tap to “help” me to give in! I listen to the plausible lies of the devil who promises me all sorts of things if I will serve him only to finish up in the pig swill of disillusionment with the memory of how my father treated His servants (almost like sons). They have bread enough AND TO SPARE — they are not desperately waiting

for pay-day — they have some left over! “And I perish with hunger!” (Luke 15). I need God’s grace but the grace is not just to meet MANS need it is married to the truth! So, when I seek to lead grace away from her betrothed spouse, she says, “Oh no — I will not come unless you invite my husband as well, Mr. Truth. We will come to your house together! “ This puts me on a spot! Do I want grace to consume upon my lusts or do I want her for that which God has expressly matched and mated her for — the Truth — which is the glory of God! The truth is, that the grace of God is FIRST for the glory of God and only incidentally to meet my need!

“Tommy,” said auntie, “Do you like your sandwiches cut in squares or diamonds?”

“Auntie,” said Tommy, “I like them the way YOU cut them — even if you cut them the way I don’t like them! “ See the point? You and I are only incidental — God first — while ever you want to be number one God will put you out, and when you say amen to God to being left out, He will bring you in, so the sooner you are out the sooner you will be in! How important we are in our own eyes! Man and his need are only incidental! The gigantic truth of the universe is ALL things are OF, THROUGH and TO the glory of God! As you receive this truth you will find that the grace will automatically flow! In other words the grace of God is divinely thermostatically controlled not in line with your need but in line with His glory! His strength is made perfect in weakness — the perfect Man was a helpless man and declared “I can OF MY OWN SELF do nothing!” Jn. 5:30. God’s grace like a glove is made to fit the needy hand of man’s weakness, that the excellency of the power may be OF GOD and not of us, thus glorifying God!

Now the point of all this is, that if you require more grace see the principle that releases it — the measure of the grace you are enjoying in your life is the measure of the truth you have received! Asking for more grace will put the ball back your

side of the net! Receive more truth! To do this you will have to humble yourself at the appropriate counter to buy the truth! All the child's begging for the ignition key of daddy's car will avail nothing! So, live with daddy, obey daddy and be one with daddy's mind and automatically one day to fulfill Father's will you will be driving Father's car, which is NOT a toy or a plaything but a vehicle for the greater expression of the Father's mind and PLAN and purpose! The journey from daddy to Father is something in the child rather than the Father!

How long does this journey take? Just as long as it takes the child to be able and willing to be ONE with the Father! Grow in grace. Jesus says (Jn. 16:12) "I have yet many things to say unto you but ye cannot bear them now!" There are tens of thousands who have so abused their bodies with their unbridled appetites that they cannot even enjoy the doubtful pleasures of their own sins now. Bodies that were made and given for the glory of God, abandoned to unnatural perversions, rotting with venereal diseases, ulcers and sores, crippled and broken in a mad gamble with death — to "show off". Lungs made for God's pure air sentenced by cancer to wheeze and gasp — glazed eyes and listless limbs under the spell of drug addiction. The "hangover" of the morning after the night before — the thudding head! All fulfilling the Word of God! "Be not deceived; God is not mocked!" So many think they can. "For whatsoever (mark that) whatsoever a man soweth — that shall he also reap — for he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption — but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:7-8). Many seek God's grace but do they want His truth? They seek deliverance — yes healing — yes — for what?

I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God that ye PRESENT YOUR BODIES a living sacrifice (Roms. 12:1) Why? Your reasonable service for the glory of God! Ye are NOT your own (1 Cor. 6:19). Well what about it? HAVE YOU DONE THIS YET? Well, HAVE you? Incidentally you will have a lot

less trouble with your body when you come to recognize you have not got one! What you do does not count in God's sight but WHY you do it! Is it for God's glory? Like the 1914 - 18 war, many people have signed an armistice with God in the railway carriage of their own choosing — they are officially no longer at war with God — they have come to — “TERMS”. After the Nazi uprising under Hitler the only terms the western nations would accept were UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER! this situation was preceded by 1,000 bomber raids on German territory — block busters on the marshaling yards of Hamburg — night after night — waves of Lancaster bombers brought death and destruction to the might of the German empire finally culminating in the awful horror of Hiroshima and the atomic bomb — this was termed a “softening up” process! After the smoke and dust had cleared from the twisted, mutilated mass of humanity, a shocked and shaken world, dazed and subdued was ushered into a new era — conquered and conqueror alike were made strangely aware of the terrifying import of the day of fulness and whilst we still pay homage to the tradition of the past, our army convoys rumble along our country roads, deep down in man like the unanswered cry of a child in the night, is the question or are the questions — Whither? What? When? and Why? No politician has the answer, and no eye can pierce the ominous storm clouds that loom ahead in our day and generation — the scripture is literally fulfilled, “Men's hearts failing them for fear!” as civilization uneasily sits on the crater's edge of the volcanic future! Unless the church has the answer — no one has!

Now what does this mean to you and me? The two wars are typical of the internal struggle that goes on in the life of the believer — the 1914 - 18 conflict which ended as we have said, with “terms” and obviously speaks of measure whereas the last war terminated with the unconditional surrender of the enemy — this terminated the terms, exterminated the “Party” (Nazi party) and annihilated Hitler which of course is in line with fulness and is topical and typical with what God

is doing today! All of us by nature are at enmity with God — at war!

We have been “reconciled” through our Lord Jesus to the Father and most believers have come to “terms” — or made an ARMISTICE!

Few know anything about unconditional surrender to God because this involves the complete wind up of the IR government — the “party” must go and lose its identity — the uprising must be quelled by the abdication of my heart from the throne of its mutiny against God — this is fullness. After the last war the Nazi party was “dissolved” — it had no function in fullness but to lose its identity in unconditional surrender — my personality — my “himself” to be eclipsed in the blaze of the Glory of God! SURRENDER WITHOUT A CONDITION!! The government is upon His shoulder (Is. 9:6) and of the increase of His government and peace — THERE SHALL BE NO END! John, in his day (the day of measure) rightly said, “He must increase — I must decrease (Jn. 3: 30). But in line with the day of fulness my lease is up — Acts 17:30 declares there was a time when God winked and Paul declares he was permitted a measure of self exaltation (2 Cor. 12:7) “Lest I should be exalted ABOVE measure” — this of course was in the day of measure but now in the day of fulness no flesh will be permitted to glory in His presence (1 Cor. 1:29) — the time for a complete eviction order has arrived! Now the Lord HAD said unto Abraham GET OUT!!

Whilst in the day of measure there is a place for me to be a co-worker with God and like Paul I may cry “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Phillips 4:13) yet, the Son of God who operated in fullness declares (Jn. 5:30) I can of my own self do nothing and it is the Father that dwelleth in Me; He doeth the works (Jn. 14:10) God is ALL in ALL! In the end it shall be manifest what IS and even the Son shall be subject — in fact He always has been! (1 Cor. 15:8). The Holy Spirit has a Himself — a “Me” a personality that

does not operate on His own (He shall not speak OF HIM-SELF) (Jn. 16:13). He is subject! Whatsoever He shall hear that shall He speak! The Lord Jesus has a Himself, a “Me”, a personality that does not operate on His own. I can of MY OWN SELF do nothing — as I hear I judge! He is subject! So then in the Trinity there are three speakers and three doers — these are two listeners — they do not pool their differences — they have none — and they have none because they are One! God the Father is ALL in ALL or, if you like, ALL in three. “Of Him” are all things! So then in fulness — this is the key — neither the Son or the Holy Ghost do anything of themselves — only One operates in the Trinity — the Father! The Father that dwelleth in Me HE DOETH THE WORKS! This is the secret of the mystery of God — if the Glory is all God’s then the work is all God’s!

The responsibility of my “Himself” is to let go and let God — to get out of the way — my only struggle, a struggle not to struggle! As David said when he stood before the towering Goliath THE BATTLE IS THE LORD’S! I am not called to a life of chrysalis unconsciousness — living in a lethargy of laziness but rather a yielded channel to the divine energy of omnipotence! Jesus declared He could do nothing and then did everything — by the power of another — substitution! Now dear reader, may you see this — Jesus prayed for His disciples that they MAY BE ONE AS WE ARE! (Jn. 17:11) and when the “other sons” receive the principle of the first Son they will live like Him! Man is a trinity and when God said “Let US make man in our own image” (Gen. 1:26) — our likeness and let them have dominion, He purposes to be all in all — in other words to FILL all three parts of you! When that which is PERFECT (God) is come then that which is in part shall be done away (1 Cor. 13:10) (YOU). The fulness of Him which filleth ALL in ALL! (Ephes. 1:23) Jesus declared “I and My Father are two! “

No — He did not! — I and My Father are ONE!! No division — if you are to be conformed to the image of the Son you

also will cry “I and MY Father are One! Now see how this operates in a person — let us put the x-ray on the three parts of Mary: Luke 1:46. Mary said — “MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord!” Luke 1:47 My Spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior! Two parts filled with God! Luke 2:49 Jesus said to Mary I must be about My Father’s business — Mary understood not the saying but kept it IN HER HEART.

With the heart man believes! Three parts here spirit, soul, heart or body — the fulness of God demands ALL! To go back to the illustration of the two wars how many believers have come to “terms” with God in their heart, instead of unconditionally surrendering to God in their heart. God has a measure of glory for a measure of work which He has been permitted (!) to do in my life! Some of us however have been subject to heavenly air raids — God has been dropping bombs on the fortifications of the empire of our flesh life — blockbusters with unerring precision have devastated our communication lines and many have been made aware that they are in a “softening up” process of preparation. Like Saul on the Damascus road bewildered and perplexed if not in despair, they have cried out, asking and at the same time almost answering their own question “Who art thou Lord?” The preparation of the heart is of the Lord and the counsel and the work go together (Is. 28:29)

Remember whilst the Perfect Man said He could do nothing, He did everything! His was no negative confession of defeat but rather the triumphant cry of one who was jealous for His Father’s glory. Whilst of MY OWN SELF I can do nothing, ALL POWER is given unto Me! Storms quailed, devils fled, sickness vanished and death died in the presence of this man! As Jean Paul Richter declared: The crucified Jew being the mightiest among the Holy, and the Holiest among the mighty, has with His pierced hands, lifted empires off their hinges, turned the stream of centuries and STILL governs the ages! The impact of this Man cannot be ignored by believer or infidel alike — they are compelled to pay homage as they ask

to be put off the bus at St. Paul's or Christchurch; with the coin they tender, dated with His birthday A.D. 1967 — the year of Our Lord Anno Domini! They may get drunk at Xmas or Easter but cannot ignore that His birthday, His resurrection gave them the excuse to do it! He routed the multiplication table on the back of every sixpenny exercise book when He took a little lad's five loaves and two fishes and grammar reels before Him as He strides from the present into the past and with sublime dignity declares "Before Abraham was I am!" How much more can be added to testify of this unknown Nazarene emerging from a carpenter's shop — the dumb, the deaf, the lame, the blind, the leper even the humble little fish with a coin in its mouth, all hasten to pay homage to Jesus!

Many many millions of us at this moment are hailing "the power of Jesus' Name!" So what? Stripped of all sentiment, fine language, veneer, etc., etc., what is the naked basic truth that Jesus came to bring? The Father for the glory of His Name will never be satisfied with anything less than the fulfillment of His divine plan which was declared in the beginning — God MUST have the last Word and the FIRST word will be the LAST word "Let us make man in our image and let them have dominion!" Jesus came to redeem man out of the devil's pawnshop (1 Peter 1:18) not with silver or gold but with His precious blood, but in an utter most salvation there will be those conformed to the image (note the word) of the Son that He might be the first born among MANY brethren (Rom. 9:29) Ephes. 4:13 speaks of a "we" coming to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ!

What does this mean? That God will have other sons as big as Jesus! Do you realize this dear reader — everything that Jesus did and greater works must be done in other sons, in other brethren, for God's original purpose to be fulfilled — GOD MUST HAVE THE LAST WORD!! — not the devil and NOT man! Numbs. 14:16 God's glory is at stake! The world has YET to see the manifestation of the Sons of God! This is the

full bloom of a “MUCH MORE” salvation to the credit or glory of God! Jesus has gone to the Father and will never be satisfied until He sees of the travail of His soul in His brethren! He must finish the job Father has given Him to do! He declared “I will build My Church and the GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT!!” The lost key of the Universe is the Father’s glory in my heart! Thine is the Glory! Jesus said “I and My Father are One!” He will never be satisfied until there are others who can say this IN TRUTH! Whose lives come into order instead of dis-order — the order of God — an ordered life! Everything moving down one place — salvation, healing, deliverance, blessing and a thousand other things that this shall be in the first place — the glory of God!

May I close this chapter with a children’s story: Once upon a time there was a million pounds. Now this million pounds was made up of a unit, a one and six noughts. The unit was first and was everything and the six noughts were nothing but strangely enough in their right order the unit added such value to the noughts that with them they made a million pounds.

Each little nought in his order became of value and also (strangely enough) increased the value of the One (2 Cor. 12: 9) My strength is made perfect in weakness — One day there was trouble!

One nought said £1,000,000<This one. “Oh I’m fed up with always being the last — I am like the cows tail always behind — I want a change — I’m going to move!” So he moved! Pushed himself to the front like this:

£1,000,00
<0

And so landed here: £01,000,00. Now because he was “out of” order he was worth nothing and the million pounds now

became a hundred thousand pounds like this £100,000. But that was not all — the other little noughts became discontented and they now wanted to move! And they did so — The million pounds now looked like this £000,000,1 and that makes just £1 because the noughts are only of value in order which is after the ONE! They were good for nothing because they were OUT OF ORDER! Have you ever been disappointed when you have gone up to a machine and then have read the notice on it:

OUT OF ORDER

In other words — it is of no use!! This is the great tragedy of man's life! He is of no use to God because he is out of order! Only through the ONE mediator can the ATONEMENT between God and Man be effected and this was done at Calvary, The purpose of this uttermost salvation is that by ONE Spirit, in ONE hope, ONE faith and ONE baptism, as ONE body we shall be made all ONE in Christ Jesus who is ONE with the Father! That ONE and ONE ONLY shall have all the Glory — even the Father of whom are all things! We shall only be perfect in ONE — are you ONE with the purpose? Which now brings us to our last and final chapter which is all about TWO!

Chapter Seven

THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL!

Strange as it may seem Man goes everywhere to deal with his troubles except at the source or the place where things went wrong! What motorist with a puncture in his back wheel would pull the plugs out to rectify his troubles? Who seeks the dentist when he has sprained his ankle? On the greatest issues of life how many there are who go anywhere and everywhere but the spot where things went wrong! The law of cause and effect is certain and relentless — more certain is a fly of stopping a steam roller in its track than of my defeating this inexorable law! In the beginning God gave man ONE command and ONE only. THAT COMMANDMENT HAS NEVER BEEN RESCINDED! The first commandment is still the first commandment! Notice it is the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil NOT trees! One tree produces two fruits and it is not the fruit of the knowledge of evil that is forbidden to man but the tree of the knowledge of GOOD and the knowledge of EVIL.

What does this mean? It means that from the beginning THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD was forbidden to man! Out of my knowledge of good comes my knowledge of evil! If I don't know the first I cannot know the second! Therefore if I do not eat of the tree, I do not know and if I do not know I cannot judge. Jesus says "Judge not that ye be not judged" Matt. 7:1. If I refuse to eat this produces a situation of helplessness that Jesus declared — "I can of my own self do nothing; and so I must hear to judge;" (John 5:30) Not eat to judge but hear to judge! Matt. 4:4. Jesus declared that man

should live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God! This is the vital difference between the sons and the slaves! The sons of God and the slaves of Satan! As many as are led of the Spirit they are the Sons of God. (Roms. 8:14) They wax strong in spirit as they are led and they are led as they listen! Not as they eat! The slaves listen to their master Satan and as they eat of the Tree are tied to it in bondage!

This eating of the forbidden fruit is not an enlargement of the small boys escapade of scrumping apples in the farmer's field — no, this tree is **INSIDE YOU!** Every time man eats of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and from that knowledge pronounces a judgment he breaks the first commandment of God and partakes of death! I see **WHAT** you do, but do not know what your motive is, hence I cannot judge you! — I do not know **WHY** you do it! From the moment that I know what is good I presume that I know what is evil — it has an attendant twin! This is the seat of man's glory and the enemy of the glory of God! You will find this is the launching platform of **ALL** your troubles! Deal with this you deal with the lot! You have now found the **LOST KEY!** The Greater includes the lesser! No need to keep the Ten Commandments. Keep the First and you will keep the Ten! Satan said (Gen. 3:5) "Ye shall be as gods to know good and evil!" The Lord Jesus, God's perfect man, the pattern for us declared — "I can of My own self do nothing — as I hear I judge!" He judged as He heard **NOT** as He ate!" Unless His Father spoke to Him — He did not know because He had never eaten of the Tree! He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes nor after the hearing of His ears!" (Is. 11:3).

This is the way the other sons must live; as many as are led by the Spirit of God — they are the sons (Roms. 8:14). Spirit guidance or guidance by the Spirit will come only to that man who refuses to eat of the Tree — God's first command — Thou shalt **NOT** eat of it! The greater includes the lesser — if you keep the first commandment you will automatically keep the ten — **ALL** have sinned and come **SHORT OF THE**

GLORY OF GOD! (Roms. 3:23) The man who learns to stay still will move quickest when the Spirit prompts. Man's pride is always born out of what he knows — his exaltation out of what he thinks is good.

When tremblingly Adam said to his Maker, "I was naked and I hid myself," the Lord said to him, "Who told thee? Who told thee thou wast naked?" WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR INFORMATION FROM? Hast thou eaten of the Tree? When a man goes the devil's way and eats of the Tree, he will know what is TRUE but never the TRUTH! He is deceived because he accepts what is true in the place of the truth. His knowledge of good becomes the enemy of God even as the good, and not the worst, is the enemy of the best.

To illustrate — Many of my friends have heard me say "All the time I stopped at such and such a house, they have never given me a cup of tea!" This is true, and, of course, makes them appear very inhospitable, but — the TRUTH is I do not drink tea! I am given to understand that, because of the superiority of the enemy ships Nelson was ordered to retreat — he put the telescope to his blind eye and declared "I see no ships".

He wasn't likely to — true but not the truth! He could have done so if he had wanted to! There is no deception in truth but men will lie with what is TRUE and use it to conceal the truth! We are two hours late because (the truth), we were lazy and laid in bed too long, so we explain our late arrival by the fact we had a puncture on the road (which is true) — the TRUTH however was we changed the wheel in less than ten minutes! I knew of a woman who every night would say "I'm just taking pinky for a walk" (Pinky was the pet poodle). Her husband would grunt from the depths of the evening paper or television — the door would shut and she was gone! This was TRUE! She did take Pinky for a walk but she used what was true to hide the truth. She was meeting another man every night! All men do this, you have done it, I have done it, the devil does it! Only deceivers are deceived!

If there is one thing worse than bad eggs labeled bad eggs it is bad eggs labeled good eggs! Whilst the devil abode not in the truth he is quite “AT HOME” in juggling with what is true. Even the WORD OF GOD can be handled deceitfully! The old old excuse of the husband who is kept late at the office — fortunately for him his wife can only hear him over the phone and not see him. “Sorry dear, my hands are so full with things at the office, I won’t be home until eight!” His hands are full all right — coffee and biscuits, his arms around the typist, as he sits nursing her! The pressure (?) of business has got him down! The erstwhile salesman — “Yes madam — this is definitely the last one!” It is — until he opens another box! So true — but not the truth! Like the shopkeeper with the box on the counter marked “FOR THE BLIND”. When it was filled, he bought himself a new sunblind! Well, so what? Maybe we know something about these things on the basis that the old huntsman knows the crack of the whip! One thing is definite (Ps. 51) “Thou requirest TRUTH in the inward parts! “

The Truth will never magnify man because it is not the glory of man, but the glory of God! In our search for the lost key, we need to go to the garden because it was lost in the garden. Only where man lost it will he find it! Once man made a choice to know, Satan was there to supply him with all the information, and apparently true information to feed his reason not his soul. “Ye shall not surely die! — ye shall be AS gods.”

This was true — Adam went on living — after he took of the Tree — physically! However the truth is, that in the day, IN THAT DAY, Adam died to God in his soul, and like his descendants ever since was dead while he lived! That is why I must be BORN AGAIN because in Adam all die — (Ephes. 2) “dead in trespass and in sins!”

Everything the Devil offers is a clever counterfeit of the real. TRUE but not TRUTH!! He is a bluffer, a forger, a counterfeiter — the father of lies, and a liar from the beginning — his

stock-in-trade — mirages, masks, colored bubbles that burst when grasped, snares, traps, dummies, camouflage, delusions, imaginations, ambushes and in a nutshell, anything that is not real, you name it, Satan has got it — plus, of course, darkness; he cannot operate in the light!

PRIDE IS ALWAYS BUILT ON A LIE! Man will never know dominion except in the realm where he lost it — the other side of the **TREE!**

The Holy Spirit alone, will guide into all **TRUTH** (revelation). I remember, years ago, being lost in a maze, I think it was Hampton Court Palace, and how the man in the box, high up, pointed the way! Because God will not give His glory to another, He drove man out of the garden (Gen. 3:22) lest he eat of the Tree of Life, and placed a flaming sword that turned every way to keep the way! Ever since, man has been deliberately confused and confounded like someone seeking the way and confronted with a signpost that swings aimlessly any way the wind blows. Do you understand what this means? Only by God's Holy Spirit sent to guide me into **ALL TRUTH** can I ever find my way back into dominion in the Garden.

No one will ever climb up, some other way! Jesus said "I thank Thee Father that Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and revealed them unto babes, even so, (amen) for so it seemed **GOOD IN THY SIGHT**" Thine is the Glory! God is now working to bring some back into the garden, to dominion, to the measure of the **STATURE OF THE FULNESS OF CHRIST!** (Ephes. 4) As big as Jesus! To be conformed to the image of the Son (Rom. 8:29) that He (Jesus) might be the firstborn of **MANY** brethren! He **SHALL** see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied.

Greater works than these shall **YE DO!** Oh dear reader, do you see it? Has God's Holy Spirit shown you the lost key? Has the eternal plan been revealed to you? Do you see it? If not humble yourself **NOW** and ask God to reveal it — the

words are in this little book but only the mighty Spirit of God can quicken and impart revelation — I cannot! Only in the life where “Thine is the Glory” is wrought in, will this work be done and dominion will be given. They said of Jesus — What MANNER of Man is this? (Luke 8:25). Even the wind and the waves obeyed Him. God’s plan will never be fulfilled until even greater works are done in the second body of Jesus Christ which is His Church, or “called out ones,” of which ye are members in particular.

This will bring even greater glory to His great Name! If you are the father of a little boy; you love him, care for him, feed him, correct him and do everything to bring him to maturity, to the fulness of manhood.

It may be expedient for you to leave him, that you might go to work, to provide the money to make this possible — many parents have sacrificed much for their children — until the day when they reach fulness — I myself have three sons who are bigger than I am. Jesus has declared “Greater works than these shall ye do!” So some must attain to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ — have WE begun yet? It is recorded of Jesus that — “He waxed strong in Spirit”. “As many as are LED of the Spirit — they are the Sons of God!” Are you? Am I? It is the Spirit that quickeneth! NOT by might, nor by power but BY MY SPIRIT saith the Lord’ (Zech, 4:6)

You cannot ride to Australia on a bicycle but in another realm you may soar above earth and sea and arrive.

The Greater works and the fulness of Christ are ONLY possible in the realm of the Spirit! Not in the flesh realm! Not in the soul realm! You are equipped for this flight! God has given you a Spirit! Also, He has given you a pilot, to guide you into ALL truth. He will show you how the “joy stick” operates and all the other “controls”.

I heard a brother the other week describe a flight he had taken over the Himalayan mountains — the pilot announced “You are now looking down at the highest point in the world — the top of mount Everest!” He said it was with a strange awe that he gazed down upon the grim rock that reared its head defiantly up from the midst of snowy slopes and musing upon the many lives that had been lost and endangered as they sought and fought to conquer this peak of all peaks he considered in contrast the ease and comfort with which he looked down upon what other men had struggled to climb up to! Is this not a parable? The strivings of the flesh or the conflicts of the soul can never produce or attain to this God—like realm of the Spirit where nothing is impossible.

Your mountains and valleys will cease to be — get airborne!

So much for the blueprint — the vision, now for the practical application. We have window gazed long enough at every shop — now to buy the truth — to spend our money! What does it cost? Get your purse out! No man can go the way of the Spirit without humbling or submitting to the Spirit! He is the Spirit of Truth! The essence of reality. How can two walk together except they be agreed? Whatever is sham, vanity, unreality, playing to the gallery, living to man, etc., etc., must go. You do not ask God to deliver you from your pride — you HUMBLE YOURSELF!! (1 Pet. 5:5) Admitted, it is under the Mighty Hand but you do it! Go to it! God will show you the counter where you buy the TRUTH (no good attempting to buy a cauliflower at the Drapers) With what do I buy?

Pride, man’s glory, is a lie, if you are going the Spirit’s Way you will have to pay for it with your pride! In other words — humbling is a way of life! God’s glory comes in as yours goes out! You bow and humble TO GOD but before MAN!

THIS IS THE LOST KEY

In every situation in life you will either exalt yourself as you eat of the forbidden tree of the Knowledge of Good (and

automatically of Evil) and thus become your own God (knowledge puffeth up) from thence will spring your judgments or — if you choose to humble yourself and refuse to eat of the forbidden TREE and consequently be in a place where you don't know — and hence cannot judge. You are now, in the eyes of the natural man reduced to ridiculous helplessness — “I don't know!” Thus, you are now in a place where you MUST have a proceeding word from the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4) and the Spirit will ultimately lead you, past the flaming Sword back into the Garden, back into Dominion, back to the original purpose of God. THIS MAN must operate as THAT MAN operates! May I repeat MUST not May. Christ was the only man who ever lived normally — live normally — the miracle of yesterday becomes the commonplace of today — how? By an increase of revelation! Henry VIII's eyes would have nearly popped at a TV set — but not the child of today — he takes it as a matter of course! The miraculous will be the normal course for the Sons! Listen to the Son of God (John 5:30) Amplified N.T.: “I am able to do nothing from Myself (my ‘self’ independently — of My Own accord) — but as I am taught by God and as I get His orders. I decide as I am bidden to decide — as the Voice comes to Me so I give a decision.”

Even as I hear I judge and my judgment is right because I do not seek My own will. I have no desire to do what is pleasing to My “Self” but ONLY the will and pleasure of the Father who sent Me! “ Because He did not eat He did not know and therefore could only decide as He was BIDDEN TO DECIDE! Do you see this? As the Voice comes to Me so I give a decision! May I reverently say in closing this is the way the Son of God ticks! So must the other sons.

Thus THINE IS THE GLORY is safe in the heart that is yoked to Jesus — He says TAKE My yoke! **This is The Lost Key!**

If you are further interested, write the author:

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Haggai 2:9

2 Chronicles 32:25.

A HOUSE FOR THE GLORY OF GOD!

(INCIDENTALLY, TO MEET MAN'S NEED)

“I was a stranger and ye took me in!”

Business men will invest their money where there are prospects of rich dividends for their capital! God will invest His Grace in human lives where there will be **DIVIDENDS TO THE GLORY OF HIS GREAT NAME!** We are stewards of this Grace which came **WITH Truth** by Jesus Christ (John 1:17).

Christ is the Answer to every problem of our sin-sick civilization.

Read: 1 Samuel 22:1-2 — Luke 10:30 — Joel 2:25.

