

To be God was NOT the plan

By Dr. D. Michael Hentrich



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Prologue

You might be expecting this book to talk about the foolishness of the ancient Hebrews when they fashioned their jewelry into a golden calf and worshipped it; or to decry the psychological and spiritual trap of trying to fill our empty souls by treating money, freedom, and material things as “gods” in our lives. No. This book is not about those things. This book is concerned with the devastating and tragic situation of the Creator himself, and also of his son, in that they never intended, nor wanted, to become God to us.

God never wanted to be a “god”. God created his human children to be an extension of himself. He intended to live inside of and among mature adult human beings, resonating with our minds and hearts and experiencing all the joys and challenges of physical life and the universe through us. He wanted to experience being a real literal father, a real literal mother, a husband, a wife, a son, a daughter, a cousin, an aunt, etc. God wanted to multiply his love in myriad dimensions and directions and be in the vortex of it all. God even wanted to experience the divine sexual love expressed between husbands and wives. He wanted to participate personally and intimately together with humans in the creation of new life, not just physically and chemically but also emotionally and spiritually. The last thing he wanted to do was be

exiled from our lives as some kind of “god” and forced to observe us from afar like Santa Claus, watching us through a magic telescope.

He never intended to be the object of man’s worship. Sure, there are plenty of Biblical scriptures you can point to where God seems like he expects us to worship him, but that is all post-Fall. That is an unfortunate situation which resulted from the Fall of the first human ancestors. (Our species *did* start somewhere.) No, it did not happen because they ate an apple or fruit. The metaphorical language used to convey the story of the Fall is cleverly telling us about a love triangle which had devastating consequences for the budding seed of humanity. You can learn more about that in Chapter 3.

Do you like love? God is the ultimate source of all the love in the universe. And, he generously gave some of it to each one of us. But, he is a singular being; a singularity. God is one. He is a oneness. But, since we find ourselves in a world replete with masculine-type attributes as well as feminine-type attributes, we can be assured that within God’s oneness must exist the dual essences of both masculinity and femininity. The kicker is this: God’s ability to *experience* the potential of his masculinity and femininity is limited. Why? Because he is one.

By himself, he cannot fully experience the richness of the love which can be exchanged between his masculinity and femininity without projecting those attributes separately into the physical world where they can interact with each other as a man and woman. What am I trying to say? God needed an object of his love to reciprocate with directly, and he needed to separate and objectify his attributes so

he could experience their interaction himself, in us and through us. Without us, God could only imagine what it would be like for his masculinity and femininity to interact. Without us, God could only imagine what the emotional and sexual union of a man and a woman would be like. Man and woman are created “in his image”.¹ We are so incredibly important to the creator God. He needs us. He needs each one of us. We are indispensable to him. We are essential to his own experience of joy.

In contrast, what is the actual situation? Human beings are more like autistic children who don't know their parent. We are so distant from God. Many people are not confident that God even exists. If he does, he seems so uncaring; so unconcerned and uninvolved in our lives. Look at all the pain and suffering. We ask: How could a loving God let all this happen? Maybe he's not aware of how bad it is here? Maybe he left us. We're in a dense fog. We're not even sure who WE are, or why we are here. Are we just an accident of nature? We don't know! Maybe he's punishing us. Maybe he's just like us, full of pride, impatience, judgment, accusation. After all, what about the flood? What about Sodom and Gomorrah? He looks fearsome. Eternal hell! What kind of God is he?

In reality, God is not only a brilliant “creator”; he has the heart of a parent. He is not just our masculine “Heavenly Father” but he can also be considered our feminine “Heavenly Mother.” Thus, it would be correct to call God our Heavenly Parent. But, be careful. To limit our understanding of “Heavenly Parent” to the quality of parenthood that we are used to in the “post-fall” human world would be a mistake.

God's idea of the heart of a parent is far deeper and far more universal than what we have come to know in our own world. God's parental heart is so deep and vast that he cannot help but love every single human being as his child, no matter how unholy they may have lived their lives. He designed and created each of us to be like himself, in his image and likeness. He even loves those who have suffered so much that they have turned against him, despised him, even hated him. He loves those who don't believe in him. He even loves the angel who instigated the rebellion against him with Adam and Eve. What a God!

But how could a God like that oversee a world as cruel and painful as our own? How could he be so good, and we be so bad? It seems impossible. No. We need the missing piece of this puzzle. The missing piece is man's portion of responsibility. We have not understood until today that God gave each one of us a portion of responsibility which goes along with our free will.

The key to understanding all of this is that God absolutely refuses to violate our portion of responsibility and free will. He will not control us. He will not manipulate us. He will not treat us as His puppets. If he did, he would undermine our very humanity, and God would negate the very creation he made for his own fulfillment and joy. Thus, he keeps on calling us, and loving us, longing and hoping that we will come to him of our own choosing. In a sense, God's heartache over our suffering human situation is perpetuated by his own tender love for us. Who can solve God's sobbing, broken heart? No one but we ourselves. Each one of us can resolve our own little

piece of God's broken heart by embracing him with our "whole heart, mind and soul." ²

Of course, loving God is not quite enough. Since each of us is a manifestation of God, loving one another is just as important as loving our Heavenly Parent. They go together and are inseparable. "As you have done to the least of these little ones, so you have done to me." ³

But I thought that God was "in control". There is a reason for everything and God is the reason. Right? Not. Sure, there may be a reason for everything, but we find dozens and dozens of examples in the Bible where God was sorely "disappointed" in man. He warned people so many times. He expressed regret at how we behaved. He was grieved by us. He gave us choices. ⁴

Therefore, if you thought God was "in control", think again. Not that he couldn't be. Certainly, God should have the power and authority. But, in his great love, he decided NOT to be "in control". He gave freedom and responsibility to you and me. He literally put his heart in our hands. He literally risked his own happiness and wellbeing. And what have we done with it? Let's not go there...

So, where to from here? God is simply trying to restore his original plan for us, one full of happiness and prosperity. He originally planned to see one big happy family of humanity on the earth. No racial barriers. No nationalistic barriers. No language barriers. No religious barriers. In fact, religion was NOT even part of his original plan. We would have no need for it if we had matured properly to resonate in heart and mind with the living Heavenly Parent and he was able to live in us and among us. Who would need religion? So again,

where to from here? Back to the beginning. God still believes in the beauty of his original plan. There was nothing wrong with it. We just dropped the ball, big time. We have to pick it up again and recreate the plan.

Where do we start? Virtually no one even talks about God's original plan, nor understands it like the late Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Mrs. Moon. He uncovered it. He learned all we need to know about recreating it. He laid the groundwork for transforming this suffering world into God's dream on earth. He not only discovered the original plan of God in detail, but he also discovered the exact nature of our digression from it, and made crystal clear every step we need to take to recover it.

What you have read so far is not even the tip of the iceberg of what he gave to humanity during his lifetime of service to God. There are many things you need to know, and things you will wish you had known before now. So, let's get to the meat of the story...

1. What was God's Original Plan?

God had an awesome blueprint for a breathtaking world which we have never yet experienced. Imagine a world without war and hatred. Imagine a world without the need for jails or even courts and judges. A world where hunger and poverty did not exist. A world with one global language and no barriers of race, politics or religion, or even the need for a religion. A world without pollution or exploitation. A world without police or military to maintain order and/or protect us from danger.

What would be the fabric of such a world? The fabric would be a level of maturity of compassion that the world has not dared to even imagine. Jesus tried to describe it to us. He said we “must be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect”,⁵ but we just couldn't get our short arms around what he was saying. It was so alien to us.

God had a plan. It was a brilliant plan. It was a simple plan. It was a sound plan. If God had to do it all over again, he would probably pursue the very same plan, even though it didn't work out the first time. What was this plan?

God's plan was this: God is a being whose essence is love. The word “love” is totally inadequate to our understanding of what we are talking about. The human understanding of this word is far away from the kind of love which God has imbued into his vast universe and into

each human being. It is a love that knows no limits, knows no boundaries, knows no exceptions, no excuses. But, while God himself harbored all this love, His irony was that he could not experience the joy of that love by himself. Without an object of his love, someone with whom he could enter into a relationship of love, he could not experience the richness that could be derived from it. Thus, God needed to create an object for his tender heart of love.

An object resembling his own character and heart was his goal, but there was far more to it than that. This being had to have a love that was sincere, spontaneous, free in its expression, unencumbered in its experience, boundless in its dimensions and potential for diversity, unlimited, unending, and uncompromised, etc. The challenge for God was this: If he simply created a living being and endowed it with this type of love as an attribute or instinct from birth, it would not be a satisfying kind of love which God could reciprocate with and experience fulfillment. It would be too programmed and standardized.

In the near future, advances in robotics and AI will make it possible to create highly animated mechanisms which could be programmed to exhibit all of the above characteristics in relation to people; and even computer implants which can enhance the personalities of humans. However, we can foresee that these relationships will hardly replace a real, tear-soaked, heart-felt passionate relationship with a warm, unpredictable and spontaneous human being. Thus, God needed to create human beings - expressions and extensions of himself - which could somehow grow naturally to develop the genuine love which he himself has.

The challenge was not so much creating the creature, you and me. The challenge was the environment and dynamic in which human beings could learn and develop this love. To do that, God had to go beyond the angelic realms. He had to create a new, physical universe and environment suitable for mortal human beings to live and thrive in. It would take billions of years to develop and perfect. But that was not all. The real goal was to create such a world as an environment for a human *family*. That was the key. A family.

Angels do not have families. But, humans need a family to grow their love and character to a higher maturity and resonance with God. The family has been called the “School of Love”⁶ It has been said many times that everything we needed to learn in life we got in our family, even at a young age. Well, that was the plan.

But, to bring out the full potential of human compassion and personality, this family had to be “fully staffed”. There needed to be a central place in this family for God, who is the fundamental source of love. In addition, there needed to be a mature expression of the masculine essence of God’s personality, and also a mature expression of the feminine essence of God’s personality. Bringing together these projected expressions of God’s masculinity and femininity into a totally united and harmonized couple, soaked and glued together inseparably by God’s deep love, is literally the recreation of a higher-dimensional earthly image of God, himself. It is not just a man and a woman coming together. With God’s love in the mix, the sum becomes something greater than the individual parts, themselves. In this triangle of love, children were to be born and raised to experience

the fullness of human-divine potential in terms of heart and personality.

In this “school of love” there would be at least 12 dimensions of love and compassion to experience. These would include the love of the husband for his wife and the wife for her husband (2 dimensions of love and compassion); the love of the father for the children and the children for the father (2 more dimensions of love and compassion); the love of the mother for the children and the children for the mother (2 more dimensions); the love of God for the husband and the husband for God (2 more dimensions); the love of God for the wife and the wife for God (2 more dimensions); and finally the love of God for the children and the children for God (2 more dimensions). These 12 dimension of love and compassion to be experienced within the human family were to be the concrete building blocks for everything else. From these experiences would arise extensions and adaptations of them to the larger extended family of aunts, uncles, nephews and nieces. These experiences of familial love were then also to be projected into the greater community and society on every conceivable level.

You might be thinking this is crazy. “This is all just idealism to the max. Pie in the sky. It will never work that way.” Well, I understand your skepticism. The reason we feel compelled to come to that conclusion is that we live in a deformed and broken version of God’s plan. It never worked out. It never happened. We are talking about the *original* plan of God, not the flawed reality.

Where lies the difference? I thought you would never ask. The difference lies in the parents. The requirement for this plan to work is this: the father and the mother must first mature their love to resonate with the mature and perfected love of God, as Jesus was alluding to when he told us we must “be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect.”⁷ That is the critical key to the whole thing. If the first seed parents had fully matured in this way, it would have all worked out as planned, with the children inheriting God’s own love through their parents.

Once the husband and wife had matured their love and personalities to resemble God’s own, then God would naturally resonate with them within their own minds and hearts. They would have become “temples of God”.⁸ They would have embodied God’s own heart and mind. They would be a living expression of God, himself. When you would meet such people, you could literally feel that you were experiencing God, himself, in the flesh. That was the plan.

Interestingly enough, the plan was very tightly packaged and summed up in the words “Be fruitful, multiply, and have dominion.”⁹ “Be fruitful” ultimately means to become a person producing virtuous and good fruits, requiring him or her to be united in mind and body and resonant with the virtue and love of God. “Multiply” ultimately means to multiply God’s own mind and heart in the world, not only through having children but through everything we create and do. “Have dominion” ultimately means to exercise a dominion of God’s love in relation to nature and our environment. If humans were doing

all of that, what would be lacking? We would be living in absolute paradise.

The plan was so simple God could state it in that one short sentence. In a way, we can say it was simple but not easy. However, in reality, had the first parents properly and naturally matured their love and personalities to resonate with God's own, everything else would have unfolded as it should, without effort. It all hinged on that.

2. Abundant evidence.

Where do you get that? How in the world can someone make such bold assertions about God? What possible evidence can there be that God is like a parent to us and wants to be intimately close to us?

It may be surprising to realize that evidence is abundant and all around us. Of course this “evidence” will not be direct, empirical evidence such as a biologist or physics student might demand. God has no form or body to measure, nor face to interview. Jesus said no one has ever seen God.¹⁰ There never will be such direct, empirical evidence. But, that doesn’t mean there is *no* evidence.

Many things exist for which we have no empirical evidence. We cannot measure or point to love, yet we cannot deny the existence of it. We have no direct, empirical evidence of man’s visions and dreams, yet they shape human destiny and history. Through the universal law of cause and effect, and deductive reasoning, we can see an abundance of evidence for a loving, parental and intimate God who wants to live within us and among us.

2.1 Nature

Nature is replete with examples of a parent-child relationship. The parent-child relationship is so commonplace that we hardly think about it. We even say there are parent stars and their offspring in the universe, and “the apple falls close to the tree” as we read our human experience of the parent-child relationship into our natural environment. The animal kingdom has countless examples to point to: horses, ducks, bears, dogs and cats, eagles, sparrows, deer, elk, elephants, porpoises, whales ... need we go on? Ask any third-grader to make a list of creatures who parent and care for their offspring. Of course, there are also plenty of exceptions. But the parent-child relationship is far more than incidental to nature. We have to admit, it is common.

It can also be argued that the higher on the evolutionary ladder a creature is, the more personality and heart is infused into it. A fly or earthworm has a very simple and basic infusion of instinctual nature, while a horse or chimpanzee demonstrate far more sophisticated personality, instinct, and heart. Needless to say, humans exhibit the highest expression of such personality traits, plus superior levels of creative thinking, problem solving and the capacity and potential for broad and deepest compassion.

So why state the obvious? Because of the ubiquitous law of cause and effect. Can we really believe that all this relatively similar and pervasive personality and heart originates from purposeless energy,

matter, coincidence or even from nothing at all? World famous scholars and thinkers have gathered annually for conferences to discuss the relationship between science and spirituality. They wrestle with how material can have a spiritual aspect. This is a noble pursuit. However, the deeper question which Dr. Moon raised is: How is it that matter can love? Does material have any inherent concern for “the other” beyond itself? How can it be that material can care about and willingly sacrifice for another? How can material put the welfare of the other before itself? Current scientific thought cannot answer this question.

When we look at human beings, it is commonly felt that a person who never experienced the parent-child relationship suffers some relative emptiness in their life and heart compared to those who do. That does not mean everyone has a positive experience in the parent-child relationship, but this is speaking in very general terms. This indicates that something deep inside of us knows that the parent-child relationship is not only important, but essential for our wellbeing and happiness.

If all this sounds childish and trivial, that would be understandable, but incorrect. If we take the time to ponder the existence and pervasiveness of the parent-child relationship among living things, we can begin to see the profound similarity in the nature of this relationship, regardless of what species we are looking at. The parents in any species demonstrate that they will risk their lives to protect and care for their young, showing that the underlying nature of the parent-child relationship is common and similar. Furthermore,

we can begin to realize that such a commonplace “effect” or attribute of the living natural world must have a relevant and common “cause”.

The Bible speaks to this point very simply in the Book of Genesis where it says God created human beings “in his image and likeness”.¹¹ The same can be implied with regard to the rest of nature since the manifestation of it (even if through purposeful and directed evolutionary processes) brought a sense of satisfaction to him. This satisfaction would reinforce the idea that nature is an expression of the personality and heart of the creator, much as an artist’s masterpiece brings a sense of satisfaction to the artist when it accurately reflects his or her personality and heart. Simplistic? Yes. But reasonable and logical at the same time.

What’s the point? The parent-child relationship found commonly among living things is evidence that the designer of life originally harbored a desire for such a parent-child relationship. Then if that is true, who might be the foremost intended target and expression of such a longing? It could only be man, designed with the potential to become the most satisfying object partner of God’s own longing for a parent-child relationship. God, as a parent, must have also longed for sons and daughters with whom he could enter into a deep, profound and intimate parent-child relationship. This may be an impossible stretch of logic for those who reason with their brains, but it should strike a chord in those who reason with their hearts.

2.2 The son's words

It is common for people to think of God as a master, partly because of the intermediary tutelage of the angelic/servant world over millennia.¹² But, when we come to Jesus, whose relationship with God was and is as his son, we learned about a different God; a God that is truly our Father. Jesus experienced and described many times his relationship of Father and son with God. And not only that, he said we should share in the same experience, ourselves. He taught us how to pray, saying “Our Father...”¹³ He taught about the tender, parental heart of God when he shared the parable of the lost sheep, in which the shepherd (representing God) forsook the entire flock to save one lost animal.¹⁴ Then there was the story of the prodigal son who squandered his inheritance through licentious living, but was treated with unconditional love and forgiveness when he returned home to his father (who again represented God).¹⁵

In various other parables and passages, Jesus conveyed that the parent-child relationship is what God is looking for with us. He instructed us to “be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect”¹⁶ and “be merciful even as your Father is merciful.”¹⁷ He said our “Father knows what you need before you ask him.”¹⁸ He called upon us to become “sons of your Father who is in heaven.”¹⁹ He admonished us saying: “Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”²⁰ Another time he said, “If you then,

who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”²¹ And finally he comforted us, saying “it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”²² How parental is that? These are not descriptions of a master-servant relationship, or a god who is disinterested in us.

Clearly, Jesus was trying to tell us that God is heavily into the parent-child relationship. Not only that, but the parental love we are talking about seeks intimacy with its beloved. On that basis, it is logical to believe that the invisible, intangible God is not interested in a distant and estranged relationship with his children, but rather seeks the opposite. Thus, the proposition that God dreams of living literally in us and among us in true love is a reasonable one backed up by substantial evidence. In a sense, we ourselves are the best evidence of this, and the natural world confirms it.

2.3 The intrinsic value of the object

Consider the fact that peace cannot exist without at least two parties involved. The word “peace” is nonsensical unless we are speaking of at least two. There can be no such thing as beauty unless there is both a subject and an object of that beauty. In a similar way, we can speak all day of true love, or the God of love, but if there is no object of that love, it is meaningless, even to God. Even true, divine love as deep and broad as an ocean cannot be experienced by a solitary being alone. Could a solitary God who has all the love in the universe

experience the love of a parent and child by himself? Could he experience the love of a husband and wife by himself? He could only imagine it. It would be impossible. That is why even God needs his object partner of love. It was his very reason for creating. It is revolutionary to think that God actually *needs* something, but he absolutely *needs* an object partner of his love.

A person can be thought of as a subjective being, but without so much as a speck of dust to call his object, he cannot function nor experience life. Even the great God is dependent upon his object for his own fulfillment; for the fulfillment of his own love. But, the real value of the relationship between the subject partner and the object partner hinges upon the quality of both. By observing the quality of nature and the universe, it would appear that the quality of the artist, or designer, or God is unimaginably high. Would such a God be fulfilled just relating with flowers, birds and fish? How satisfying can it be for such a virtuous and incredible God to have, as the greatest of his objects, people whose compassion and virtue is so mediocre, at best? If we have been God's hope for a fulfilling partner of love, as his children, our arrogance and selfish nature, our hatefulness and hurtfulness, our shallow hearts toward one another and nature, our many prejudices and limitations, etc. must certainly have weighed heavily on the heart of our Father as he looks for his true object of love.

Sure, you can be forgiven. But that does not rectify the problem. You may say Jesus is that son which God needs and longs for; the only son God needs for his fulfillment. Well, that would not square with

what Jesus said to us about becoming, ourselves, pleasing sons and daughters of our Father, as explained in the previous section. Why, then would God create all of us if Jesus is all he needs? To suffer with us just to forgive us? No. God would be a masochist. Jesus came to be a model for us to emulate, not just to forgive us. God created us to all become sons and daughters, fulfilling and amazing objects of his love. The forgiveness part was the *result* of man's deviance from God's original, beautiful plan. It was *not* the original plan itself.

God must still long for objects of his love who can reciprocate all of it and complete his own potential for happiness. If we say we were created "in his likeness", then when will we live up to it? Such is the end-game that God is longing for. God simply seeks sons and daughters with whom he can share all of his incredible love, intimately, living literally in us and among us; not observing us out there somewhere, apart from us.

So when did God become a god, and how?

3. When God became a “god”

Scholars may tell you that the notion of “God” as Yahweh was first identified in ancient texts as long ago as 1400 B.C.²³ However, that is not the answer we seek. Ancient artifacts and cave paintings of much earlier humans who had no written language confirm that some kind of religious rituals, or worship of a god, took place as much as forty-thousand years earlier.²⁴ But, that is still not the answer we seek. The story in the Bible of Cain and Abel tells of them building altars and making sacrifices to God.²⁵ But, that’s not the answer we seek, either. Angels considered God to be their master, in the role of a “god” to them, billions of years before the emergence of human life on earth, when construction of the physical universe was just getting started. God’s relationship with his angels has always been a vertical, master-servant relationship. Angels are not children born of parents. They do not have the experience of being parented. They do not consider God their “Father”. They are very contented with the love, care and guidance they receive from God as their master. Thus, from the time there were angels, God was a god. But, that is not the answer we seek either. So, when did God become “God”?

The brilliant game plan was for God to enter an entirely new phase of his own existence when he created mortal human beings with

all of his own internal attributes and endowed them with the ability to procreate and raise babies into adults. With the advent of parents and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, etc., the expressions of God's personality and love were destined to explode in myriad directions and dimensions. The experience of the heart of God as a loving Father was supposed to take substantial root in the family of human beings. So, once God created the mortal human family, he was expecting to enjoy a parent-child relationship with us, rather than a master-servant relationship like he already had with the angels. He would continue to be as a "god" to the angels who know not the experience of a family. But, he was NOT planning to be a "god" to his human children. He planned to be our Heavenly Parent, our Heavenly Father and Heavenly Mother, and he planned for endless generations of mature adult human beings to become resonant with him in their minds and hearts. This would enable him to experience life within us and among us; to share in all the interactions we experience.

God was NOT planning to be our "god". He was NOT planning for us to worship him as a master. It was contrary to his entire purpose for creating mortal humans in the first place. He could have been fully satisfied with creating millions and billions of angels of all shapes and sizes if he was satisfied to just be a "god". But no. He wanted much more. He wanted to live in us and among us, intimately. He had no intention of inspiring the creation of religions for humans. Who would need a religion, church, synagogue, mosque or temple if the living, loving God were resonating within our own hearts and minds, 24 hours a day. It was NOT part of the original plan of God.

So, when did God become a “god”? He became a god to human beings when his first children succumbed to a treacherous angel servant and fell into a distorted and disharmonious relationship with God. From that time forth, God was forced into the reprehensible relationship with fallen man of being our “god” instead of our intimate loving Parent. It was never supposed to be so. It was the most cataclysmic disaster of the universe. It turned upside down everything God had intended when he set out to create the physical world and mortal human beings. God was so distraught that he is cited in Genesis 6:6 as expressing that he was “*sorry* he made man on the earth, and it *grieved* him in his heart.” From that time on until today, God has tragically been relegated to being our “god”, totally against his will.

4. Why did God become a “god”

Why did God become a “god”? As you just read, it was because his plan didn’t work out. We were learning to fly in the beginning of human history, but we crashed and burned on takeoff.

So, what really happened in the lives of our progenitors to make God become a “god”? We might compare it to archery. As anyone with a little experience knows, if your aim is even a little bit off in the beginning of flight, the arrow will miss the target by a mile. The whole key to God’s beautiful plan rested on the maturing of the first man and woman before they had children. Any sociologist can understand that. According to God’s plan, the first parents needed to have God’s own love and heart so they could convey it to their children, generation-after-generation. Simple? Well, if the Bible record is correct, the first child born into this family killed the second.²⁶ The future was just as bleak. Something was very wrong in the first family. What was it? I assure you it had nothing to do with eating an apple.

The clever symbolism of the story starts to become obvious when you notice one of the main themes of this simple Bible narrative. The first humans were initially innocent, naked and not ashamed of their bodies. After their mistake, they displayed a striking loss of innocence. They covered their sexual organs and hid from God in shame. The so-called “serpent” was actually the angel Lucifer. The so-called “fruit”

was the part of the woman which, like any fruit, contained the seeds for reproduction, i.e., her sexual organ. Her eyes were opened to carnal knowledge through her mistake. The angel sexually seduced the first woman, in spirit of course, and conveyed to her his own underdeveloped, self-centered, seductive, deceitful, immature idea of what love is. That was the first woman's introduction to love. It was not what God had planned. Adam, of course, got the same introduction to this love from Eve. Thus, the first couple crashed and burned in a type of love which has fomented all of the pain and suffering that we know in the world today.

All of God's incredible and incalculable investment in his plan suddenly and totally collapsed before his eyes. His trusted servant raped his only daughter and demolished the heart of the woman who was to be the very wellspring of all of humanity -- of God's dream. Had the man grown to full maturity of heart and mind and become a resonant body of God's own mind and heart, virtually living within him, then this precious first woman would have experientially been God's wife. Had the woman grown to full maturity in heart and mind and become a resonant body of God's own heart and mind, virtually living within her, then this precious first man would have experientially been God's husband. But, God lost it all in one night. Not only that, but God lost his chance to experience the entire family, the school of love. It all crashed and burned in immature, self-centered, seductive and manipulative love. No wonder it is referred to as the "Fall".

What followed from this dysfunctional family? Every other dysfunctional family in history. Even those families that seem filled with love and happiness have not been what God had envisioned and planned. Children who grew up without a father around the house, or a grandfather, or any kind of fatherly role model, often have a very hard time comprehending what a “heavenly father” might be. In fact, negative experiences could even make the prospect of a “heavenly father” downright scary.

We were supposed to be living on a much higher plane than we have ever known. We are all living in the basement of hell, or close to it, thinking we are OK because everyone else is living there together with us. Since we are all suffering from this same sickness, we think we are well. We think we are normal. In reality, from God’s viewpoint, none of us are quite normal. He has never yet seen his plan unfold. He has never yet seen real human beings filled with his divine love and personality.

Well, here we are. Welcome to the “real world”. Make sure you program “9-1-1” into your new cell phone, and hold on.

5. Why have we been so ignorant of this situation until now?

From the time the first humans got seriously off the track of developing and maturing God's own heart and mind within themselves until a new Adam appeared, namely Jesus, who alluded to the original plan, we lived in total confusion about this. Not until Jesus spoke generally about it did we start to recognize our estranged relationship with our Parent in heaven. Jesus told of our being orphaned from our "Father" in heaven and unwillingly adopted by our fallen "father", the rebel angel who became known as "Satan" to whom we all bear some resemblance.²⁷ So, why have we been so ignorant of this situation until now?

We can offer several reasons. For one, we adopted the perspective of the angel who initiated this whole problem in the first place. For the angel who seduced the first woman, God was his god; his master. Thus, since the first humans had not yet fully experienced the breadth and depth of the parent-child relationship with their Heavenly Parent yet in their truncated process to maturity, they got stuck in the servant role with their bootleg father and new false role model. Even the elder son of the first human couple allegedly said to God in defiance: "*Am I my brother's keeper?*"²⁸ To which God gave no answer. This indignant question was a clear indication that humanity was already way off

track and in the ditch. The misguided arrow was already far off course to hit the target.

From another perspective, fallen human beings have propagated a social and cultural environment which has tended to reinforce our ignorance and confusion. One mistaken diagnosis leads to another, and another, and still another. Karl Marx looked around and saw conflict and struggle soaked into much of human nature and interaction. Therefore, he concluded that conflict and struggle was “natural” and all was as it should be. He then designed a worldview which encouraged mankind to progress through promoting more conflict and struggle, instead of through balance, harmony and cooperation.

Radical humanism and moral relativism have gone a similar path. Heartlessness begot more heartlessness. Revenge begot more revenge. It became like an endless tape on a tape recorder, or an mp3 music file set to repeat over-and-over. The question is not just how to stop it. The bigger question is: How can we even begin to recognize it in ourselves?

If future generations continue to grow up to be self-serving, self-centered adults, then we will naturally create more self-serving, self-centered cultures and raise more self-serving, self-centered children to follow us. It’s locked-in. We became locked-in. It became our modus operandi.

5.1 Fear vs Love

From another, but related perspective, we fallen people have created a culture soaked in and based on fear rather than one soaked in and based on love and trust.

Consider this: As has already been stated, since we don't embody fully matured and selfless love, we are estranged from God and from other people, to some extent. As a consequence, we are often afraid to let God into our life, even a little bit. We have sunken down to the point where we are afraid of dying. We are afraid of going to hell. We are afraid of getting old. We are afraid of not having enough time, money or resources. We are afraid we will not be loved enough. We are afraid we are not pretty enough. We are afraid of growing old. We are afraid of the things we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe. We are afraid of becoming the victim of crime. We are afraid of losing our job. We are afraid of rejection. We are afraid of not getting the education we need or which our parents expect. We are afraid of not being happy. We are afraid of being punished. We are afraid of people finding out who we really are. We are afraid of losing control of our lives. We are afraid of relationships. We are afraid of commitments. We are afraid of disappointing our loved ones.

You might say that some of these fears are only the symptoms of people in economically developed countries. Poor people in Africa do not fear some of these things, you say. Well, from experience, it is

common that when poor people get a taste of some of the comforts of developed civilization, the same fears automatically emerge. It would seem that the seeds of fear are planted deep within all of us. And, all this fear results in stress, disease, nervous breakdowns, aggression, cancers, depression, heart attacks, and more fear.

In contrast, had human beings matured their love and personalities as God had planned for us to do, a mirror reflection of all this would be our reality today. We cannot even imagine a world without all this fear. A life filled with fear is like a constant breeze blowing in our faces. We have become accustomed to it. It's always there. So, we think it is normal.

We should be living in a world of love and trust. We should not be afraid of dying because it's a natural extension of our physical life and there was not supposed to be any dark destiny to fear, such as hell. We should prize our elders and grandparents and even live as three generations in one household, respecting and thriving on the wisdom and love of our elders instead of getting them out of our sight by putting them away in some kind of senior's facility. We should be surrounded by love all of our lives, from cradle to grave. We should be so consumed in living for the sake of others and loving them that we would not even notice if we were receiving enough love back or not. And, of course we would be receiving all the love we could want and need because we are caring so much for others. It's a natural response. We should be loving nature so much that the things we eat are healthy, by default. We would not pollute, spread chemicals and insecticides, and genetically ruin the things we take into our bodies.

We would have too much love for that. We would see the deep and awesome beauty in every child of God. Everyone would be attractive to us. Everyone is a masterpiece of God, with a unique story and world of their own. We would not worry about losing our job because our boss would value us as if we were his own family member. If we did have to change jobs, finding a new one would not be scary or difficult. New employers would want to put us to work as part of their family and team of employees. We would not think of hiding our true selves in a closet. We would thrive on relationships and think nothing of commitments because they would be commitments of a sincere heart and love. No need to go further. I think we get it.

So, here's the point. One big reason we're so ignorant of our estranged relationship with God is that we are too afraid to see it for what it is. We are afraid to ask the hard questions. We are afraid to question what our religious teachers have told us in the past. We are afraid we might risk whatever free salvation we may have been promised. We are afraid to rock the boat. We are afraid to consider the possibility that perhaps everyone has been wrong. We are afraid of responsibility before God and any potential consequences.

Therefore, we tend to seek out and welcome a quick fix, cheap grace, a magic pill, a superman who will save us without our having to do anything, ourselves. We are soaked with fear, so we cannot let ourselves see the real situation. Fear begets fear.

We have to have the courage to break out of this trap. We actually have nothing to lose but fear, itself. It is irrational. It is illogical. But, here we are. Pass me my drug of choice, please. Escape? Good luck.

6. What did we do to the new Adam?

You may call it delusion or wishful thinking, but human beings seem to have a part of their psyche that senses or knows there is a superior being which is the basis of their own existence and that of the world around them. The circumstantial evidence of this can be found in the fact that human beings have persistently sought knowledge of and/or worshipped some kind of divine being since recorded history, in almost every culture we can find evidence of, even when such notions were socially and politically oppressed and forbidden, as under atheistic communism. Add to this many other-worldly experiences of life after death, some of which cannot be easily dismissed as psychosis.

At the same time, there has also been a segment of the population which opposed this, wanting instead to believe that there is no personality or intelligence behind it all, but rather just self-existent energy, random accidental mutations and some kind of self-existing laws of nature, as many currently try to explain it today.

In this author's opinion, this atheistic "faith" is perhaps more demanding than that which is commonly found among religious believers. But, this earthly debate continues to rage on and will continue until science proves, beyond all skepticism, that there is an

intelligence and personality behind the design and progressive development of nature. That scientific proof is unfolding as we write. The convergence of quantum physics with biological sciences may well be the last chapter in this debate.

The problem is, fallen human beings who do believe there is such an intelligent origin of the universe, have also wanted to make that being a master-god, superman-god, tyrannical god, self-centered and egotistical god, blood-thirsty god, fearsome god, dominating god, or a god of judgment and control over human destiny who may also harbor a merciful and loving side which will spare only those obedient children from eternal punishment in the furnace of hell. Many, if not most, cultures in history that we know of have either imagined or created such gods to worship and fear. Some commonly recognized examples, of course, are the Greeks, Hindu's, Egyptians, Mayan's, Aztec's, etc. You can find literally hundreds of volumes about all this, so no more time will be spent on such well-documented background. But, if we are humble enough to admit it, even the major Abrahamic faith traditions have done the same, namely Judaism, Christianity and Islam, which brings us to the point of this chapter.

God conveyed his thoughts and will to man in the Old Testament era by way of prophets and angels. The prophets were fallen people like the rest of us and were not uniquely conjoined with the creator God, but they received important messages to convey to the rest of us. Angels are servant beings and know the creator only as a master. (see the book *Angelic DNA*) Their interpretations of God's messages to fallen human beings was often tainted with their own experiences of

the master-servant relationship, rather than that of a loving parent-child relationship. “Now I know that you *FEAR* God”, an angel announced to Abraham as he was preparing to sacrifice his son on an altar.²⁹ “The LORD will smite you with the boils of Egypt, and with the ulcers and the scurvy and the itch, of which you cannot be healed. The LORD will smite you with madness and blindness and confusion of mind.”³⁰

God was sadly clothed in the appearance of such a stern and even fearsome master by way of his angelic messengers and subsequently by those faithful humans educated by them. It was not until God’s son came, in the person of Jesus, that it was revealed to mankind that God is actually a tender-hearted loving Father who cares about even one lost sheep or about a prodigal son, etc. We found out, for the first time, that God is a god of deepest love and compassion, and not a God to be feared at all. That was revolutionary.

But then, what did fallen mankind do with this son of God, Jesus? St. Paul called Jesus a new Adam.³¹ But, believers later made Jesus into “God the son”, instead of letting him remain the awesome “son of God”. While this was totally anathema to Jewish believers, as well as to the Muslims who would later come after them, still we could not resist interpreting the scriptures that were available about Jesus to mean that he was literally God.

To be God was not the plan. Jesus clearly never thought of himself as literally God. While there are a few passages in the Bible that people mistakenly choose to interpret to mean or infer that Jesus is literally God (for a list, refer to footnote 32), the majority of what

was written clearly shows that God and Jesus were two very distinct beings, and not the same entity at all. (for a list, refer to footnote 33) It is clear from these Biblical passages, taken objectively and without the help of scholars steeped in traditional and sometimes misguided preconceptions, that Jesus never thought of himself as the creator God. He considered himself the son of God, not God the son.

And, he clearly wanted people to emulate him and become *like* him rather than worship him as a god. He said, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”³⁴ He said, “I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.”³⁵ For Jesus to become a deity to be worshipped, i.e. to be the unattainable God, was clearly NOT the plan.

It may sound vain to say, but the fullness of God’s intended plan for the new Adam was totally missed by all until it was thoroughly explained by Dr. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. In fact, it should be obvious and simple. A new Adam replaces the failed Adam. The failed Adam, together with his wife, learned immature, self-centered, seductive and manipulative love in their spiritual love triangle with the rebellious angel and set humanity off down the wrong road. The result was the relatively heartless and compromised world we have inherited and continue to live in today.

So what was the intended plan for Jesus, the new Adam? Simple. The new Adam needed his new Eve with whom he would restore and perfect the Divine and precious sexuality and conjugal love so damaged by the first spirit-filled human couple. Divine sexuality and true selfless compassion between husband and wife, between father

and mother had to be repaired and restored in order for God's divine families and society to emerge. That was going to be Jesus' revolutionary contribution and the way the literal Kingdom of God was going to be created on the earth. But, he was rejected and killed before he could take his bride. Thus, this "marriage supper of the lamb"³⁶ became an event prophesied in the book of Revelation to occur sometime in the future. Jesus offered his life to open a way of forgiveness for humanity, but the revolutionary transformation of humanity into God's world was postponed.

A new human lineage and family was to have been created by Jesus and his bride, standing in the positions of a new Adam and Eve. Mary is hailed by many Catholic believers as being even superior to a new Eve in that she is regarded as "Queen" Mary. However, Catholicism and much of the broader Christian family, in general, regard both Mary and Jesus as being virgins and celibate. A sexless Jesus and a sexless Mary (not even Jesus' wife) do not even begin to address both man's and God's headache of degraded marital and familial love and human sexuality. This is fundamental to restoring the literal human family and society of God on earth which was always intended as the literal dwelling place of God; not on a throne somewhere in the hereafter to be worshipped.

The new heavenly couple, Jesus and his new Eve, were not only to teach us about loving our neighbor and loving our enemy. It was not to stop there. They were to go on to teach us how to love as husband and wife with God's incredible, ecstatic divine love in a sexual revolution that would not take us down the road of cheap porn

and infidelity, but rather up the road of beautiful, eternal and happy marriage and family life. Imagine what a different world we would be living in now.

To be God was NOT the plan. God wanted to live within and among his children in families filled with his own divine love; not far away in heaven. It was God's strategy to fulfill himself as well as us, mutually together at the same time. Wow! There was no thought to create religion to save sinners in God's original plan. It was all about love, life and family saturated with God's own beautiful spirit and happiness. You wouldn't even have to go out into nature, into the mountains and forests and streams, to find God; he was to be literally living in your heart, your marriage and your family.

7. How we made Jesus God

Before beginning to explain how we made Jesus God, let me allay any potential confusion by offering my personal profession of faith and belief about Jesus. I really love Jesus. I believe he really was unique in all of human history as a person sent by God to be the new model ancestor of humanity; i.e., a new “Adam” as St. Paul described him. I believe he was born sinless, without the spiritual yoke of the Fall which has plagued mankind, and that he grew through his sufferings to become the long-awaited Messiah, or Christ, as St. Paul said in the book of Hebrews.³⁷ I believe his understanding and his oneness with God in character and heart qualified him to be totally capable of transforming humanity into heaven on earth, as it was originally intended to be. And, I believe he offered his life on the cross to make possible the forgiveness of sins. Wouldn't that be awesome enough? But no. We had to make him God.

Because the disciples 2000 years ago couldn't really understand how great Jesus was, people step-by-step turned him into God. And because we turned Jesus into God, faithful disciples *today* cannot really understand how great Jesus is. How on earth did we do this?

Consciously or unconsciously, well-meaning people mythologized the real Jesus over the past two millennia. In addition to wrongly interpreting what Jesus thought of himself, as mentioned in

the last chapter, many Biblical scholars and preachers also went on to manufacture questionable evidence to help convince themselves and others that he is actually God. A thorough explanation is beyond this little book, but let's survey some of the most striking examples.

7.1 His words

Too often times people believe what they *want* to believe, regardless of the information at-hand. When Jesus is quoted as saying “He who sees me sees him who sent me,”³⁸ well-meaning sincere believers often interpret this to mean that Jesus was saying he is God. Clearly, his comment may not mean that at all, but then people have been taught to interpret it that way by the Biblical “experts”. The interpretation is based on the *preconception* that Jesus *is* God. If we did not have such a preconception, our interpretation might be totally different. Jesus could just as well have been saying that his character and heart are expressing God's own character and heart. But no. This statement, and a few others like it, have become classic “evidence” that Jesus is literally God. (see footnote 32 for a list of related passages)

7.2 The virgin birth

That Mary was a virgin when she conceived Jesus is not challenging for anyone to understand or believe. That would be normal for a young woman, especially a young Jewish woman at that

time. However, the claim of many Roman Catholics and some protestant Christians is that Mary was impregnated directly by God and was therefore still a virgin after giving birth to baby Jesus. Not only that, but many regard Mary as being “ever virgin”, meaning that even the Biblical references to Jesus’ brothers was actually speaking of either Jesus’ cousins or children born to Joseph from a previous marriage. Their claim is that they couldn’t possibly be actual “brothers” of Jesus as this would negate Mary’s eternal virginity. Some seek to justify this by saying there was no Hebrew term for “cousin” at the time, so James and the others were therefore called “brothers”. This is simply not true. There were multiple Hebrew terms for “cousins” if that was what they really were.

But, let’s go back to the roots of the “virgin birth”. The prophet Isaiah said, “Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”³⁹ In fact, the Hebrew word used by Isaiah was “Almah”. The word *Almah* does not necessarily refer to a virgin woman, but rather a maiden, or young woman or unmarried woman. This Hebrew term was used nine times in the Old Testament, including one in which it referred to a prostitute.⁴⁰ Of course, when the Greeks had to interpret this word, it may have looked appropriate to choose the Greek word for “virgin” since a young Hebrew girl should be stoned to death if she had sex prior to marriage. One thing leads to another.

A renowned historical-critical Biblical scholar, Dr. Robert Price, published a paper⁴¹ in which he called out the writer of the book of Luke for interjecting what he believes was a purposefully misleading

statement into the Gospel narratives. He is not alone in this view. After the angel told Mary that she would “conceive in her womb and bear a son and call his name Jesus”, the Gospel writer of Luke said Mary responded to the angel by saying, “How shall this be since I have no husband?”⁴² As Dr. Price points out, such a response by Mary makes no sense at all and does not fit the context. After all, Mary is engaged to be married to Joseph. His point is, her appropriate response would have been to say something like, “But why me, of all people?”

In addition, history records more than 30 mythological deities among the Greeks, Hindu’s, Egyptians and others, prior to the birth of Jesus, who were allegedly “born of virgins”.⁴³ Perhaps the writer of the book of Luke felt compelled to portray Jesus in at least an equal light to these mythological predecessors.

It has long been speculated that the priest Zachariah may have been the biological father of Jesus. The Bible states that Mary stayed for three months in the home of the priest Zachariah and his wife Elizabeth after she received the revelation about her impending Holy child. When she left their house and reunited with Joseph, she was pregnant with Jesus. When Joseph became aware of Mary’s pregnancy, he was sorely upset and intended to leave her, knowing that the child was not his own. But, an angel spoke to Joseph in a dream and told him that “what is conceived in her womb is of the Holy Spirit”.⁴⁴ Within this classic pillar of Christian theology lies a classic example of our proposition. Is this statement saying that God directly impregnated Mary in some supernatural way? It *can* mean that if you *WANT* it to. But, without the overlay of preconceived notions, it

clearly does not say that. Mary conceived of the Holy Spirit. There is no objective reason to think that the Holy Spirit of God made her pregnant in some supernatural way without a biological father to deliver the sperm.

An amazingly in-depth explanation for Jesus' sinless and pure birth through the vehicle of Mary and Zachariah can be found in the teachings of the late Dr. Sun Myung Moon. Dr. Price extolled Dr. Moon's extensive reasoning for Zachariah being the biological father of Jesus. The bottom line is, in part due to this mythological "evidence" about Jesus' birth, Jesus became God.

7.3 The miracles

There is no reason to think that Jesus did not perform so-called "miracles". After all, Moses and Aaron did impressive "miracles" compared even to those Jesus did. Numerous other persons in the Bible did "miracles", as have many Christian faith healers past and present. Many non-Christian spiritualists and mystics have also performed similar miraculous feats. So, the question before us is: "Does that make Jesus God?" Let's look at some of the miraculous "evidence" being lifted up in the minds of many believers as proof that Jesus is God.

The raising of Lazarus from the dead⁴⁵ is cited by many as evidence that Jesus is God. Well, those who study their Bibles know that the prophet Elijah also brought a dead man back to life.⁴⁶ Not only that but a friend of Elijah's named Elisha, another lesser-known

Hebrew prophet, also raised a dead boy.⁴⁷ Did that make these people God? No one thinks so. Then we should wonder why people are encouraged to think that this is evidence that Jesus is somehow God.

Then, there is the story of Jesus walking on the stormy sea. It's a great story. Many valuable lessons have been taught and learned through this story. It was related to us by the writers of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and John. Therefore it must have happened, right? Perhaps. But, serious questions arise when one reads carefully what the various narratives actually say. The writer of the book of Mark described how Jesus walked out on the stormy sea to the boat filled with his frightened disciples and calmed the storm.⁴⁸ The writer of the book of John said that as soon as Jesus stepped into the boat, the boat was instantly at the shore.⁴⁹ Granted, there is no big difference there. But the writer of the book of Matthew said that when Jesus approached the boat, Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water to Jesus and met him in the midst of the sea.⁵⁰ Wow! Did the writers of Mark and John forget that Peter got out of the boat and walked on the sea like Jesus? How could they forget that? Wouldn't it be more amazing for Peter to walk on the sea than for Jesus? How could they forget that? It has to make one wonder what really happened. But again, this has become "evidence" that the incredibly awesome savior of the world and son of God, Jesus, is literally God.

Another such pivotal miracle was when Jesus appeared in the "shut" room to his disciples after his death and said to doubting Thomas: "See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."⁵¹

Well, first of all, there is the dilemma of Jesus appearing in a “shut” room and then disappearing again, more than once. How can a physical body go through shut windows and doors? Was the resurrected Jesus really “physical” or did he return in his spiritual body? The word “spirit” was used in the King James and Standard Revised Versions of the Bible, where it means a bodiless demon or apparition, as opposed to a “ghost”. In the New International Version of the Bible, the meanings of the words are switched and Jesus says he is not a “ghost”, where it means a bodiless demon or apparition as opposed to a “spirit”.

A survey of relevant Bible passages reveals that 22 passages⁵² indicate that Jesus returned spiritually, rather than physically, when he appeared to various people, compared with only 3 passages⁵³ which might be interpreted otherwise if the reader chooses to. A Catholic priest once told me that Jesus was not physical, but said he wasn't a spirit either. Therefore, he came back in a “glorified body”. When I asked what that meant, he replied that he did not know the meaning of “glorified body” but that we must call it something, so “glorified body” is the term we use. “We don't know what it really means,” he said.

Well again, those who are familiar with the Bible may remember how two angels ate dinner in Lot's house⁵⁴, and how an angel dislocated the thigh bone of Jacob's leg when they wrestled through the night.⁵⁵ Some people also believe that the Nephilim mentioned in Genesis were actually angels who had sex with women and bore children.⁵⁶ In any case, it would seem that there is sufficient Biblical

evidence to justify a spiritual Jesus being tangible to doubting Thomas by way of his spiritual body. Truly Jesus resurrected, and bodily. There should be no question about that. There can be no other explanation for the reinvigoration of his demoralized disciples after his crucifixion. They must have experienced something dramatic. The question is, did he resurrect in a spiritual body or a physical body. The weight of evidence in the Bible clearly comes down on the side of a spiritual resurrection, and not a physical one. But again, due in part to this mythology about Jesus, we made him God.

And finally, there are the stories of the empty tomb. Again, like the stories of Jesus walking on the stormy sea, there are several narratives relating the events surrounding the empty tomb of Jesus. This event is arguably the most important of all the “evidence” of Jesus being God. After all, who else has walked away from their own tomb like Jesus? But again, when we read carefully the several versions of this story given by the various Gospel writers, one is left to wonder.

While we can be sure Jesus died on the cross and was buried, it seems mysterious that the location of the precious tomb of Jesus was unknown and unattended by any pilgrims to the Holy Land until the fourth century AD, during Constantine’s reign? If the tomb were known before then, certainly a line of early Christians would have paid homage at such a Holy site.

Dr. Young Oon Kim points out an even more troubling aspect to this story. She reminds us that St. Paul, who was personally briefed by the actual disciples of Jesus before beginning his own public ministry,

and this being almost 20 years before the earliest Gospel was even written, seemed to know nothing about the empty tomb of Jesus.⁵⁷ Did none of them mention it to St. Paul? If they did, wouldn't he have spoken of such a major event? Again, it makes one wonder what really happened. But again, the bottom line is, the empty tomb has been one of the main pieces of "evidence" cited for the belief that Jesus came back physically, and therefore he must be God.

No matter what supernatural things we might attribute to Jesus, if he is God, then these things are not so impressive. God can do anything, right? But, if Jesus is actually a man, but a man who has the love, understanding, authority, and ability to raise up and transform broken people and families into the happy, prosperous and peaceful ideal world that God had intended from the beginning... Wow! How great is that man? We didn't need to make Jesus into God. But, we did it because we didn't understand how incredibly awesome and great he really was and is as God's son.

8. What's God's plan today?

God's plan today is exactly the same as his original plan, with some tweaks. The main difference is, now he has to fix broken mankind and transform us into his original unbroken children. Dare we compare it to trying to reform a prostitute into a virgin. Impossible you say? Well, almost, but God has a way. Lucky for us.

The rebellion with the first humans infected virtually every descendant with a disfigured personality and an inability to grow and fully mature their love, from God's point of view. The solution rests on the foundation of engrafting. The "wild olive tree"⁵⁸ must be cut off and a shoot from a "true olive tree" must be engrafted into it to produce a new generation of plants. No one can do this but a fully matured "true olive tree". Christianity refers to this "true olive tree" as the Messiah. It's a slippery term. It depends who you ask as to what it means. Better to call this person a new "Adam".

Jesus was a new Adam, in the words of St. Paul⁵⁹, but engrafting did not occur in Jesus' lifetime because he could not recreate the roles of both Adam and Eve, the parents of humanity who crashed and burned. A new, fully matured Adam *and* Eve must be recreated for the engrafting to take place in mortal man. If they are not fully mature and resonant with the living, loving God, then nothing can be gained. But, with that accomplishment, a new family tree of humanity, fully under

God's realm of dominion and love, can begin. The era for this has now come.

The new seed couple brings a new lineage, new perspective, new tradition, new understanding, new remedies, new culture, new level of compassion and love, and new potential for happiness that humanity has ever been waiting and hungering for. We just need to welcome it and run with it. If we do, the future will be nothing like the past. But, we have to take it in our hands and build the future. God will not do it for us.

God still abides by His same guidelines: He refuses to violate our human portion of responsibility and free will. He will not do it for us. He is patiently sacrificing beyond all human understanding to give us a new start. That's all. That's enough. That's all we need. To want more than that is fallen man's greed and wrong thinking. Stop looking for Superman to do it all for you.

So, what's God's plan today? Simple but not easy: Be fruitful, multiply, and have dominion, all to be saturated this time with God's beautiful love and virtue. We have to go down and start building new foundations under this new house.

To become truly fruitful, as God intended and designed us to be, we have to become resonant with God in heart and mind. To truly multiply, we have to multiply God's love and personality in not only our families, but in everything we do. To truly have dominion, we must do so with God's love and tender care for nature and the world around us, not just with technology and skill sets. The plan has not changed. God has not changed. The only ones who need to change are

us. We are out of sync with creation. We are out of sync with God and the universe. We are out of sync with one another. We need to change. I need to change. No one will do it for me. I'm sorry to inform you, but the same goes for each and every one of us.

However, there is a silver lining in that sobering proclamation. The good news is, since it's up to you and you have to do it for yourself, then you are in control of your own future. No one is going to fit your square shape into a round hole. Your victories will be yours and your bruised knees will be yours, too. You can go at your own pace. The doorknob is in your hands. Turn it and open the door. You are in charge of your own destiny. It has long been said: "What you are is God's gift to you, and what you become is your gift to God."⁶⁰ There is great truth in that statement.

9. What's MY part in it?

It's not enough for God to forgive us for everything wrong. It's very important to receive and feel that forgiveness from God, but it doesn't really change the outcome or solve the underlying problems. Someone has to unravel the tangled ball of yarn. Each person has to reverse the internal processes which have led to this result. We have to undo what is wrong and re-form ourselves in the correct way. There is no short cut. There is no magic pill. We will either be part of the problem, or we will be part of the solution. There is no middle ground here. You can sit on the sidelines and see how it goes, but doing so will only delay your own happiness and recovery.

So where to start? When he was just a teenager, the late Dr. Sun Myung Moon (1920-2012) was personally visited by Jesus in spirit and commissioned by him with the task of rectifying the human condition by setting us on the right path to transforming humanity -- the work that Jesus began 2000 years ago, but could not finish. Thus, he (the new Adam) said he would have to come again. Through his lifelong commitment to this calling, Dr. Moon uncovered the unknown details of God's original plan for mankind, as well as all the steps we need to take to get back to it from here. As part of his calling, he also had to discover all the back alley secrets of the Fall and exactly what happened to people to disfigure us so badly. He was bitterly

persecuted from every side for his findings and efforts. That's to be expected. The Dark Side (in spiritual terms) did not welcome this man's huge contribution to God's work to save us. Your first step is to find out what he uncovered, and then challenge it and explore it thoroughly. If you find that what he discovered is correct, you need to digest it thoroughly and make it your own.

Your next step will be to implement the prescribed process to correct the problems and the damage. There are several layers to these problems. First, there is a problem of man's lineage. A full explanation is beyond the scope of this booklet, but suffice it to say that our situation can only be resolved on the foundation of an originally-intended kind of man-woman relationship, now called the Blessing Marriage. This is not just any old traditional marriage ceremony with a few extra new prayers tacked onto it. It is unique and eternal and only possible through the ministry of the late Dr. and Mrs. Moon. He called it the literal "antidote" to the devastating effects of the mistake of our first ancestors. He and Mrs. Moon became anointed by God as "True Parents" to re-create the roles of the original, fallen parents who messed everything up. Through this new seed couple, a new family tree is being cultivated which will eventually consume all other "wild olive trees". Through this connection, the lineal connection with the fallen angel, which Jesus spoke about in the book of John, chapter 8, in the Bible, will be rectified and you will be physically and spiritually engrafted back fully into God's own original plan.

Hard to believe, you say? Amazing, you say? Well yes, of course. But, that's the easy part. The next step you have to take is to embark

on two ambitious journeys in your life which are equally important and interrelated. One journey you must undertake is to apply the teachings and discoveries of Dr. Moon to the task of deepening and maturing your heart of compassion.

You must have the highest of personal goals on this journey. Whatever level of compassion and love you are familiar with is not enough. You need to become a living temple of God's own heart and mind. You need to become like Jesus' brother or sister. You need to become an original man or woman. You need to become resonant with God, himself.

Impossible? Not. If it were impossible, then God's whole original plan would be unachievable, and Jesus' admonition to us to become "perfect" in heart would also be useless. If it were impossible, there would be no need to bother trying. But, it is not impossible. It is actually *natural*, from God's point of view, while it may seem *unnatural* from ours. We have lived so long in our squalor that we have grown accustomed to it and even think it is comfortable, like an old worn out pair of slippers.

This is, of course, not a quick or easy task. It has never been done in the past because the problem of the lineage was never resolved. The Dark Side has always been able to undermine anyone's and everyone's efforts to repair and perfect themselves in the past, largely because of the lineage problem. Now that the resolution of this is possible, the full maturity of your love and compassion is now also achievable. It will be an exciting and fulfilling journey. It can be a fun journey. There is no clear finish line. Love is never finished growing

in our hearts. That's the nature of love. But heh, what is there better to do with your life? And what can give you a greater payoff? It will impact your love of yourself, God's love for you, your love for your spouse and children and friends, and their love for you. Wow! You cannot buy these, anywhere.

The second life journey, which needs to be undertaken together with the first (since we have only one lifetime), is to discover the internal damage that has been done to you and to clean it out or fix it. You noticed that this second journey has two parts. The first is to discover what your damage is. This is not so easy. In reality, every human being is literally soaked with the damage. The disfigurements in our heart, mind and spirit are so subtle and commonplace that we have grown accustomed to them and we think we are fine. In reality, these are the poisons and potholes that make our lives difficult, problematic, painful, frustrating, unhappy, disconnected, and destructive.

These internal damages fall generally into four basic areas. The first is a failure to find God's perspective in the affairs of life. This can be addressed by daily ingestion of God's viewpoint by way of study and reflection, leading to implementation. How we think about something or someone influences how we feel emotionally. How we think and feel emotionally guides our actions. Our actions then become habits and affect our eternal spirit. Our habits will shape our destiny. And, all this affects those around us, and even our physical environment. There is even more to it than that, but this is enough for now. We must change the way we think or nothing else will change.

We must discover the perspectives that align with nature and the original plan.

The second area of damage is a tendency to be irresponsible in life. That may sound like a no-brainer, but it's not that simple. We fallen people are not even aware of what God considers our responsibility. We have historically been dumping much of our responsibility in God's lap. That time must come to an end. God designed and planned for his children to become every bit like himself. He expected mature, adult humans to become like little temples of his heart, mind and spirit. We need to contemplate the depth of what these words mean. Just keep in mind, if we keep living like we have in the past, we will keep getting the same results we have gotten in the past. We need to raise the bar on this one. And, of course you are right: Taking responsibility in life relies on our gaining more and more God's perspective towards everything (fixing the first area of damage).

The third area of damage we need to work on is our tendency to dominate other people and also our environment *without* a loving and selfless heart and motivation. We might call it manipulation, coercion, seduction, revenge, bullying, intimidation, abuse, machoism,... even oppression and terrorism. While few of us are terrorists or radicals, we do have some of this coercive nature in us, especially when "push comes to shove". If you reflect on yourself, you may begin to see it. It is subtle, as are all of these problem areas. The first step with all of them is self-reflection and introspection. We need to see it in ourselves before we can address it and then fix it or purge it.

The final of the four areas we need to work on can be simply described as self-justification. How do we do this? Often we subconsciously try to get others to join us in our wrong behavior (see above), or make others look worse than we do so we can feel better about ourselves.

If you may have noticed, the four areas of damage bear similarity to the motivation and persona of the instigator of this whole mess, the angel who seduced God's first daughter and wife-to-be. This is not accidental. It is consequential. The apple falls close to the tree. This is why Jesus said that we fallen people bear a strong resemblance to our fallen "father", the angel.⁶¹ Jesus knew it and talked about it. He gave a 3-word generic prescription for partial healing of the problem – "love your enemy"⁶², but we have to really get serious now and start living it. We cannot proudly hold our heads up to God and proclaim that we have successfully been living these three simple words of Jesus. All the crime, hate, racism, war, abuse, divorce, loneliness, slavery, selfishness, etc., will testify against us. We have nowhere to hide.

When we have progressed a distance on these life-changing journeys, we will be well on our way to returning to the original plan and condition which God intended in the beginning. Sound like a lot of work? Not really. It needs to become a way of life. What else were you planning to do with your life? After all, you don't have to give up your job or hobbies to do this. It needs to be a way of life underlying everything else you do. You can do it. God is behind it. God has

designed it. God will encourage and help us. But, human beings need to do it because we are the ones who messed it up, not God.

9.1 Vitamin C for the soul

Among the various vitamin and mineral supplements, some are known to have amazing benefits for our health and well-being. One which is well known to have an incredibly broad range of benefits is vitamin C. Unlike other mammals, humans do not create enough vitamin C in their own body system to maintain good health. We must eat enough of the right foods to get it, or we need to supplement our food intake.

Vitamin C is a strong antioxidant. It has the power to heal and remedy or improve so many of our ailments, they are too numerous to mention. Some people just do not get enough vitamin C in their system to keep them healthy. Not always, but often when a dog gets sick, their body generates many times its normal levels of vitamin C until the sickness is gone. It is truly miraculous stuff.

In a similar way, there is something that can heal and remedy a wide spectrum of spiritual and emotional ailments in our psyche, and that is the combination of love and gratitude. Love is something we have been talking about a lot. But gratitude is another matter. Let's look at it.

With a deep heart of sincere gratitude, things like envy and jealousy become next to impossible. With sincere gratitude, not only for the nice things in life but even for the little things and the difficult

challenges, resentment and revenge become alien to us. With gratitude, we look at challenges as opportunities instead of roadblocks. With gratitude, we see what is good in a person instead of being blinded by their shortcomings. With gratitude, we do not come to the conclusion that we are too good for a particular situation, job or relationship. With gratitude, we see difficult people as our needy brothers and sisters, waiting for our help, rather than annoyances to avoid. With gratitude, we trigger the help and assistance of God, instead of repulsing him with our complaining, blaming and criticizing. With gratitude, we take our responsibilities with a smile instead of avoiding them. With gratitude, we see the long-range future benefit and feel comfortable with deferred gratification instead of needing and demanding satisfaction “right now”. With gratitude, we make everyone around us peaceful and happy to be with us, instead of giving them reasons to want to leave. With gratitude, we can be happier with what we have instead of constantly chasing the next great “thing” that will hopefully fill our insatiable need for stimulation. With gratitude, we can relax from the stresses of life and breathe easily, without the need for yoga or meditation.

With gratitude, life is completely different. Gratitude is the perfect prerequisite for the love we need to grow and nurture in ourselves. In fact, without gratitude, the efforts to grow our love will be like seeds fallen on rocky soil. Our acidic soil will not support life.

So, as we pursue our lifelong journeys to clean ourselves up inside, and also to grow our selfless love and hearts, it would do us well to begin our adventure by building a deep and strong foundation

of gratitude in our life. How? It begins with a conscious decision to look for the silver lining in every cloud; to see the cup half-full instead of half-empty; to find the benefit instead of the liability; to build on the strengths instead of the weaknesses. It's all in what you look for. If you look for darkness, that is what you will see. If you look for light, you will see light.

10. How will things play out going forward?

The transition from a self-serving, self-centered world to a world of profoundly deep compassion as a commonplace will not be a quick nor easy one. Bringing real change to 7 billion + people will take a few generations, at least. But, from a historical perspective, that's pretty reasonable and quick. There are many strategic ways to speed up the process, however. We can do this.

The transition of YOU from being a somewhat self-serving, self-centered person into a person who is 100% sincerely and literally "living for the sake of others" can be done much more quickly. If you focus on this task, you can see serious change in yourself, month-by-month and year-by-year. You need to learn more deeply and clearly what all this stuff means, and you need to apply it in your life. The broad-brush basics were discussed in chapter 6. Dig deeper into this new perspective for more useful and practical understanding.

In the bigger global perspective, strategies will come into play. In past history, whenever God introduced to humanity a major upgrade in His work of healing and helping us, very few people initially responded to it. It looked hopeless and dismal. Unfortunately, God is used to that. However, whether it be Christianity and Jesus, or Islam and Mohammad, or Buddhism and Buddha, etc., we find millions or even billions of people now subscribing to their revolutionary contributions. The same will happen with the work of Dr. and Mrs.

Moon. It is guaranteed because God is behind it, as in the past. It does not matter who tries to criticize it or persecute it; nor how many. That is irrelevant in the long-range view of things.

But, even more good news awaits us. Not only will the number of those participating in this work snowball, but when the day comes such that even one tiny nation adopts this work as a cultural phenomenon, then one-by-one you will begin to see a quickening and even a domino effect of one nation after another following in pursuit. Few may be particularly interested in the insights and revelations brought by Dr. and Mrs. Moon, but everyone is interested in happiness, peace, prosperity, fulfillment and love. Everyone wants a better life and future for their children and grandchildren. Thus, it will not take thousands of years for the world to be transformed into God's original plan. God knows this clearly. He is sure of it. The only question is: Will I be left behind, dragged along like dead weight, or pulling at the front of the line?

Key leaders will add a further strategic boost. At some point, a new "Saul" or "St. Paul" will emerge. It will be someone who is widely respected and listened to above the noise of this world. When that person gets on-board with what God is doing in this new era, many others will follow him. That's why, once Jesus had rounded up his faithless disciples following his death, his first order of business was to find and win over a staunch opponent of his, Paul of Tarsus (St. Paul). He would prove to be the key to spreading Jesus' message throughout the entire Mediterranean world and beyond. At some point, the same will happen again.

Where will you fit in? Only you can answer that...

11. What's in it for me?

The original plan was for both man and God to live an incredibly happy, fulfilling life, intimately together. That means sharing every moment together. God living in us and among us; even sharing the same bed together. It may sound a little scary to us fallen humans who are not used to that. We might consider it an invasion of privacy. But, that's because we don't really have experience with what we are talking about here. We have to imagine we are talking about someone with whom we are madly in love. If God remains a "god" to us, then we will never invite him into our lives in such an intimate way. We will keep him on the mountaintop, watching us from afar, even closing the drapes if it isn't Sunday, not wanting him to get too close.

We are setting this in an entirely different context from what we have known. We are talking about the fundamental source of love resonating in our hearts and minds. We are talking about a relationship that thrives on happiness, freedom of the heart, love, excitement, creativity... where do we stop. There is no invasion of privacy in it.

Do you wish your spouse or significant other had more love for you? Then God's overwhelming love residing in their heart is what you are really looking for. Do you wish you had more love for

someone or everyone in your life? Then, again, God's overwhelming love residing in your own heart is really what you want.

And what are a few of the larger ramifications and implications of all of this? Do you wish you didn't have to worry about whose house your kids were playing at? Do you wish you didn't have to worry about crime, racism, bullying, sexism, abuse of any kind? Do you dream of a world without the need for police, soldiers, weapons, guns, mace or jails? Then, what's in it for you? You decide. But, according to God's incredible plan, it's all good. It's what you may have been longing for, but thought it was impossible. It's what you stopped allowing yourself to dream about after you left college and discovered how lousy the world really was. It's out there. It's worth investing in. It's worth building. Even if we, ourselves, cannot live long enough to experience all of it, we can make some real progress so our grandchildren can live in that world.

As we already said, there's no option between being part of the problem or part of the solution. We must decide which it will be. Now, with all this new insight and understanding, it's your move... Find a representative of the Family Federation for World Peace in your area and engage them in conversation. Start learning what's going on today. You will not be disappointed. You may lose a lot of valuable time if you don't. We only get one life to live. Make the most of it.

Footnotes:

1 The Holy Bible, Genesis 1:27

2 Matthew 22:37

3 Matthew 25:40

4 Genesis 6:6, Deuteronomy 28, and throughout the Old Testament

5 Matthew 5:44

6 *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, 1st ed. (FFWPU. 2006) p. 399.

7 Matthew 5:48

8 2Corinthians 6:16

9 Genesis 1:28

10 John 1:18

11 Genesis 1:27

12 *Angelic DNA*, Hentrich

13 Matthew 6:9

14 Matthew 18:10-14

15 Luke 15:11-32

16 Matthew 5:48

17 Luke 6:36

18 Matthew 6:8

19 Matthew 5:45

20 Matthew 6:26

21 Matthew 7:11

22 Matthew 18:14

23 Wikipedia art. “*Yahweh*” <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yahweh>

24 Wikipedia art. “*Cave Painting*” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cave_painting

25 Genesis 4:3

26 Genesis 4:8

27 John 8:42-47

28 Genesis 4:9

29 Genesis 22:12

30 Deuteronomy 28:27-28

31 1Corinthians 15:45

32 Mark 2:7; 10:18

Luke 5:21; 18:19

John 1:2-3, 8:58, 20:28; 10:30, 38; 12:45; 14:9-11

Romans 9:5

1Corinthians 8:6

Colossians 1:15-19; 2:9

1Timothy 2:9, 13; 3:16

Philippians 2:5-6

Hebrews 1:2, 8

2Peter 1:1

1John 5:20

33 Matthew 6:9; 24:36; 26:39; 27:46

Mark 9:21; 13:32; 14:36

Luke 23:46

John 5:19, 26, 30; 14:16, 28; 17:11, 21-23

Acts 10:38, 40; 17:31

Romans 4:24; 8:11; 15:6

1Corinthians 15:27-28

2Corinthians 11:31

Galatians 1:1; 3:20

Ephesians 1:20; 3:14; 5:2

Philippians 2:9;

Colossians 3:17

1Thessalonians 1:1; 3:11

1Timothy 2:5

Hebrews 3:2; 4:15; 5:7-10

James 1:13

1Peter 1:3

1John 2:22-23

34 John 15:12

35 John 13:15

36 Revelation 19:9

37 Hebrews 5:8

38 John 12:45

39 Isaiah 7:14 (KJV)

40 Proverbs 30:20 (<https://outreachjudaism.org/alma-virgin/>)

41 http://www.robertmprice.mindvendor.com/art_zachar.htm

42 Luke 1:31-34

43 <http://www.nairaland.com/193520/there-many-other-virgin-births>

44 Matthew 1:20

45 John 11:1-44

46 1Kings 17:17-23

47 2Kings 4:16-35

48 Mark 6:45-51

49 John 6:16-21

50 Matthew 14:22-33

51 Luke 24:39

52 Matthew 27:53; 28:17

Luke 24:16, 31, 36-39, 51

Mark 16:12

John 20:14, 19; 21:12, 14

1Corinthians 15:4-8; 35-52

2Corinthians 5:16

Acts 9:3-7, 10; 18:9; 22:9, 17-18; 23:11

2Timothy 2:11

1Peter 3:18-19

53 Mt 27:52-53

John 11:40-44

Luke 24:36-39

54 Genesis 19:1-3

55 Genesis 32:25; Hosea 12:4

56 Genesis 6:4 (<https://answersingenesis.org/bible-characters/who-were-the-nephilim/>)

57 *Unification Theology*. 1st ed. Young Oon Kim. HSA-UWC, 1980.

58 Romans 11:24

59 1Corinthians 15:45

60 Hans Urs von Balthasar, Prayer

61 John 8:44

62 Matthew 5:44

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