

What Saith the Scripture?

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Escaping the Lie of the Serpent Or, Humanism: the Religion of the World

"And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said..."
(Genesis 3:1).

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Preface

A six thousand year-old story. Eve, the embodiment of the weaker sex and mother of all women, was confronted by the Lying Serpent and fell prey to his subtle devices. "Now the Serpent was more **subtle** than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, **Yea, hath God said...**" (Genesis 3:1). Here lies the heart of the whole matter. When the LORD GOD is not confidently held as The Source Of All Truth, man falls prey to Satan.

For example, two people meet and fall in "love". What's the problem? The problem is, and always has been, how do you know its "**true** love"? "Lovest thou Me more than these?" (John 21:15). This problem has never been worse than it is right now. "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, *deceiving, and being deceived*" (2Timothy 3:13). The family unit is the LORD's invention. "18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him... 21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:18,21-24). "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, **let not man put asunder**" (Matthew 19:6) .

But man **does** "put asunder", and puts "asunder" more now than ever before. "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins" (Proverbs 5:22). Modern Man freely admits that divorce runs rampant, that families are decimated, that America's youth problems are an outgrowth from fragmented family situations. "Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices" (Proverbs 1:31). This sin-cursed nation of torn-apart families continues to worship at the altar of counselors whose guidance begins with, "**I** think..." . "For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself" (2Corinthians 11:20). But does this recognition of devastation turn our people to the Only Remedy? "We have known and believed the Love that God hath to us. God is Love; and he that dwelleth in Love dwelleth in God, and God in him" (1John 4:16). A "love" which exists devoid of The Creator can never be the Love that is so sought for to season all of life and to fulfill our best hopes and dreams. "**GOD IS LOVE**". Real Love, that binds lives together forever, that knits thoughts and heartbeats into oneness, can only and always issue from One Source. "**GOD IS LOVE**." How can

we identify True Love? "He that hath My Commandments, and keepeth Them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will Love him, and will manifest Myself to him" (John 14:21). **If you know Jesus Christ as LORD, then you know True Love.** And if you know True Love, you won't fall prey to the subtle Lies of false love.

The Lie of the Serpent

In an ancient quest for his **own** version of truth and self-divinity, man has historically denied the Counsel of God, and has turned inward-- instead of Upward-- for wisdom. The evolution of the age-old Lie of the Devil, "Yea, hath God said..." (Genesis 3:1), has given birth to our modern-age brand of humanism, which rules as the "religion" of the world. "But **shun** profane and vain babblings: **for they will increase unto more ungodliness**" (2Timothy 2:16). Man's wisdom caused the problem of not knowing True Love, and has only increased the sorrow and pain suffered by those *lost in the Lie of the Serpent* (Genesis 3:1). Man's wisdom is "foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, **hateful, and hating** one another" (Titus 3:3). Humanism counsels man to save himself. "18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: **for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage**" (2Peter 2:18-19). And the same holds true for the so-called "Christian Counseling" which gives lip-service to Scripture, but the meat of which is still is founded upon "**I think...**". "20 For if after they have **escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ**, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is **worse** with them than the beginning" (2Peter 2:20).

- 2 Pet. 2:18 "For when they speak **great swelling words of vanity**, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error."
- Rom. 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, **they glorified Him not as God**, neither were thankful; but became **vain in their imaginations**, and their foolish heart was darkened."
- Acts 13:10 "O **full** of all subtlety and all mischief, thou child of the Devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to **pervert** the right ways of the LORD?"
- Is. 1:6 "From the sole of the foot even unto the head **there is no soundness in it**; but wounds, and bruises, and putrefying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment."
- Ps. 38:3 "There is no soundness in my flesh **because of Thine anger**; neither is there any rest in my bones **because of my sin.**"
- Ps. 31:10 "For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth **because of mine iniquity**, and my bones are consumed."
- Matt. 12:45 "Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than

himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is **worse** than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation."

Mankind is so vain and puffed up, that even in the light of all its glaring failures, they **STILL** believe that their own counsel can save them. Man cannot-- never could, and never will-- save himself.

- Acts 4:10,12 "10 Be it known unto you all... that **by the Name of Jesus Christ** of Nazareth, Whom ye crucified, Whom God raised from the dead, even by Him doth this man stand here before you whole... 12 **Neither is there Salvation in any other**: for there is **none other name** under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."
- Rom. 5:6,8 "6 For when **we were yet without strength**, in due time **Christ died for the ungodly**... 8 But God commendeth His Love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners**, Christ **died** for us."
- Eph. 2:5,8-9 "5 Even when **we were dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, (**by grace ye are saved**;)... 8 For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that **not of yourselves**: it is the gift of God: 9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast." [NOTE: "not of works" refers to a **faithless** work done only in the flesh, as opposed to "the work of faith" (2Thessalonians 1:11) done "unto Love and to good works" (Hebrews 10:24) by a "faith which worketh by Love" (Galatians 5:6).]
- 1 Cor. 1:29-30 "29 That no flesh should glory in His presence. 30 But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, Who of God is **made unto us Wisdom, and Righteousness, and Sanctification, and Redemption**."
- Ps. 44:3,6 "3 For they got not the land in possession by their **own** sword, neither did their **own** arm save them: but Thy Right Hand, and Thine Arm, and The Light Of Thy Countenance, because **Thou hadst a favour unto them**... 6 For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me."

Satan's own history is one of trying to save himself. The proof that He didn't want or need God became evident when he tried to elevate himself as God. "For thou hast said in thine heart, **I will ascend into Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High**" (Isaiah 14:13-14). And Satan hasn't repented of his old ways. His plan of the ages is about to culminate as he tries to elevate himself above God, again. "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, **showing himself that he is God**" (2Thessalonians 2:4). His Lie is his emphasis on self. Humanists propagate this Lie continually. Their wisdom rests in themselves. "**I think this...**" and "**I think that...**". But not, "what saith the Scripture?" (Romans 4:3).

The Lie of the Serpent, "Yea, hath God said..." (Genesis 3:1), denies the LORD's Omniscience of man's low state or morality, and then further insults the LORD by extolling the *self-made virtues invented as inherent in every man*. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: **who can know it?**" (Jeremiah 17:9). God knows it! "Take heed to yourselves, that your heart **be not deceived**, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them... **Be not deceived; God is not**

mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Deuteronomy 11:16; Galatians 6:7). **God does know** the inner workings of every man's heart. "Yea, hath God said..." (Genesis 3:1). Yes, **God hath said--**

- 1 Cor. 3:18-21 "18 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be Wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. 20 And again, **The LORD knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.** 21 Therefore **let no man glory in men.**"
- Heb. 4:12 "For the WORD of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a **Discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**"
- Ps. 94:11 "The LORD knoweth **the thoughts** of man, that they are vanity."
- Is. 29:15 "Woe unto them **that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD**, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?"
- Mark 7:21-22 "21 For **from within, out of the heart of men**, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness."
- Matt. 13:15 "For **this people's heart is waxed gross**, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand **with their heart**, and should be converted, and I should heal them."
- Zeph. 3:5 "The just LORD is in the midst thereof; He will not do iniquity: **every morning doth He bring His Judgment to Light**, He faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame."
- 2 Cor. 11:31 "The God and Father of our LORD Jesus Christ, Which is blessed for evermore, **knoweth that I lie not.**"
- 2 Tim. 2:19 "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, **The LORD knoweth them that are His.** And, Let every one that nameth the Name of Christ depart from iniquity."

The Lie of the Serpent, "profane and vain babblings" (1 Timothy 6:20), infests the heart of man and eats alive his soul forever. Modern counselors of humanism are used by "that Old Serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world" (Revelation 12:9) to "put asunder" (Matthew 19:6) the tried-and-true Pure Words of the LORD, "as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times" (Psalm 12:6).

- Is. 3:11 "Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him."

- Jer. 6:19 "Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they **have not hearkened unto My Words**, nor to My Law, but **rejected It**."
- Jer. 8:9 "They have **rejected the Word of the LORD**; and what wisdom is in them?"
- Jer. 19:3 "**Hear ye the Word of the LORD**... thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle."
- Jer. 19:15 "Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because **they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear My Words**."
- Jer. 22:29 "O earth, earth, earth, **hear the Word of the LORD**."

The Truth of the Creator

Undeified Truth declares that we are created in the Image Of God. "So God created man **in His Own Image**, in the Image Of God created He him; male and female created He them" (Genesis 1:27). And again, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for **in the Image Of God** made He man" (Genesis 9:6). But Truth relies on God as man's Creator, and humanism cannot-- and will never-- tolerate that to be Truth. To think that the very foundation of man's total existence-- his being, his potential, even his basic need to be happy-- confidently resides solely in the omnipotent hands of an Invisible God, is entire folly to the very nature and essence of cultivated human reasoning, i.e., humanism. "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the Light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, Who is the Image Of God, should shine unto them" (2Corinthians 4:4).

Therefore, man's reasoning-- void of a dependence upon God , or recognition of God's worth to man-- redefines every need or effort of human life in such a way as best fulfills man's need of man. "The world by wisdom knew **not** God" (1Corinthians 1:21). Strange to say, God agrees with this premise, that if the world will not accept Him as He universally is-- The Divine Creator and Sustainer of All Life, then He rejects them as they universally are-- mere creatures, puffed up in their own vanity, making what small amount of life they've been given totally unbearable.

- 2 Pet. 2:2 "And **many shall follow their pernicious ways**; by reason of whom The Way Of Truth shall be **evil** spoken of."
- Titus 1:11 "Whose mouths must be stopped, **who subvert whole houses**, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake."
- 2 Thess. 2:8 "And **then shall that Wicked be revealed**, whom the LORD shall consume with The Spirit Of His Mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His Coming."
- 2 Tim. 2:14 "Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the LORD that

they **strive not about words to no profit**, but to the **subverting of the hearers.**"

Man's foolish brand of "wisdom" *redefines every need of man*. Take, for example, the need of Love. **Love is foundational to every need of every man**. To trust the vain notions of fallible creatures as wise counsel in defining Love, works HAVOC and DESTRUCTION on every area of life in which Love is required-- and **Love is required in every area of life**. "Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD" (Jeremiah 17:5). Notice in this verse, the LORD says that if you trust flesh, you **depart** from Him--

"maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD."

Also, if you trust flesh you are **cursed**--

"Cursed be the man that trusteth in man."

Conclusion

The Truth of God's WORD is as factual as true science gets. "God is not a man, that He should Lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19). However the promises of humanistic "love" are Lies, fostered by the Father Of Lies. "Oppositions of science falsely so called" (1Timothy 6:20). Against such Lies, Jesus urged His reasoning with Divine decree: "43 Why do ye not understand My speech? even because ye cannot hear My Word. 44 Ye are of your father the Devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a Murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the Truth, because there is no Truth in him. **When he speaketh a Lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a Liar, and the father of it.** 45 And because I tell you the Truth, ye believe Me not. 46 Which of you convinceth Me of sin? And if I say the Truth, why do ye not believe Me? 47 *He that is of God heareth God's Words: ye therefore hear Them not, because ye are not of God*" (John 8:43-47).

God's Truth bears an altogether **different type of fruit** than man's brand of "truth".

"13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of **a good conversation his works with meekness of Wisdom**. 14 **But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.** 15 This wisdom descendeth **not from Above**, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16 **For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.** 17 **But the Wisdom that is from Above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy**" (James 3:13-17).

Our Great Intercessor, the LORD Jesus Himself, prayed for us. He reveals in this prayer our need to forsake this world's hold on our minds. He recognized before Almighty God, the Father, that it was the Father's WORDS that had reaped a people to Himself.

"6 I have manifested Thy Name unto the men which Thou gavest Me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gavest them Me; and they have **kept Thy WORD**. 7 **Now they have known that all things whatsoever Thou hast given Me are of Thee.** 8 **For I have given unto**

them the WORDS which Thou gavest Me; and they have received Them, and have known surely that I came out from Thee, and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. 9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given Me; for they are Thine" (John 17:6-9).

This WORD, which is Truth and Life, was the Omnipotent Power of Authority from the Very Highest Person of the Godhead. And Jesus had shared It with us! What vanity and egotism man insults our Generous Father with when he **refuses the assured success of Divine Counsel** for the assured failure of the Lie of the Serpent, which is the totality in all mere reasonings of man. Do you want Victory in your life? Do you want Love in your life? Then you need the LIFE of His Living WORD in your life!

Jesus said, "It is the Spirit that quickeneth; *the flesh profiteth nothing*: **the WORDS that I speak unto you, they are Spirit, and they are LIFE**" (John 6:63). "Then Simon Peter answered Him, LORD, to whom shall we go? THOU HAST THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE" (John 6:68).