

TRUTH AND LIBERATION

"You shall know the TRUTH and the TRUTH shall liberate you"-Jesus

Volume 2 No 3

A Jesus Paper



DIVINE OR DEMONIC ? p.6

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~ ~

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EDITORIAL

Dear Liberationists,

We are on the road again and I truly believe this time to stay. With the assistance of Mark Lawrence (ex-journalist for the 'Age') as new Editor — and my shift to an executive-editor position, the way should be clear for less hurried and more consistent editions.

A few brief comments, regarding this edition. As the cover suggests, we have concentrated on Eastern beliefs. Canvassing friends has revealed a 50-50 reaction to the composite "pickie". However controversial, we believe we have merely visualized the credibility gap of the little chap and the claims of his followers that he is everything from an improvement on the Buddha to the re-incarnation of the Christ.

In an age of violence, Eastern trips offer us an alternative. Os Guinness in "Dust of Death" suggests that with sociology generally concluding VIOLENCE in society is INEVITABLE CARTHARSIS for environment — socio — politically embattered man, and with psychoanalysts concluding VIOLENCE is INEVITABLE as the CRISIS in man's misguided evolution, THE ONLY APPARENT EXIT IS THROUGH THE UNREALITY OF THE EASTERN GATE. Our contention (open to much dialogue) is that the Eastern trip does not come to grips with society in a "real world" of exploitation and consequent suffering. It is a retreat into "a world of our own". Inasmuch as Christendom has frequently avoided confrontation with the social structures of evil and retreated into its own ecclesiastic hierarchies we reject the popularized view of Christianity on the same grounds.

Secondly, Eastern mysticism, while at least expressing a genuine appreciation of the existence of evil in the world (so long sweet humanism!) fails to cope honestly with the fallen nature of man! Jesus truly coped with that.

Thirdly, we love the mellow nature of our Eastern brother-freaks, BUT we abhor the ludicrous attempts to rip-off Christian scriptures and add them to their bag. Hence, Mark's article. We truly hope our rather frontal attack creates honest dialogue.

A second comment perhaps, should be made concerning the article . . . "SHATTERED EUPHORIA". A few short years ago it was "class" to belong to the elusive "Jesus Movement". It seemed that the Christian counterpart to the counter-culture Utopia was expressed in the joyous faces of thousands of street witnessing Jesus Freaks. We had apparently even institutionalized Utopia without great effort in Jesus Houses and Communes throughout the world. Something seems to have gone wrong. As is usually the case, it isn't an issue of techniques or even sociological pressures. But it IS a matter of WHO we were following and WHY! The article is by no means a fair one if it is taken to imply that the Jesus Movement per se has abdicated its responsibility to discipleship. Rather, it is meant to be a challenge to each individual to do an extensive "attitude check". (Our heart reply may

have to be "I'm sorry Lord" rather than a glib "Praise the Lord".)

It remains tragically obvious that for every ten Jesus Freaks self-proclaimed, only one is a true disciple.

To the cynics in ecclesiastic and traditionalist circles, we would nevertheless, strongly recommend you not to judge by appearance only. Many have assumed the decrease in media attention and the disappearance of many of the Jesus underground papers signal the death of the Movement. If "the movement" is dying, radical discipleship is not dying. Many of the heaviest freaks have simply gone underground. The development of local bodies of serious communities of people prepared to make visible to the *real world the 'new community in Christ' abound in every western nation. (*We contrast the real world to the plastic globe heralded by the media — Christian or otherwise.) Next edition we hope to examine the whole concept of what the Church is really meant to be, before the watching world. Dr Allan Walker unfortunately made some irresponsible and uninformed comment to the effect that the Jesus Movement was dying. He obviously is not moving where the Christian counter-culture is working. The changing shape of the movement or even the dropping of the title Jesus Movement, due to the serious rip-offs by the Children of God, etc, does not spell death but growing maturity. (Dear Dr. Allan — we love you, but please don't speak on our behalf, unless you really know!) Ian McDowell of Emmaus Bible College, made the comment recently, in an amazingly shallow and uninformed comment on the Jesus Movement, that Jesus was not a revolutionary but a reactionary. (Gilbert Cann said in reference to this — "If Jesus was a reactionary, He may as well have joined the pharisees and called it a day!") Whilst we respect the Christian efforts of Ian McDowell, we are assured by the New Testament that God's thoughts are not man's thoughts — that the ethics of the Kingdom of God run counter to the ethics of the Kingdom of this world — that we are not to let the world squeeze us into its own mould and that when the Church follows the political, social and business ethics of a corrupt money-status oriented society, it places itself in the enemy's camp. Thus, we see the true Christian as counter-culture — or as Os Guinness has reminded us a third race, such as Christians were called in the early Christian era. We are simply seeking out the meaning of the slogan "Jesus is Lord", and this is bringing us to a position counter to many traditional 'Caesars'. Jesus could scarcely be Lord and be a reactionary. He must ever bring the systems of this world unstuck. And we desire to walk in His steps.

Thus, as Truth and Liberation seeks to be in one sense a voice of the spiritual underground, no doubt some of the articles and maybe even the editorial will evoke a measure of disapproval. We may even be required to retract or repent of our stumbling efforts on occasions. One thing is sure. We are determined not to sit in the ruts of a dead

The Letter To The Street Christians

We are writing to you little children because your wrong and ego-centered life style has been forgiven because of what Jesus did.

We are writing to you fathers because you have really gotten to know Him.

We are writing to you young men because you have won the struggle over Satan our enemy.

We have written to you children because you know the Father.

We have written to you fathers because you know Jesus His Son.

We have written to you young men because God's Word in your hearts has given you the strength to defeat Satan.

Don't get hooked on the ego-tripping world system. Anybody who loves that system, doesn't really love God. For this whole gig — the craze for sex, the desire to have everything that looks good, and the false security of believing you can take care of yourself — doesn't come from our Father, but from the evil world system itself. That world system is going to be gone some day and along with it, all desire for what it has to offer; but anyone who follows God's plan for his life will live forever. (Dig it! This whole plastic bag is exactly what Jesus liberated us from.)

Our children, the world system is going to end soon. You've probably heard about the anti-Christ who will oppose Jesus, pretending to be Him. Well there are a lot of people who are against Him or pretending to be Him today. That makes us think the end is near. These people used to hang around with the members of God's family, but they left us. If they had really been brothers and sisters, they'd have stayed. By leaving us they proved that they weren't our people at all. But you aren't like those people; you have God's Holy Spirit in you and He teaches you the truth. So I'm not writing to you because you don't know the truth but because you do and you know the difference between right and wrong. There's no bigger liar than the one that says Jesus is not the Messiah. A person like that is against Jesus and His Father. Nobody who keeps on denying that Jesus is God's Son loves God at all, but has constructed a wrong image of who God is. Anyone who receives Jesus as Liberator and Leader also knows the Father who sent Him. Brothers, all we're asking is that you live in that vital relationship with Jesus as your Liberator and Leader that you knew from the time you received Him. That relationship gives you real life with Him forever.

We're writing these things to you about people who are really coping out on you and trying to lead you on a bummer. But remember that the Holy Spirit is in you to guide you so you don't need men to teach you what's right. He teaches you everything you need to know and always tells you the truth and never lies. Now little children, keep united to Jesus, talking with Him spirit to spirit so that when He comes back for us you won't feel ashamed. You know that God is always good, so you can be sure that everyone who follows God's goodness rather than his own is really a child of God.

Dig it! God has really laid a heavy love on us! He calls us His children and we are! The world system doesn't recognize that we're His children because it doesn't know Him. Right on, brothers and sisters, we are God's children even though we're a long way from being what He's going to make us. One thing we know is that when He comes back for us, we will suddenly be like Him because for the first time we will see what He is really like. (The prophet Isaiah once wrote these descriptions of Jesus: "Wonderful," "Counsellor," "The Mighty God," "The Everlasting Father," "The Prince of Peace." There's much more the Bible says about His perfectness and we'll share it all with Him.) Everyone who has that to look forward to can't help but be pure as Jesus is pure. People who practice doing wrong are going against God because that's what wrong-doing is. Jesus came to liberate you from that. He could do that because He has never gone against God at any time. No one who is together with Jesus in the same way that a branch is together with a tree is going to keep on acting like he doesn't belong with God (Just like the branch won't try to be different from the tree because it is part of the tree). No one who keeps going his own way rather than God's has ever been part of the tree (God's forever-family).

tradition, but rather walk in the steps of our living Lord.

"Christians arise and put your armour on."

Yours in total service
to Christ and His people,
John.

In the next edition John will give a comprehensive report of his impressions from the Lausanne World Congress of Evangelism. — ED.

SHATTERED EUPHORIA

OR a dream gone sour.



Where is our dream? As the Jesus movement subsides and the excitement of discovering the newness of eternal life gives way to the cares of this life many of us begin to wonder if this was only a passing phase in our lives. A phase that pulled us out of the death of our past life.

As we view again, even among ourselves, the envy, pride, greed, lust and ambition of the so-called liberated generation, we can weep even as Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem, over what could have been, if we had been prepared to lay aside the pride and lust and the sins which so easily beset us. Did we stand shocked to see ourselves standing with the innocent blood of our brother or sister upon our own hands? Did we too give way to self and envy in the end? Why were we not rejoicing to see truth brought forth, regardless of who brought it forth? Did the communal dream of living in peace end up in a horse race for power and the inability to come under the peace, love and direction of the Holy Spirit?

Did you find yourself ensnared in the same web of pride and selfishness that had stopped so many people before you? Did it all begin to sound like the back-biting of the organised church? Did the Woodstock nation turn into the I.B.M. underground after it got religion? Was Jesus a new way for you to be secure and acceptable? And now, as the way gets truly hard and the call is to total commitment and denial of self, do you stand back in anger and disappointment? Did you not say in the beginning that you were willing to do what he asked and now that it does not agree with your pride, you back away, licking the wounds of selfishness; or have you scrambled to the sheltered confines of organised religion or the control of occult?

Is this the generation of Jesus or the generation of self? You told God you would do what he asked regardless of the cost and you murmur over the cup you have been given. You visualised yourself the exalted, famed, in time prophet, and he has handed you the humble pewter cup of servant-of-all without the praises of men. Has the humility of his calling stifled the sore of pride? Has self analysed the situation and drawn back from the age-old line: "What's in it for me?" The dream was a "together dream", a dream that rejoiced that the captives were being set free, regardless of who set them free. It was a dream that did not include the jockeying for position or success. A dream that would give respect and obedience to the sovereign move of the Holy Spirit and the direction and ordinations of God. A dream that lives and was identified by the fruits that it brought forth, not by the measure of worldly success, press write-ups and numbers. A dream where one could love without the fear of the inevitable backstab and the deity of pride.

He called us "the Jesus People"; a people created to praise the Lord and to show forth His love to a dying world. What have we shown the world? A panorama of strange bondage cults, some colored posters, a little enthusiasm bought out at cheap prices by the fading organised churches. Where is the dream of opening up the door of faith and setting the captives free by the power of the Holy Ghost? Did we sell it all out for the arm of flesh and the praises of men? Where is the freshness of our love for Jesus and the joy of the quickening power of the Spirit?

Today, at this moment, He is no further away from you than the coldness of your own heart. God is still on the throne. It is you who have moved away from the quickening pathway of abiding in Him. God has not changed. The times we live in and the calling remain the same. Only you have changed and given way to doubt and moved backward from the faith. The Jesus movement is only a very small part of a much larger move of God which is coming, and nothing can stop it, not even our faded commitment. He has watched you come to the end of your own ways and your own conception of yourself and God's work. You have hewn out for yourselves the broken cisterns of self-seeking and tasted the strange fruits of confusion and fear.

At this point you will leave behind your pride and go forward, or be left behind in the undertide of man's ways and efforts versus the sovereign work of God. This is the point where pride gets off the trip. This is the time for true communion and counsel with God by His Holy Spirit. This is the time for brokenness and true repentance. He will be near you at this time. He is calling you to let that which is lame be healed; and if you have been greatly disappointed and discouraged with yourself and others, and if you wonder still: "Where is the dream?" — the counsel of the Lord will say to you: "The dream is sitting at the right hand of the Father".

We are so close to our dream, as we are close to Him and the dream will never die as long as it lives in one heart, even your heart. He will lead you in the way of truth and righteousness. He is the Prince of Peace and a God of love. He never asked us to follow an organisation or a group of people — he asked us to follow him. Is this where so many got off the path? When we were lifted up out of the ashes, was it the arm of flesh who rescued us, or was it the hand of Jesus?

To whom do we owe allegiance? We must run back as a prodigal revolution. Back to our leader. He holds all further instruction and all further hope. We have come to the end of ourselves and our own ways.

Let's now really live the words "one Way" — HIS WAY.



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DISCIPLESHIP MEANS CARRYING YOUR CROSS.

NOT JUST WEARING ONE AROUND YOUR NECK:

JACK SPARKS

"When it comes right down to it, having rejected God, people are going to make up for themselves stories about how the world came to be..."

"I have no respect for the morality of the average social science researcher or professor whom I know. That includes men who hold the highest chairs in the University."

"The men and women I have known in the field of Behavioural Science are often very troubled people."



Jack Sparks was Professor in Statistics at Pennsylvania State University when God called him to full-time service amongst young people. His move of faith resulted in the founding of the Christian World Liberation Front, a remarkably diverse ministry to the counter-culture. The CWLF is based at Berkeley, the centre of so much radical student activity in recent years.

We don't list his academic qualifications because "Sparky" wouldn't want us to. They are not of great importance as far as he is concerned. Jack discovered Jesus Christ through reading the Bible from beginning to end. "By the time I got to the gospels I just knew Jesus was who he said he was".

In this interview Jack comments on a number of issues: communal living, behavioural scientists and the meaning of leadership.

JOHN: What was your area of University work?

JACK: I was in Behavioural Science teaching statistics and research design.

JOHN: Briefly, what does that involve?

JACK: Well, it involves the lay-out and planning of experiments dealing with human beings and research of various kinds. It involves the matter of sampling design and planning experiments so that you can effectively analyse them at the end on the basis of probabilities. It also involved statistical analysis including multi-variant sorts of things. Usually these days it's done by computer.

JOHN: Jack, a lot of us who are laymen in the area of human behaviour are finding ourselves barraged by an immense heap of advice on how to be successful in married life, how to bring up our kids etc, and it's terribly confusing. For instance, even in Australia, Dr Spock became the sort of Bible on the subject of bringing up kids, and I remember reading in TIME magazine not so long ago that somebody claimed that the problem with the radical student world was that they were beginning to show Spock marks.

It was hinting that too many mothers followed the philosophy of Spock. Now it becomes very difficult for us as normal family people to know where to move. Some of us have grave suspicions about the guys that are giving us all the advice and you have lived amongst them. On what level are they really qualified to talk apart from the fact that they have head knowledge?

JACK: Some of these guys truly have made some investigations that have brought out some useful principles. However, by and large, there is nothing startling about the valid things that are there. The valid things that are there you could have discovered without the so-called scientific procedures which are used. Behavioural research has learned a lot about how to condition humans and animals, although they have done a good deal more work with animals than humans.

One of the things that I would say about that however, is that almost invariably it deals with the external behaviour rather than the problem, and some of the conditioning work that has been done with people with behavioural problems has left them with other behaviour problems. They are still left with the same sick people because although they have dealt with the behaviour problem the people are still inadequate, searching, troubled humans.

And the people themselves, the men and women I have known in the field of behavioural science are often very troubled people. I would say more often than not they are troubled people. I suspect that many of them went into those fields because they were troubled people searching for an answer to their inner hassles. Many of them are among the most broken and sick people I know. Among the marriage counsellor types for example, and the counselling groups in general, you find more broken homes than in any other occupational group. Among the psychiatrists you find a greater suicide rate than in any other occupational group.

And I have no respect for the morality of the average social science researcher or professor I know. Including the men with the highest Chairs in the University. B. F. Skinner is an example. Skinner is of course well known for his books on Behaviourism. However, if you read his books you find that he is saying the same things that J. B.

Watson was saying in his book on Behaviourism in the early 19-teens, and with about the same degree of actual scientific backing. If you don't buy his assumptions, and he admits this himself, then you can't buy his conclusions. His conclusions are not based on scientific fact but upon presuppositions. I also know that Mr Skinner, in his professional and personal relations is no exemplar.

JOHN: He wouldn't have to be really would he because his presuppositions wouldn't really need him to show morality?

JACK: There is no reason for that according to his philosophy. But from a Christian point of view you've got to examine this when you think about buying what the man has to say. You've also got to be concerned about whether or not the Spiritual has been taken into account and whether or not you are doing things to and for people that are appropriate.

For example God's been changing people. God works by grace through faith, and it is by faith that we move out allowing Him to change our lives. If we move on any other basis, any set of rules, any set of conditions or conditioning, then what we have done is subvert God's intent for making the changes that He wants to make in the lives of His people. One of the best things, I guess, that the people in the psychological fields have done, is learn how to dig into the roots and backgrounds of specific problems. But when you have done that you still have no answers; no solutions and no answers about how to keep it from happening.

JOHN: Some of us wonder whether a great deal of presuppositions today, rather than being genuine intellectual presuppositions, are rationalisations for the behaviour patterns of the intellectual world in its new morality and so on.

JACK: I think you've got to face the fact that they are. People have made up sets of rules and sets of presuppositions which fit what they desperately have to have the world to be in order to live like they live. And people through the ages have typically done that. In the first chapter of Romans, the Apostle Paul says: "people know about God; creation and what God has said proves it. There's no doubt that everybody knows that God exists". Well, if people, don't act upon that particular knowledge what happens? Paul says that what happens is then they get into these other things. God lets them get into the immoral kind of things. And Paul says at the end of that statement that the hurt they feel inside is what they deserve. Now the hurt they feel isn't so much because of the things they have got into, they are only secondary. They deserve the hurt when they reject the Creator and reject a relationship with Him. So, when it comes right down to it, having rejected God, people are going to make up for themselves, stories about how the world came to be, how life exists, and why we behave the way we do etc.

JOHN: Jack, how did you come to leave a Professorial post and bury yourself in the counter-culture at Berkeley? You didn't come from the West Coast in the first place did you?

JACK: No, I've lived all over the country. I married my wife in San Antonio, taught in Illinois, finished graduate work in Iowa, taught at the University in North Colorado and then taught at

Pennsylvania State University. Along the way God began to teach me some things until I came to a point where I realised that all I was doing in the academic amounted to academic games. Yet I was kind of happy doing it and my wife and I had a good ministry among students on campus. I took a year off and helped develop a computerised Bible study follow-up series for the people that became Christians on the beaches and so forth. It was during that year that we began to seriously examine the youth culture and see the tragedy that was there with respect to no-one really entering in. All the Christians were just preaching to it from the outside and preaching to the people in the counter-cultures as if they were desperate centres because they were that, that is, non-establishment cultures. And so in the process of that God simply called us and we went right on to Berkeley and became the Christian World Liberation Front.

JOHN: How many couples were with you?

JACK: There were three couples originally.



JOHN: Jack, in mentioning counter-culture, there's been the term "Christian Counter-Culture" bandied around a bit. Os Guinness has made it pretty clear that the counter-culture has run out of steam and hasn't succeeded in doing what we hoped it would do. What redeeming features, what truths are common within the Christian counter-culture and the secular counter-culture? Do you think they have any common truths?

JACK: Well, at least to some extent there are. There's the examination of the kind of life that we all assume is the proper one, and the hard look to see whether or not it is truly satisfying, truly fulfilling and correct — the kind of life in which one gets a career, goes up the ladder. What we must come to is an examination of whether or not the basis for all that is true, whether or not Biblically this is what a Christian ought to be doing. So along with the counter-culture groups I think Christians should be

examining the basis for that kind of life. We at Berkeley have ended up saying we can't buy the old way of ordering our life and we can't buy the counter-culture way of ordering out lives. As Christians we simply have to build our lives based upon faith in God, trusting Him to lead us day by day expecting that at any time along the way He could change the direction of our lives. The counter-culture has failed, that's true, but it has made an impact upon the establishment culture and will continue to do so. This is because it is far from dead. More and more of it is impacting the establishment culture.

We as Christians need to build for ourselves in the context that we are in, cultures that take on the characteristics of the surrounding culture that are not contrary to a Biblical position. We need to pick up specific elements that distinguish us as God's people.

JOHN: Jack, what do you do about the problem of brothers and sisters who love Christ but who remain opposed even on surface culture issues such as long hair, beards, music and jeans?

JACK: Well I'd talk to them about the distinction between culture and Christianity and I'd really try to communicate a mutual concern. If it's impossible to get through on that level then there is not much I can do and I just go the way God has called me; praying for and loving the brothers and sisters who disagree.

JOHN: Sex is a major problem in culture. Have you got any things to say that you think are distinctly and healthily Christian that need to be said to the youth culture?

JACK: Yes, there are a lot of things to be said. Basically God's intent from the beginning has been one man, one woman, together for life as a picture of the relationship between Him and His people; between Christ and the Church. If we can grasp what that means, I think it will have big impact on ordering our sex lives, and ordering our marriages, so that the world gets a picture of what God is doing with His church.

JOHN: Briefly then, just a couple of other topics. The concept of leadership; we've heard a lot from you about what a leader is meant to be...

JACK: Well, there are a few words which Jesus said that showed where He stood. When his disciples were arguing about who was going to be the first among them and what position they were going to occupy in the kingdom, he said: "Look, I've been a servant amongst you". Obviously they recognised that he had. It was apparent that He had been caring for them and serving them in every way. So he says: "I am a servant amongst you and the greatest amongst you shall be the servant of all". At the last



"By and large we are called to the despised, the rejected and the poor and those are still the neglected people in Australia."

meal He had with them Jesus symbolically washed their feet again displaying the meaning of leadership. The great Apostle Paul, less than Christ, still great in our minds, didn't go about looking for people to serve him. He took care of the people who travelled with him; he even worked with his hands to support the people who travelled with him. I think it's pretty clear that the leader serves and cares for rather than expects people to serve him. That is the leader in God's calling.

JOHN: I heard you say that the other day. A verse of scripture came to me from the book of Acts and I have been asking heavy questions about it ever since. That is the time when Stephen and a few others had been left to serve the tables and the apostles said it was not good for them to serve tables, but rather "let us give ourselves to the Word and the prayer". Now do you think that possibly was a bad move by the Apostles at that time?

JACK: Not really, no. That was with respect to a specific matter — the serving of tables. Apparently there was a distribution of food for the widows of the Gentile Jews, the Jews from Greek areas. There was controversy about them not getting as much as they should or something and the Apostles found they were too much involved with food distribution so they appointed deacons to take care of that. Well, interestingly enough, those deacons turned out to be very good preachers and teachers and they were not spending all their time in food distribution either. So it wasn't a matter of the Apostles not serving and working, it was a matter of appointing someone to take care of this particular thing that was taking all their time. I can't conceive of God's leaders drawing aside and no longer taking part in the care of the people, and that passage doesn't prove that they did.

JOHN: Coming out of the same area of Acts, the community thing has become a real kick in the hip world. Perhaps it may be phasing out now, I'm not sure. Have you got anything to say about the experiments in the non-Christian world and about the same in the Christian context?

JACK: There have been a lot of them; many of them have failed; a lot of them continue. I think there are as many experiments today as ever actually. In the Christian world there are experiments in community. Mostly they succeed where there is a centering around family or a family. You ordinarily do not succeed where you have families having to share all their facilities all the time. You have to plan for privacy for families and you have to have a sensitivity in everybody to others needs. You can't have just certain ones being the only people who are sensitive to others.

JOHN: Do you think that Australian kids are basically different from the American scene?

JACK: No.

JOHN: I know you haven't been out here long but you've lived in fair depth with a few of the Jesus movement people. You have seen us pretty transparently. Do you think we are heading similarly with what's happening back home? Do you see either encouraging signs or danger signs within the Jesus movement in our country?

JACK: The encouraging signs I see are where you've got a group of people who are determinedly going about the thing that God has called them to and are unembarrassed carrying out the activities that God has given them. I see the same kind of problems that developed in our own country, on an almost unintentional ripping off of these new groups by the established church, using them to try and pump up what's happening there, rather than applying the principles. I think it would be a shame if the new groups dissipated themselves in trying to pump up the existing groups. They must go forward to do the things that God has called them to. The existing groups must stand with them, pray for them and love them, even when they don't know quite what has happened.

JOHN: Finally, what principles of advice do you think you'd like to leave with us in the Jesus movement in this country? Principles that seem important at this stage of our development?

JACK: The major principle is this: God has called us to be a caring, compassionate, creative community reaching out to other people. By and large we are called to the despised, the rejected and the poor, and they are still the neglected people in Australia.

Rebirth ***



My life was very mixed up. Mum and Dad broke up when I was 14. I stayed with Mum for about half a year, then she changed. She had a girl-friend staying there, too. Mum was pushing me out of things that we normally did together. Mum and the girl got quite serious, so Mum said it was time for me to get out, so I did. I moved around — staying at different places and working to pay rent and trying not to think of Mum, at all. My girl friend and I went to all the dances, hotels and whatever was going. Boy-hunting was the main thing. We had our names down at the local police station for being in cars with beer in them. But we didn't get hassled, because we thought we were smarter. Then, thinking that was not the thing we were after we got into the dope scene. Then it began — we moved into a commune with two other girls and one guy. We had no money for food, but we had plenty for dope so we got stoned instead of eating. After some time we started getting unemployment money, so we were happy.

The place had ten rooms so lots of people started coming around and there was lots of dope.

Then people we did not know started coming up and after that, we got busted. We were in real trouble. All of us went to jail, then us four girls went to 'Fairlea Girl's Home' for two days and the guy went to pentridge. We were waiting for someone to have \$600 to get us out. We weren't laughing then!

Then the court case came up and we were put on one year's probation. We had to get out of the house after that, so I moved into a flat with a guy and got pregnant. The guy left me, but I kept the baby. I had nowhere to go.

My girl friend was married, at that time, so I moved there and her husband was a Christian. He was telling me about a Christian family that would love to have us. I said I can't go there, because I don't believe in God. He said that they would not mind, they don't judge you on what you believe in, they judge you on yourself.

Now I am living there, and my life has changed completely. The love and peace at that place is beautiful. I have committed my life to the Lord Jesus now. I can see with open eyes a love for people that I know I've never had before.

If you think that drugs or drinking is the answer then go and read the Bible and see if you can have the time to talk to a Christian.

Edda

CONCERN

In Germany, the Nazis first came for the communists

and I didn't speak up
because I was not a communist.

Then they came for the Jews
and I did not speak up

because I was not a Jew

Then they came for the trade unionists
but I didn't speak up

because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics
And I was a Protestant

and so I didn't speak up.

Then they came for me
but by that time

there was no one left to speak up for anyone.

Declaration of Guilt Paster Martin Niemoller.
Council of Evangelical Church
in Germany. October 18, 1945

TO MAKE SURE THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN
AGAIN THE INJUSTICE TO ANYONE
ANYWHERE MUST BE THE CONCERN OF
EVERYONE EVERYWHERE.

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265 Canterbury Rd.,
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WE NEED BACK ISSUES
TRUTH AND LIBERATION

PARTICULARLY VOL.1 NO.'s 2,3 & 4.

DIVINE LIGHT OR DELUSION?

Guru's bliss bomb is a dud.

Though the rate of growth claimed by the Divine Light Mission is highly questionable there is no doubt that many earnestly seeking young people are being sucked in by the well-oiled publicity machine which makes the sect look so attractive.

Like so many of the Eastern sects finding a foothold in Western society the DLM is only a cleverly disguised perversion of Hinduism with extra meditation fireworks thrown in to bedazzle the participants.

For one so decidedly ascetic in speech, the DLM's 16 year old leader, Guru Maharaj Ji, seems to be drowning in affluence. His words warning of the futility of trying to find peace through material gains sound strangely hollow as his stable of cars grows and his itinerary becomes incredibly commercialised. Ulcers also seem strange companions for a perfect master full of peace.

His "prophetic utterances" made at Millenium '74 re. a new era of world peace do not seem to have reached Ireland, London, America, or indeed our own streets.

Despite the maze of contradiction, which is the legacy of any Hindu off-shoot, the movement continues to grow. And from within its walls the Christian is confronted with the assuring call: "You can still be a Christian and worship the Guru". **The same cry poured out of the Hare Krishna movement — and it is still a lie.**

The question posed by the heading of this article may seem severe but in the wake of so many diverse claims by DLM followers (they nearly all say something different) it is a question demanding an answer. Where does Christianity stand in relation to the teaching and claims of the DLM?

Much has been said about the Guru and the DLM with its premies (followers) mahatmas (spiritual teachers appointed by the Guru to spread his message), Satsang (worship meetings), and taking of knowledge (the initiation through which you are ushered into the pathway of the eternal).

The devotees who take the knowledge are instructed in Raja Yoga (king of Yoga) which enables the meditator to apply intense concentration upon certain "things". In the case of the DLM followers they concentrate upon seeing an inner light, hearing celestial music, tasting nectar, and feeling an inner vibration, what they call amongst other things, the premordial force.

Integrity?

The purpose of this article is not to question the devotion or sincere desire of the followers of the Guru, nor the reality of their meditation experience (remembering, of course, that which is real is not necessarily morally or spiritually right).

But a blatant warning as to the integrity of the leaders behind the DLM is sounded loud and clear when a study is made of the groups usage of Biblical quotes, along with songs such as: "We are One In The Spirit" and "Amazing Grace", songs created for the worship of Jesus Christ!

The P.R. machinery of the DLM has ingeniously integrated Bible texts to lure the uninformed into a sect which is opposed to everything central to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Though the sect uses quotes from nearly every religious scripture that exists (part of the DLM's appeal is its compromise) Biblical quotes heavily permeate publicity material distributed in those countries which come under the nominal tag of "Christian".

Central to DLM strategy is the taking advantage of the appalling ignorance most Westerners have of the Bible. At the beginning of the DLM film spectacular "Who Is Guru Maharaj?" (a very good question), we hear the commentator say: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God". The film finishes with another rip-off: "By their fruits you shall know them".

To support their claim about the nectar tasted during meditation they quote John 7:38, a specific reference to the Holy Spirit, not a supernatural brew for meditative gourmets.

Likewise they use Luke 11:34 to support their experiences of light, again failing to grasp that the light referred to here, can only be known by those whose consciences have been cleansed through faith in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice upon the cross.

If the DLM would use Christian Scripture then it must take it all; not just the snippets which, when distorted out of context, appear to support their claims. The light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ exposes the blindness of those who would follow the teachings of the Guru.

SIN, SATIN AND THE CROSS (Words unknown in the DLM vocabulary).

SIN

I John 1:10 "If we say we have not sinned, we make Him (God) a liar and His word is not in us".

The DLM devotees do not deny the existence of sin; they just conveniently ignore the subject; it is of no consequence. For them, perfection is attained by constant meditation on the four points mentioned earlier. Perfection and purification is something attained through something done on the part of the devotee. There can be no personal God for the Divine Light devotee. No God who knows each of His children by name and demands repentance in return for His love.

For the Divine Light devotee God is Truth (right on there) reality, cosmic energy, infinity, inner vibration and any of a hundred other abstract terms they care to use. But He is not someone they can address as Father. They are on a Westernised Hindu variation where God is everything and in everything.

The utter refusal of DLM followers to come to grips with the fact of sin, show their failure to understand the work of Jesus Christ. It also reflects their sad assessment of the holiness and purity of God who can have nothing to do with pollution — physical, mental or spiritual.

SATAN

II Cor. 11:14 " for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. So it is nothing extraordinary if his servants disguise themselves as servants of righteousness"

For the DLM, to speak of Satan as a real entity is laughable. Devotees will explain that what Christians call Satan is really only their minds; our egos which would try and exalt themselves above others. It is our pride and selfishness.

C. S. Lewis once wrote: "There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors".

In line with their beliefs (or unbeliefs) about Sin and the saving power of the Cross the DLM devotees display equal ignorance about he who has blinded them: "In whom the god of this world (Satan) has blinded their unbelieving minds to prevent the light of the good news concerning the glorious Christ (Jesus), who is the likeness of God, from penetrating their minds". II Cor. 4:4.

THE CROSS

I Cor. 1:18 "For the message of the cross is folly for those on their way to destruction, but to us who are being saved, it is God's power".

While attending the viewing of the film already mentioned I was approached by a member of the DLM. He grabbed the Cross hanging around my neck and said: "What's this crap all about?" My attempt to explain the fact that true redemption in the sight of God can only be attained through belief in Jesus Christ who died in order to destroy sin, I was met with a barrage of jeers and mocking. The above verse leapt to life. How true it is. There is no place for a humiliated Christ hanging on a cross in the DLM faith. There is no understanding that without the shedding of blood there cannot be forgiveness of sin. (Hebrews 9:22).

The cry of the Guru is: "Come and get blissed out". The cry of Jesus Christ was and still is: "If any man would be my disciple let him take up his cross and follow me". The cross represents suffering. The Guru offers a pipedream of bliss and self-contentment. Jesus Christ says suffering is part of discipleship.

cont. p.7

WARNING!

* This man
is dangerous
* He has been
blinded by a
bright light
* DON'T LET
HIM DAZZLE
YOU!



Ironically the Guru and his followers make extensive use of the Gospel of St. John — a gospel written specifically to combat and refute the claims of the first century group called the Gnostics. A group whose basic beliefs in many ways agree with the false teaching of the Guru.

The Gnostics (from the Greek 'gnosis', meaning knowledge) also emphasised the need for man to look inward and discover the spirit which was imprisoned by the flesh. Christ came to dispel death by imparting knowledge, they said (sound familiar?) There was much secrecy in the cult, they used allegory to explain the words of Jesus (Where is suited) and taught that unity with the godhead could be attained through meditative processes. All these points can be found in abundance in the maze of insipid, compromising teaching which Guru Maharaj Ji pours forth.

THE GURU: CHRIST RETURNED?

This is the ultimate claim of the DLM and its ultimate heresy. It is a claim that has been made by many, many cults and sects in the past 2,000 years. They have all been wrong!

After Jesus had ascended into Heaven the disciples were told by the angels: "This SAME JESUS will return in the same way". (Acts 1:11). When the Son of God returns it will be Jesus Christ in all His glory. (Also read Acts 9:5, 1; 2 Cor. 1:14; 1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10).

Speaking at his trial Jesus said of his return: "You will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of power and coming with the clouds of Heaven. (Mark 14:62). Again he said: "For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of man". Sounds spectacular doesn't it? It will be. It will be a supernatural event known simultaneously around the world. Attempts by the DLM to equate this event with the Guru coming out of the sky in his Boeing 747 is ludicrous.

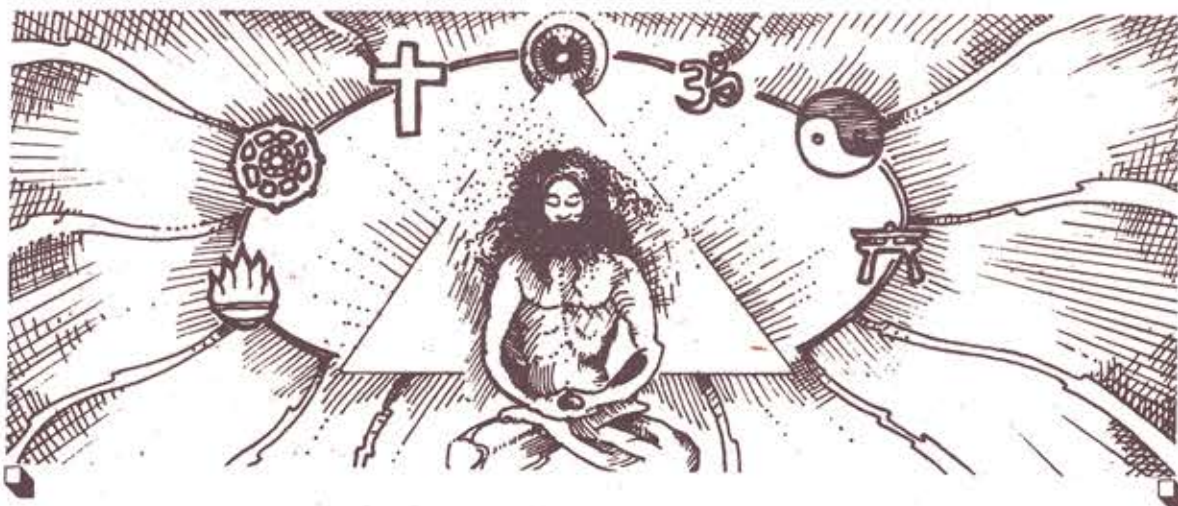
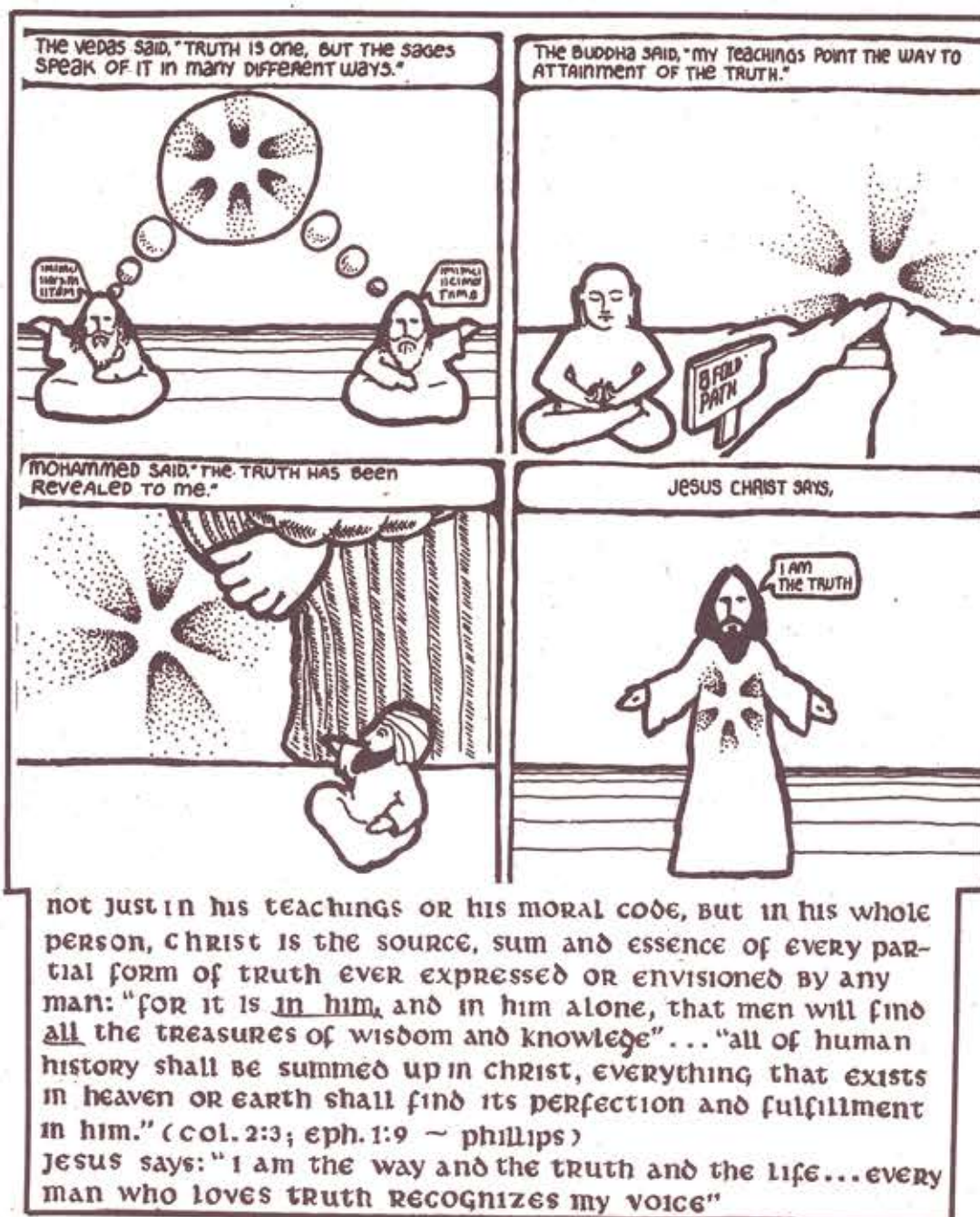
Verses like these cannot be explained by the sect and it is at this stage they will start to throw strong doubts upon the authority of the Bible. The moment they do this, if they have an ounce of integrity, they must completely withdraw the use of Biblical texts to support their claims.

The Guru announced at the Houston Astrodome that the gathering there would usher in a millenium of peace. The Bible says he is wrong! The Bible also says the mark of a true prophet is the exact fulfilment of his prophecies. God is perfect and does not give false revelation through men he chooses. The next few years will show the Guru for what he is.

Speaking of the days before his return Jesus said: "Then if anyone says to you, 'Lo, here is the Christ' or 'there he is' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. So if they say to you 'Lo, he is in the wilderness' do not go out; if they say 'Lo, he is in the inner rooms' do not believe it".

To all who would follow any but Jesus Christ of the Bible we say "come home, for God has highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in Heaven, things on earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father".

Mark Lawrence



UP FROM ZEN

Pantheism, the basic belief of Hinduism, Buddhism, and other Eastern religions, is the belief that behind the "illusion of reality" all things are one, united in a universal life-force or One-ness. I was brought up as a Pantheist; my parents were into Pantheism before Eastern religions had become popular, so I wasn't raised with any of the creeds or techniques that would have gone along with my religion had I been a Hindu or Buddhist, I was just brought up with the basic Pantheistic view of reality.

My concept of God was of a Universal Life Force which was the timeless beginning, end, and unity of all things. I felt totally separate from this Universal One-ness; totally cut off and alone. More than anything I felt loneliness in being separate, and I was striving to achieve unity with the Universal Life Force, to be more than just one, to have communion and one-ness with all things. I started experimenting with acid and mescaline to try and find God.

After about 6 months I finally had a trip on acid where I lost myself completely, became one with everything. It was a beautiful experience, and

strangely unemotional, but somehow when I came down from the trip I felt completely empty. What I discovered on acid was this: that every separate creation is single and alone, it is one. Man, seeking escape from his separateness, from being just one, strives for a unity with all things and yet, once he's achieved this unit, once he's one with everything, he's right back to being one again; this time its a Greater One, but still just one, and still alone; there is no Other. Think of drops of mercury; when they scatter, there are many separate drops — each is one. When two or three drops roll together, they merge instantly at the point of contact, so that what you are left with is not a unity of two or three drops, but one separate drop.

I thought there must be one universal law, if none else; that there is only one, whether you're dealing on the level of The Universal One or the myriad separate ones that are created from it. As soon as I realised this I gave up the idea of ever achieving true enlightenment, true knowledge of the various levels of existence. To be finite and separate from the Universal one-ness is obviously not a state

of enlightenment because you have no true knowledge of the level of existence of Universal One-ness total unity with all things. But if you achieve unity with the Universal One-ness you have not achieved enlightenment either, you're still limited, because you don't have any true knowledge of what it's like to be finite and separate.

I thought that the only true enlightenment possible would be to hang between these two states, striving and yearning for one-ness with all things, yet making sure you never achieved it, having a taste of both levels and being incomplete and unfulfilled in each. I thought that all meaning must lie in seeking, but never in finding, in the tension between finding and seeking. I wrote all of this down, called it Notes on Spiritual Suffering, and thought of it as an epitaph for the death of any desire I had left for spirituality. I knew I couldn't live with this tension that I had found, so I gave up thinking about religion or spiritual things, and just concentrated all my attention and effort on how to exist through all the days that come one after the other.

A couple of years later I was hitching around, somehow trying to get various parts of myself together, and I stumbled on a Christian community in the mountains. I decided to stay there for the free food and a bed, because at the time I didn't have any money with me. The people there were very nice, but their conversation just rolled over me — I couldn't see anything in what they were saying that could possibly be relevant to anything.

cont. p. 9

DEAR PREMIES,

Having received Knowledge from Guru Maharaj Ji last April and experiencing the bliss and intoxication of meditation for 6 months, I am compelled to relate this vitally important story to you. First, let me say that I am moved by love and compassion and genuine concern for you as I am writing this message.

When I heard about Guru Maharaj Ji's Knowledge in March, I was really excited by the blow-out satsang given to me by some friends who were experiencing the meditation. It took no time at all to realize that all the premies I saw were very, very high and that I wanted to receive this Knowledge.

Finally, a Mahatma came to Boston, and I heard him speak at the old DLM residence for 3 days, then, followed him to Maine, back to Boston, then to Amherst, through Connecticut, and was finally called for a Knowledge session in New York, after having been thoroughly prepared to receive Knowledge. I was so empty and hungry for it that when Mahatma-Ji revealed the 'light' to me, it was so intense that my head flew back. It was like being hit by a train---and I dug it. The music was faint, but definitely there. The "Word" was outrageous, and I was thoroughly enticed by its intense seduction---no nectar then.

After returning to Boston, I moved into a premies center that two weeks later became a DUO house. We lived by the Ashram manual and were getting very high. Over the next five months, I received Darshan from Bal Bhagwan Ji twice, Mata Ji in New York and Guru Maharaj Ji 3 times, including a trip to his residence in Newton, when he was here in Boston. What I'm saying is, that I know exactly what you're experiencing and the power of this meditation.

In late July, I was out propagating for a Boston program at which Guru Maharaj Ji was going to appear. I approached a man on the street, greeted him, handed him a leaflet, and started to tell him about the Knowledge and the concept of the "Perfect Master". I told him that Guru Maharaj Ji was the Perfect Master for today and that he was here to manifest Christ to man.

At this point this particular man told me that he was a Christian and that he was experiencing the love of God through his only begotten Son, the man, Christ Jesus. I told him that his faith was a good thing, but that he could directly experience God through the Knowledge and "see the light". This man told me that he needed no link to God other than Jesus Christ and that Jesus expressly warned against false Christs. He showed me a quote of

Jesus: "Take heed that no man deceive you for many shall come in my name saying, 'I am Christ,' and shall lead many astray... And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars... nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines and earthquakes in diverse places" (Matt. 24: 4-7). He went on and on and it became obvious that Jesus was saying that he would not be back for a while--- a very long while.

Then he read where Jesus said, "If any man shall say to you, 'Lo, here is the Christ, or there is the Christ', believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; so as to lead astray if possible, even God's chosen. Behold, I have told you in advance, if therefore, they shall say to you, 'Behold, he is in the wilderness'---go not forth: 'Behold, he is in the inner chambers'; believe it not. For as the lightning shines from the east and is seen even unto the West, so shall be the coming of the Son of Man..." (Matt. 24:23-27).

The man read another quote concerning False Christs, "Satan himself masqueraded as an angel of light. It is therefore a simple thing for his agents to masquerade as agents of good. But they will meet the end their deeds deserve" (II Cor. 11:14,15). And about the Anti Christ he read from Revelation that, "he does great wonders, so that he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men... And he causes all, both small and great... to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads" (Rev. 13:13-16). Needless to say, I was freaked out! Here I was telling this man that this same Christ was here now and I was telling him to go and see him. He told me that in the Bible God says that when a man receives God's Holy Spirit, he can experience the peace of God. This man was practically "glowing" in the dark as he lovingly spoke to me. He told me to investigate Jesus and open my heart to him. He said that if I prayed to him and asked him to enter my heart, that He would touch my soul and fill me with love. (Rev. 3:20) I felt very confused when I grasped this heavy contradiction from the Bible and it affected my meditation.

I decided to leave the DUO center and investigate. I began to perform an ex-

periment. For 3 days, I didn't meditate. I felt very empty. I was reading the Bible over these 3 days, and I was realizing the uniqueness of Jesus. It came to a point that I was so torn that I said, "OK, Jesus, I know you are LORD. Touch my heart, Lord, fill me with your love. Let me know right now if your Spirit is that same spirit that's in Guru Maharaj Ji. At that point, I felt a love so strong in my heart---a love so strong that it forced tears out of my eyes---a totally different, deeper, more beautiful love than Guru Maharaj Ji's. I understood that Jesus was touching me and filling me. I realized that I had called and he had really answered. It passed and left me weeping for joy. Over the past few weeks, I have spent time living with Jesus People who have had the same experience and every day, we experience a love so great from the LORD through Jesus without meditation---without G. M. This love is greater. This love is not the Knowledge---this love is from God through Jesus. In the Bible, it says, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus".

Please check it out for yourself and you'll find out that Jesus is the only way to the LORD. I've been where you are. I've experienced the Knowledge intensely and I've experienced God through Jesus Christ. They are not the same. Jesus is the only way to the Father. If you follow Guru Maharaj Ji and not Jesus you are doomed. Through Jesus and Jesus only is there salvation.

Sincerely, Paul Myette

This testimony comes from a brother at Berkeley, California who has truly seen THE DIVINE LIGHT

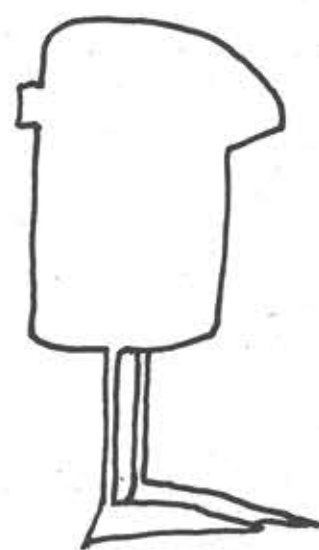
A NUMBER OF THE FAMILY AT THE J.L.+P.H. ARE RESEARCHING EASTERN RELIGIONS. IF YOU HAVE DATA WHICH MAY HELP US, OR IF YOU JUST WANT TO TALK CONTACT US C/O THE EDITOR, TRUTH AND LIBERATION, 265 CANTERBURY RD., NTH BAYSWATER.



SURE I'M LOOKING
FOR HAPPINESS....



SOMEONE SAID
THE SOURCE IS
WITHIN ME....



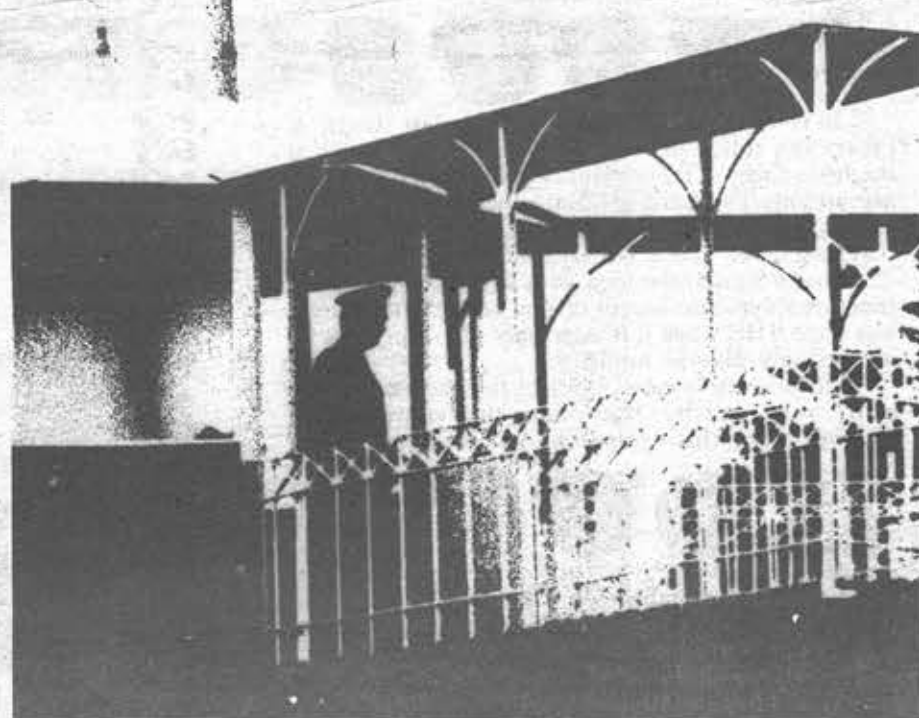
HOW CAN I LOOK
THERE!

CRIME PAYS

The Price?

Death Row at

San Quentin



I remember going to church as a boy, and later as a teenager. As I recall, I enjoyed it very much. I'm older now, 29, and don't go to church anymore. I'd like to, but I can't. You see, here on death row we're not allowed to attend services.

But as a teenager I quit going to church, and it was after I became a "dropout" that I turned to crime. It seemed the longer I was out of church, the less I remembered of what I'd been taught there.

How did I get here, on death row? I started committing crimes as a teenager for a pastime. By the time I reached young manhood crime had become a way of life. After a few burglaries I wound up in a Texas prison for three years. They had church services there, but at that time I thought I was a tough guy and didn't attend. Instead, I learned about other things — things that had to do with crime and how to become a successful criminal. What I didn't learn, until it was too late, was that the criminal never wins. Crime does pay.

After release from prison, I returned to my home in San Antonio, Texas. I had stopped stealing. It was my family and pastor that made me see the light, not the criminals I'd been listening to.

Four years later a business venture failed and once again I went to prison. I got three more years, this time for swindle.

While in prison, I lost my wife and four children that I loved so much. I couldn't blame her for divorcing me. After all, who wants a husband, or father, who can't support them — who is always in prison?

I got out of prison again in 1967, and in '68 remarried. I started life over again, only this time I was trying. But I wasn't trying hard enough nor trusting in God to straighten out my life. I was headed downhill fast.

In September, 1968, the FBI and police in several states were hunting me like an animal. It wasn't for small crimes this time. I was accused of murder and attempted murder.

My wife and I had gone to California, and on our return trip we picked up two hippie hitchhikers. An altercation developed in the car, which resulted in one of the hikers being shot and killed, the other wounded. Instead of going to the police, we became very scared and ran. My wife later gave up to the FBI, and was cleared of the charges.

A few days later they caught up with me in Ciudad Acuna, Mexico. FBI agents returned me to Del Rio, Texas. After being placed under one hundred thousand dollar bond, I began to realize the trouble I was in.

Two detectives returned me to Bakersfield, California, where the alleged crime had occurred. After almost a year in jail, the murder trial started. My defence was one of self-defence, which was the truth. But in a few weeks I was standing before a judge while he sentenced me to die in the gas chamber.

Being on death row, I'm not in a very good position to be giving advice; but I can see where I went wrong in life, and may be by telling you, I can keep you from falling into the same trap.

If you are a young person who trusts God, you won't turn to crime to find something to do. Life will be too full. You'll be too busy being creative, constructive. You'll have a better outlook on life, and you'll have a clean, untainted concept of everyday living.

In the Bible, you will learn principles that you can apply to daily living. Principles that cannot be surpassed for honesty and truthfulness and have not become outmoded through the years. They will be standing when all other have fallen. You will read about Jesus Christ.

By applying these principles, you will not be burdened with inner conflicts of life. But even here, where death is an ever present danger, these same principles can be applied.

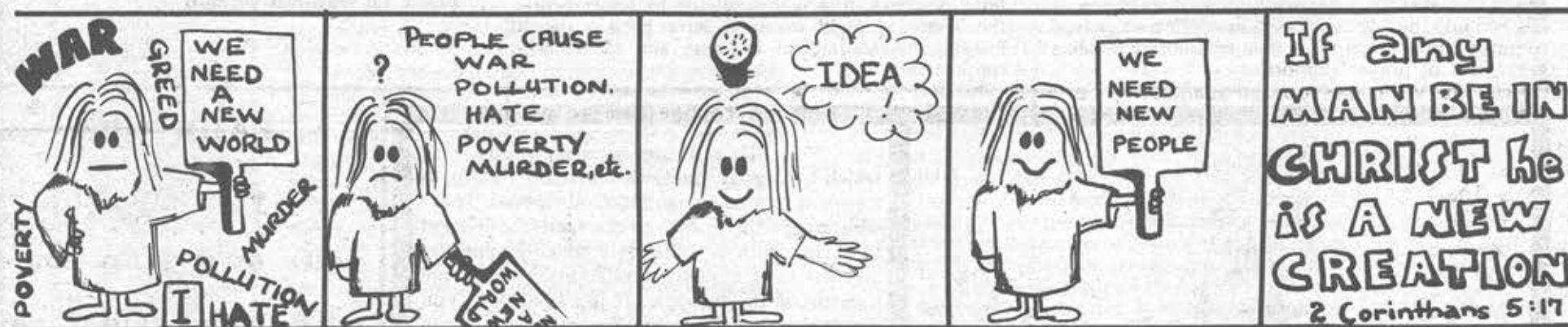
I've found that by reading the Bible daily, and applying what I read, I can lead a creative and constructive life. And if I can do that here, just think what you can do out there.

Since coming here my attitude towards people and life in general has changed completely. No longer do I think the world owes me a living. But death row didn't change my attitude, God did.

I've come to realize that I have many things to be thankful for but the greatest is Jesus Christ, who has shown me what life is about. I know what it is to sleep peacefully at night, and to wake up smiling in the morning. I finally found God, and life without God is meaningless. Even here, on death row, I can smile.

Don't misunderstand me, I don't recommend death row as a place to come and find God. Out there is the best place — like wherever you are right now.

Richard C. Walsh



from p.7 UP FROM ZEN

One night I was staying up very late talking to a man named Jim about Eastern religions. I sarcastically talked about what I thought was the Christian concept of God, of an old man with a beard sending down lightning bolts from his perch in the clouds. Jim just laughed and started talking to me about God, about the Trinity — how God is three distinct spirits, or entities, yet at the same time is completely one. He talked about how the three had loved and communed with each other before the creation of the universe, how completely the three were one, and yet also how completely they were three.

I was silenced by this, totally dumbfounded. I saw that if this was really true, if there was a God that was three in one as he said, then that which I'd been searching for for three years and then had discarded as impossible and non-existent, that which I was looking for was achieved and fulfilled in the Trinity. I saw that in the Christian God there is true union between the personalities, complete oneness, yet not at the expense of the identity of the individual three; before that night it had never occurred to me that the one absolute universal law that I'd discovered, that there is only one on any level, just might possibly be false. And I have never anticipated the incredible joy that could overcome me at finding myself wrong.

A person's philosophy or view of life is his explanation of reality, or of what is. When I formulated my concept of reality, of the inescapability of separateness on all levels, I came to believe that my yearning for true unity and communion between myself and some other force was an impossible yearning, that it just didn't fit into my universe; it was as if I was feeling hunger in a universe where food didn't exist. Then I was offered an entirely different view of reality, a completely different view of what is: if love and communication, true unity and communion are in the very character of God, and if this God is the creator of reality, the universe, time and space, and if this God originally made man in His image, then man's strivings for love, communication, significance as an individual aren't out of place, aren't just part of the illusion of "maya", aren't just a hunger for which there is no food.

Because man has turned away from God, we're separated from ourselves, but this is not the norm of what man is, of what the universe is, but rather the disfiguring of what God meant His creation to be.

No matter what philosophy or religion we formulate, we cannot escape the truth of what is, that we are made in the image of God. My own philosophy led me to the belief that life could only be meaningful if I lived in tension, but I could not live that way. The existentialist who says that life and

things are absurd cannot help himself from falling in love, the nihilist at some point finds an inconsistency between his logic which tells him he might as well just destroy, and some part of him which yearns to create, and to create significantly.

The beginning of all truth is that God is, and that there was love and communion in God Himself before the creation of the universe. God created man in the image of His character, he created man free to be in a relationship with God, who is the source of all love and communication. Man turned away, to be his own world, to be alone, and in turning away found himself totally alone and finite. Without the sustenance of the relationship with God, in cutting himself off from the true source of love and communion, man found himself separated from everything around him and from every other man, and outside of the relationship for which he was created, man found himself without identity.

God has reached down to us and provided us with a way to come back to Him. In Christ, God and man are totally united, totally reconciled; separation is conquered, alienation is conquered, death is conquered.

It's time for us all to come home...

reprinted from RIGHT ON.

JESUS

It is now ten months since the last Truth & Liberation rolled off the presses. Developments at the Jesus Light & Power House since then have been astounding. The Lord has placed His hand upon the total ministry in an exciting way and the expansion that has taken place is quite incredible.

God's Squad, the idea with which it all started, remains a dynamic aspect of the work; but where it was once THE work it is now only one aspect of an increasingly diverse ministry.

Mellomedia is now starting to take shape. As with every activity born into the confusion of Number 265 this outreach is having teething

HOUSE

problems. However, already a large range of cassettes are available for loan and sale. Many dealing with pertinent social issues are being added to the cassette library each week.

A cassette multi-copying machine soon to be purchased, will revolutionise our cassette ministry and contracts made by John Smith while in America have ensured us of a good supply of topical and well produced material.

Mellomedia is also involved in the lending and sale of books and the sale of up-to-date Christian record releases.

The fact that you are reading these words shows

POWERS

that Truth and Liberation is back on the road after ten months hibernation. As long as Christian readers are not slack in their contributing to this area of ministry we hope publication will be regular and not, as Free Slave editorial staff say, "periodically inspired".

Crossfire and Flock, the two music groups are now working under the registered name: Living Vibes. Both these groups have matured tremendously in recent months. Flock's versatility has widened and the group's instrumental variation has become an outstanding quality. Crossfire too, has become a much tighter music machine.

ON

The team of eleven full-time workers at the J. L. & P. H. is firmly entrenched in Student Concern, the ministry to schools. The larger number of requests for team to visit schools cannot all be met but we praise God that He is channelling the Good News of His Son into the education system which is so geared to putting Him down. This area of ministry needs a great deal of prayer support.

THE J.L.&P.H. FAMILY



TOP, FROM LEFT: Norm, Quince, Mark, Dave, Graeme. LOWER,

FROM RIGHT: MIKE P, MIKE G, Melanie, Laureen, Kay, Brian, John.

Meetings at the Power House are continuing to attract very good numbers, especially the Monday night meetings at which Smithy has been conducting studies in the book of Acts. The open Wednesday night meetings have also resulted in some tremendous contacts being maintained with outlaw bikie brothers. Although attended by fewer people the Thursday night meetings have been a special blessing to the faithful brothers and sisters who support it.

The need for expansion has now reached crisis point at the House. Up to 12 people working in three very small offices is quite common and we are finding the need for counselling rooms and offices of paramount importance. It appears we must enter a building programme even though money isn't available (at least not visible).



There is one important basic truth which belongs uniquely to Christianity: You, as a person, are important to God forever. Those who accept the reality of this truth are charged to accept with it a life style which is radically attuned to a consistent relationship with the Creator of the universe. It is available to you simply because Jesus the Son made the provision.

"Eternal life is in Him and this life gives light to all mankind. His life is the light that shines through the darkness—and the darkness (Satan) can never put it out" (John 1:4-5)

GOD'S

SQUAD

The past few months has been a period of stabilising for the Squad with no spectacular developments; just a gradual growth. The Squad remains a vital part of the ministry of the Truth and Liberation Concern sharing strongly in the ministry to schools and church youth groups.

The number of Squad members has remained at a pretty stable level. There are now eighteen full members and another 19 on probation. Rapid growth in numbers has been restricted by a decision to increase the period of probation from three months to 15 months. This has separated the glamour seekers from those with a real sense of calling to the ministry.

Squad Secretary "Norton" Norm said the decision to increase the probation period would enable those aspiring to membership to realise that involvement meant hard work and sacrifice.

The Squad's "stable" was recently enhanced by the addition of two BMW 900 machines. The practical men are Quince and Mike Peele.

Looking back over two years of ministry the Squad has much to praise God for. Despite over 100 accidents amongst members, probationers and friends, no one has been seriously injured. It is an equal miracle that no one has been killed.

Although, as already mentioned, there have been no spectacular events in past months, contacts with outlaw brothers are continuing to grow and the Wednesday night open meetings are proving to be invaluable in extending contacts.

FADE--OUT

... you mäy be
yöür own män. You
may know what you
liké — and like
yöürself büt
unless you believe
whät Jesus Christ
said you are not a
Christiän. Liké sün-
tans, old Lévis and
last year's fashions
you're on the way
to fading out...

MEDIA ~ records

by Dave Diprose.



SEEDS

Barry McGuire

Many people will know of Barry McGuire as the singer of the hit song "Eve of Destruction" and for his lead role in the original Broadway production of "Hair". But the direction of Barry's music and message has changed since his confrontation with Jesus Christ — now he presents a message of hope.

His album "Seeds", contains a number of his own songs, backed by a very tight rock sound — plenty of brass — and a lively bouncy beat.

Unfortunately the backing has been over-arranged and stifles Barry's natural style. The free-flowing spirit of his live concerts is partly quenched. Those who attended his solo concerts in Australia last year may be disappointed.

However, the record does have some strong points. A highlight is his song "Love Is", a simple, poignant song expressing with great sensitivity the full spectrum of Agape love. His words in songs like "Last Daze Waltz" and "David and Goliath" are quite hip and although amusing, speak the truth about some of the Old Testament characters.

"Peace" speaks just about that. The peace that can only be found in Christ as we emerge from the old way of life. "Enter In" and "Shauna's Song" are also good tracks.

Barry McGuire stands head and shoulders above most contemporary Christians in the young music scene and it is a pity that this record does not do him justice. However it is still one of the best Christian records available.



SON OF DUST

Randy Matthews

This new album features high quality production and backing from some top musicians — several of whom have backed Bob Dylan in his recording sessions.

Randy is a good singer-songwriter who holds his own with secular musicians in the U.S. and this album is well recorded, professionally played and good to listen to.

A good combination of rock and ballads in true West coast style, the album starts with "Holy Band", a sing-a-long, up-tempo number.

It finishes with "Pharoah's Hand", a plaintive song expressing the stark reality of desolation in today's wars, food crises and other social dilemmas. The song starts in the Neil Young or America tradition portraying the writer's anguish and simply says in the chorus: "Been too long underneath this Pharoah's hand and its time we make a stand".

"Didn't He" is a starkly beautiful song about the Crucifixion and Christ's victory over death. "Evacuation Day" is a celebration song about the Rapture.

This record will be a good addition to the collections of those with a taste for and understanding of counter-culture music.



HONEYTREE

Nancy Henigbaum

Nancy Henigbaum presents the listener with a voice and funky piano playing reminiscent of Carol King. Her latest album's name is derived from the English translation of her second name.

Her style is gentle folk with the occasional heavier number. The backings are fairly simple but effective. They are not overcrowded, allowing the piano to come through held together by effective bass lines. There's some good lead guitar and xylophone work with jazz style overtones and latin beats.

One of the best tracks is "Hallelujah Outasight", an up-tempo number expressing the freedom and joy of being dependent upon Jesus. "Resist the Devil" is a fairly heavy number in comparison.

"So Much Man" is a cute, happy song which will raise the eyebrows of some of the "straights" with its cheeky lyrics. The album is fairly well recorded and the backings are sensitive. It will soothe rather than stimulate although there is plenty of food for thought in the lyrics.

books

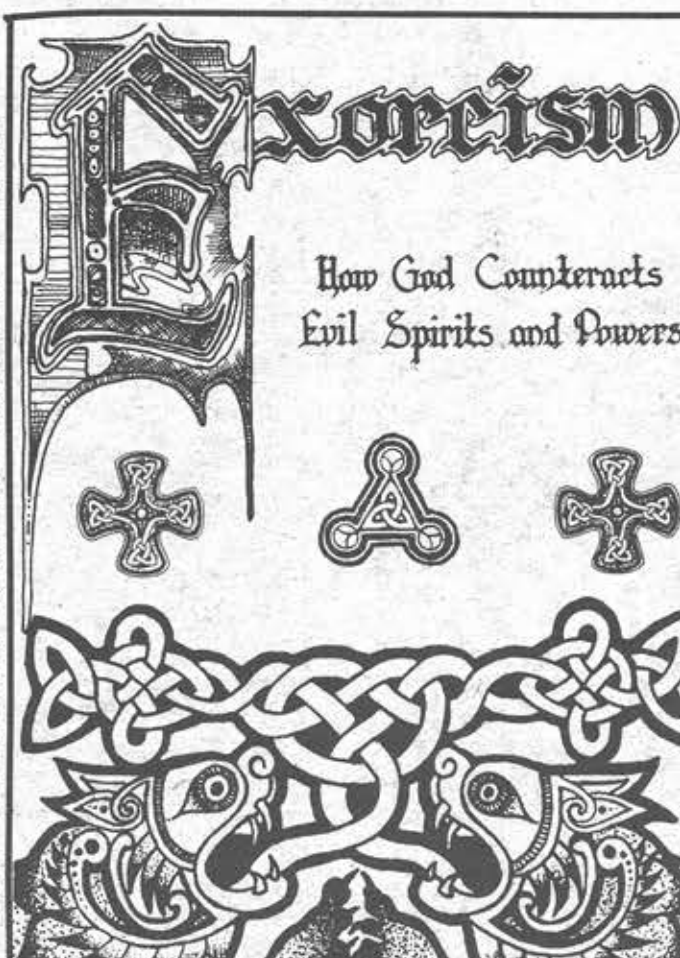
When Father Karras went out that window, you knew it was all over. But who won? If you were like most viewers, you were drained and shocked. The exorcism simply transferred the forces of evil from one person to another and left them still in charge. And you wonder, is that the way it has to be?

Of course, we know that demons don't always do such wild things in people. Still, they're around and a lot of people get messed up by them. Like in the film, it seems that the forces of evil are too often in control of happenings. We know that neither we nor the world will be completely free as long as that's true.

When Jesus of Nazareth came to the earth as savior, he announced the coming of the kingdom of God. He said that sometime in the future Satan and his demons would be defeated once for all in a great Last Battle. Then God will rule with the forces of good and there will be no more evil possession of human beings.

What can we do in the meantime, however? Jesus told his followers that he was going to give them power to resist Satan and deliver people from demons. The key to that power is given in the writings which his followers have passed on through the ages. There are also historical records which detail their experience with demons during the intervening centuries since Jesus left.

There are many groups of those followers of Jesus around today who still believe those statements, experience the power he offered and look forward to God's forever nation.



With the permission of our brothers in the Christian World Liberation Front at Berkeley, California, we have reprinted this booklet (left). Brothers and sisters from varying backgrounds who have read this booklet have agreed that it contains balanced and invaluable information. Every Christian should really have his head together on this subject as the media is moving into occultic coverage very rapidly.

The booklet gives a few examples of occultic manifestation from primitive cultures and then briefly discusses various religious concepts (animism, pantheism, ancestor worship) which grew out of fears of the spirit world.

It then moves into a concise summary of Biblical teaching on the subject of demonic activity with stress upon the ministry of deliverance manifested in the life of Jesus. This includes a brief but illuminating discussion on the origin of the English word "exorcism".

Under the heading "Guidelines for Dealing with the Unseen Realm" the writers present some severe warnings to those who would attempt to deal with occultic powers without the protection of Jesus Christ.

The booklet makes no pretense of presenting a detailed study on the subject but for those who may have become confused in the wake of such films as Rosemary's Baby and the Exorcist, it will provide a firm foundation from which to work. Advanced enough to help a Biblically well versed Christian it is also simple enough to be used in witnessing to those who may have become caught in the occultic net.

Copies of the booklet can be purchased from the Jesus Light and Power House for 40 cents, plus postage.

