Four Great Perversions

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[from *The Feast of Tabernacles*, Chapter 36. The New World]

There are four very large things that pervert the definition of God as found in the mind of almost all of our brethren. These four perversions work together to make a perfect citadel of hostility against the penetration of anything God actually is or says. Everything we might speak concerning who God is and how He lives inside of us and reveals Himself through us is struck down instantly by these four things working always together. And the thing is, you cannot eliminate just one or two or three of them. Rather, all must go before anything of God as He really is can be known upwelling within each one as everlasting springs of God unfolding Himself through us to be seen and known and touched by all creation.

Let me list those four mighty perversions in short form first, and then explain them as succinctly as I can: (1) the lie, (2) heaven, (3) hell, and (4) unbelief in the Atonement. Heaven and the lie work always together on the one hand while hell and unbelief in the Atonement work together on the other hand. Yet all four continually buttress and support each other so that anywhere the goodness and reality of God might penetrate, all contribute their darkness to shovel that knowledge of God into the many sidetracks and dead end canyons found in Nicene Christianity.

Let's begin with the lie as it was the first perversion to enter into the mind of man.

Nicene Christianity, our brethren all across the Christian world, every little group preaching its revelation, BELIEVES without question that the serpent spoke the truth. This belief in the inherent truthfulness of the serpent is the foundation of all their theology. Thus anything we might say to contradict the "truth" as spoken by the serpent is struck down immediately as blasphemy. Jesus was killed primarily because He presented to the Jewish world a view of the possibility that the serpent had, in fact, lied.

Jesus, a man, said, "The Father and I are One."

You see, it really is a no-brainer. The serpent lied; there was no truth of any kind found in his words.

The lie begins with the belief that God is like an angel, that is, a great and glorious heavenly being emanating perfection and strength who lives by knowing what is right and who does what is right by that knowledge. Thus "godliness" means to hear what God says and to be sure to do it. In fact, the idea that man is the image of God, though it is stated clearly in the text and repeated by many, means nothing because it is always struck down by the deeper belief that God is defined for us by the highest and most glorious of heavenly beings.

Then, the lie proceeds to the conviction that "to be like God" is evil, and anyone who wants to be like God desires iniquity. The serpent uses this belief promoted by himself to maintain his place of superiority in the minds of all as the image of God. At the same time, the tree of knowledge, "God" on the outside of us, knowing what is right and doing it, and knowing what is wrong and not doing it, becomes the only path of salvation.

Jesus, then, was effectively removed as a competitor to the angelic definition of "God" by being deified at the Nicene Council, that is, turned into a "God," a super radiant heavenly being emanating perfection, looking just like the sun god, Apollo. Even though Jesus called Himself "the Son of Man," over and over, His words were turned into a statement of angelic divinity. Even though the disciples wrote of Him exclusively as a Man, including the statement in Hebrews that it is a MAN who is seated at the right hand of the Father, all Bible testimony that man is the image of God, not a heavenly angel, simply does not stand. No one sees it, no matter how many times they read the words.

The second mighty perversion came as the first immediate consequence of death in the universe, the separation of heaven and earth in the minds and knowledge of man. Earth, then, and human flesh with it, became in their minds the source of all evil and perversion and "heaven" became a far-away "place" of light and beauty, lost now to us so long as we live in an earthly form. Thus, the only reality salvation can be is that we escape this vile earth by death and "go to" heaven far away after we die. Salvation, then, cannot be known on this earth – except the infantile idea that salvation, or "Jesus lives in my heart," is simply the means, the ticket, by which we get to "go to" this far away "place" of bliss.

Thus, when anyone reads in the New Testament words that state that heaven is the source of evil, that heaven is temporary and will be destroyed, and that the meek will inherit the earth, those words are simply never seen or considered. They cannot mean what they say, after all.

But far, far worse than that, this ungodly, death definition of "heaven," a definition not found in the Bible though forced upon the words of the Bible by the darkened minds of Christians living in the tree of knowledge, is also used to define in their entirety every statement in the New Testament concerning two utterly critical things, salvation and eternal life. Salvation and eternal life, in Nicene Christianity, in the minds of our brethren, are then defined entirely by the curse Adam forced upon the universe by his useless and unnecessary belief that the serpent was telling him the truth.

The Lion King is simply the best illustration I can think of. All the grief and horror that came upon all the lions and all the animals of the African plain for many years did stem directly from Scar's wickedness, yes. But really, the full responsibility for all that grief lay upon Simba who, rather than standing in the light saying, "Here I AM, oh God. I and all the children inside of me," chose to believe the lie, and to run into darkness to hide from something that was simply not true. (I'm mixing Simba with Adam in this illustration.)

And thus salvation and eternal life, in the minds of almost all our brethren, is simply "*Hakuna Matata*" forever in the far-away bliss of "heaven." Salvation and eternal life, in the minds of almost all our brethren, is actually something horrifically dark and evil, a hiding forever in the curse of Adam.

The third mighty perversion then came as Christians took the true nature of this glorious heavenly angel, this cherub, filled with envy and hatred, and fused that definition together with the obvious explanations of God found in the Bible. God is love; God so loved the world. – God creates billions of living beings filled with hopes and dreams for the sole purpose of torturing them forever in the hopeless agony of utterly penetrating torment.

This belief that God is, by definition, a demon rules the hearts and minds of almost all our brethren. Their every approach to God, while their hearts are drawn by love, is also shadowed by their absolute belief that this God they are approaching is an angelic being filled with demonic hatred. In fact, they believe that God will torture forever anyone, like you and me, who claims that God is not a demon.

You see, the sight, on a TV show, for instance, of a serial killer torturing his victims reverberates through the Christian and human soul as pure evil. Yet, their definition of God requires them to believe that the serial torturer hardly holds a candle to God who has continued to torture those very same people, fully conscious and aware of themselves, in agonizing hopelessness, in screams and wails of the deepest penetrating infliction of pain, and will do so forever.

Nicene Christianity inserted this definition of "God" into even the translation of the Bible, a definition that simply was not known by anyone for the first two hundred years of Christian history.

No one who defines God as a demon will ever know Him.

The fourth horrific perversion, in some ways the very worst, is the savage and brutal reduction of the Atonement won by the Lord Jesus Christ down to the very tiniest of things, a ticket that comes into play only after we die, a ticket to the great *Hakuna Matata* in the sky.

The Atonement is removed and restricted and reduced in every conceivable direction. It is cut in half, with the Living Christ carrying all of our "sinfulness" right now inside His empty tomb banished utterly from Christian theology. This far-off and limited atonement does not apply to the earth, nor to our lives now. It is not greater than the universe, but very limited and weak. The Blood is not absolute; the Cross is not finished; and Resurrection Life is something far, far away, known only by death taking us out.

Everyone who is busy approaching "God" despises the Blood. Everyone trying to do something to get right with God, including talking about "dying to the flesh," which they only ever talk about but never actually do simply because it does not exist, despises the Cross. And everyone talking about going to heaven someday despises Christ our only life.

Turn around. Be the Salvation of God through you now, right here upon this earth.

Every single verse, every word in the Bible that might suggest something different, is taken by the Christian mind into the wilderness of these four awful perversions of darkness. Everything God says is required by them to find meaning only there.

You see, I suspect that I have scared a whole lot of people off with some of my statements in this series about our present relationship with God. Yet, I have said nothing that is not clearly stated in the New Testament. That's the whole problem, the reason behind the creation of all Christian "theology." To believe what God actually says is to realize that the whole "the serpent spoke the truth" paradigm must be cast aside, and for most it is just too blasphemous to accept that man is the image of God, that God shows Himself as He is only through man.

Yet God WILL anoint us to win their hearts. I am sure of it, because, you see, Jesus lives in my heart.