I Believe



a Creed for 2023 by William Wilkie

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Phone 07 3839 9727 Website www.selfhelpbooksgifts.com

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I Believe (2023)

I believe that in our Universe there is one Creator (that in the English language we call God) who created all life on Earth and life on other planets.

In God's creative process two principles are in operation. God originates a thought or image of what He wants to create. And this thought or image interacts with The Word, another aspect of God. Through the interaction of God and The Word, an idea or image is given mass and becomes a living reality. We use the pronoun "He" for God. We don't have a pronoun for The Word, but the closest fit would be "She".

God and The Word together created all life forms, organisms and creatures on Earth. And then they created human beings, in the form that we know as Homo erectus. Human beings were created to resemble the physical form that God usually takes when He wants to be seen as a physical entity. Human beings were created male and female.

It has always been God's intention that human beings, acting as His representatives here on Earth, would function as caretakers of all forms of life, themselves consuming only plants, nuts, seeds and fruits.

And this is how it was, on our planet.

Then 450,000 Earth years before the present time, other human beings from another planet arrived on our planet Earth. We know them as "gods". (The Mesopotamian gods, Egyptian gods,

Greek gods, Roman gods, Norse gods, Mayan gods, Chinese gods, Japanese gods etc. Also known as Anunnaki and Nephilim. They were the same people but known by different names in different parts of our world.)

The gods came to take gold from Earth back to their own planet. There they used vaporised gold to repair their planet's atmosphere that they had damaged through endless wars.

After mining gold on Earth for a very long time, the lesser-status gods rebelled because the work was too hard. Their leaders then decided to mix Homo erectus DNA with the DNA of the gods to breed a hybrid worker slave to mine gold for the gods.

The hybrid human being that resulted is known as Homo sapiens, the species of human beings living on Earth at the present time.

Homo sapiens inherited several negative behaviours from the gods, including sexual misuse, territorial selfishness, violence and war. Homo sapiens lost the secure connection with God that they had enjoyed as Homo erectus. This change in the relationship between God and human beings is known in Christian theology as "The Fall".

About 2,000 years ago, God showed His mercy to human beings on Earth, and through a manifestation of The Word, God became a human being, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus is known in English as Jesus Christ, in Hebrew as Yeshua. The mother of Jesus was Mary. Jesus' father was God Himself.

We know that Jesus did not have a human father, because living white blood cells in a sample of Jesus' blood that fell on the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant when Jesus was crucified, shows only 24 chromosomes, 23 from his mother

Mary and one Y chromosome, not from a human male, but from God Himself.

Jesus Christ was beaten, scourged and put to death in a viciously cruel manner by the Roman Governor of Judaea, Pontius Pilate, who feared that Jesus might lead a military revolt against the Roman occupiers of Judaea.

The Jewish High Priest was blameless in the condemnation and death of Jesus Christ.

However, books later written about Jesus were tampered with, falsely claiming the High Priest had demanded that Pontius Pilate put Jesus to death.

Jesus rose from death and joined God His Father in Heaven. To human beings on Earth, Jesus Christ is regarded as Lord of Heaven and Earth.

By communicating with God through the spirit of Jesus Christ, we are now able to reinstate our secure connection with the God who created us.

Only the God who created us can heal us from the negative behaviours we inherited from the gods. However, healing is possible only if each individual human being makes a personal appeal to God the Creator through His Son Jesus Christ.

I believe that the inner identity of each human being is an immortal soul or spirit, of the same nature as God, and whose destiny, following the death of the human body. is to live and work with God in God's heavenly kingdom.

INTRODUCTION

I have believed in God ever since I was a boy, and later I learned to say The Apostle's Creed. This is what Christian people say at Mass as a statement of what they believe.

> *I believe in God, the Father almighty,* Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell: on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven. and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church. the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

I am now 79 years old and I have retired from my medical work of 47 years as a clinical psychiatrist. I wrote a number of books.

This small book began when I wrote down a summary of what I believe in 2023, an update on my personal Apostles' Creed. I wrote it primarily for my family who might be interested in what I was thinking about in my old age. My wife Susanne read my

Creed and encouraged me to explain where I had learned what I now believe. This small volume is the result.

I Believe - a Creed for 2023 CHAPTER ONE There is One Creator

I went to a University Medical School. I was taught to believe that by sheer chance, in the "primordial soup" of Earth's primeval oceans, some molecules organised themselves together and started living. This teaching was in bold defiance of the fact that nobody has ever demonstrated life beginning spontaneously. Living organisms are always begotten by living organisms.

A common tale these days is of a university trained scientist dutifully accepting the big lie that we evolved by accidental mutations in our DNA and "survival of the fittest". Then at some time in his/her life, this scientist finds the big lie wearing off, no longer able to withstand the demands of logic and common sense.

For example, years ago I was at a weekend conference on environmental medicine at Clear Mountain near Brisbane when I got talking with Dr Mark Florence at lunch. Dr Florence had been the Chief Scientist at CSIRO, Lucas Heights, near Sydney, Australia. Dr Florence told me he had been trying to design an electrode that would be able to perform two measurements simultaneously. He said the mathematics was extremely complex, and I did not get to learn if he actually succeeded.

While Mark was actively involved in his experiments, a histologist working in the same laboratory called him over to look down the histologist's microscope.

He was looking at a simple cubical nerve cell with a single axon leading to a group of cells in the brainstem. The cubical nerve cell was sitting on top of a square-walled vein, and five little fingers dipped down from the cubical cell into the blood flowing in the vein.

The histologist told Mark that the cell was continuously recording five different readings simultaneously, converting them into a binary code and reporting the results through a single fibre to the brainstem.

Mark told me that at that moment he decided that simple random variations and survival of the fittest wasn't going to explain such elegant technology. It was then that he finally gave up the big lie. See Graeme Batley's obituary outlining T. Mark Florence's extensive achievements as a scientist at https://www.publish.csiro.au/ch/Fulltext/ ch04182

Usually, however, people do not require complicated biochemistry to convince them there is a creator responsible for the beauty that surrounds us. The colours of birds and fish and flowers seem to tell us that whoever the creator is, He loves his work, making living organisms look beautiful.

The mystery of what music is, different from noise, and how music seems to be directly connected to our human emotions is another example of the connectedness that points to a single Creator, responsible also for birdsong. Whoever our creator is, He likes to sing, and maybe whistle, and He certainly enjoys dabbling with colours.

Mostly by taking notice of what is going on around us in our daily lives, we begin to suspect that there is a mind much greater than ours, arranging coincidental meetings and mysterious knowings as though this over-mind knows all about us.

It doesn't take much effort, just sitting quietly listening, to hear thoughts in answer to our questions about the discomfort and suffering we encounter in our lives.

Some of us who have survived near-death experiences, have actually experienced brief glimpses of life in the spirit world,

and found unexpectedly, that we are loved as individuals, created for a specific purpose by our kind and caring Creator.

CHAPTER TWO

The Creative Process

In the process of divine creation, two aspects of God operate together. These two aspects of God are described in the first verse of St John's Gospel as "God" and "The Word".

The Chinese mystic Lao-tse had written 700 years earlier, of two God processes operating in creation. "These two spring from the same source but differ in name". (See the first verse of Lao-tse's book of poems known as the Tao-te Ching).

It appears that the process through which we create a hologram may be similar to the way God creates living creatures.

In creating a hologram, we begin by passing a light beam through a splitter to create two identical light beams. One beam is directed towards a photographic plate, and the other beam shines on the object we seek to create a hologram from.

The light that bounces off the object is directed towards the photographic plate where it interacts with the other beam of light. The other beam of light is actually itself.

The interactions of the beams of light become recorded on the photographic plate. The photographic plate is processed. And then if light of the same wavelength as the beam used to create the hologram, is directed onto the photographic plate, an exact three dimensional image of the original object emerges.

In God's creation, a similar design process takes place, as God and another version of God (The Word) interact to produce a

three dimensional entity that has life and carries inbuilt instructions on how to sustain itself for its natural life span.

Another interesting characteristic in hologram manufacture might also reflect divine creation. If you break a piece off the holographic plate, the three-dimensional image is still complete when you shine the light through the plate. There is nothing broken off the holographic image.

And if you shine the light through the broken piece, you will obtain a completely intact holographic image of the object. In fact, the image of the whole object can be obtained from anywhere in the holographic plate.

Dear reader, just as the full image of the hologram exists in every tiny bit of the photographic plate, every cell in your body carries a full set of instructions on how to create your entire body.

This is why it is possible to clone an exact copy of you. We could take out the nucleus of any cell of your body and use it to replace the nucleus of a human ovum, touch the ovum with an electric spark to start it dividing, implant it in the uterus of a woman volunteer and have an exact baby version of you born nine months later.

We know we can do this, because we have cloned animals. However, we don't clone human beings, because we should not. Trying to tamper with identity is too dangerous. Identity involves more than the body. It also involves the soul, and we must treat human beings with the respect we deserve as having been created in the very image of God.

The examples I am giving in this chapter obviously belong to our modern scientific era. Two hundred years ago a writer

attempting to explain God's creation would not have the sciences of holography and genetic engineering to help explain the process.

Another example from modern science is how quantum physics is helping us understand theology.

A Chinese satellite orbiting 1200 kilometres above the Earth's surface right now, contains a crystal plus a means of stimulating it to glow and a camera to tell us here on Earth that it is in fact glowing.

In a university somewhere in China there is a similar crystal plus camera etc. If the crystal on Earth is stimulated, it will glow, and immediately the crystal in the satellite will glow. And vice versa.

We now know that this transmission is faster than the speed of light, in fact it occurs instantaneously, regardless of any obstacles between the particles, or how far apart they are. It is as though these particles think they are each other.

(See the scientific paper "Satellite-based entanglement distribution over 1200 kilometers" Science 16 Jun 2017: Vol. 356, Issue 6343)

The relationship between these two particles is called **"quantum entanglement"** and it explains how the spirit of a living human being can be in two places at once-within the body, and also in the spirit world at the same time.

Anything we see, hear, do, touch, smell or experience in our Earthly life, is instantly recorded within our spirit or soul in the spirit world. After the death of the body here on Earth, our spirit in the spirit world is awakened.

I Believe - a Creed for 2023 Rupert Sheldrake's "Morphic Resonance".

In 1980 the famous English scientist Rupert Sheldrake described his theory of "Morphic Resonance" to his University colleagues in England. He was trying to explain how body shapes and habitual behaviour patterns appear to persist down through generations of life forms, including human beings. (See Rupert Sheldrake's Book "Morphic Resonance" a later book published in 2009. ISBN: 9781594773174)

In 1984 I had met Kenneth McAll, author of "Healing the Family Tree" (Sheldon Books) and from then on, I recorded for every patient I was asked to see, as detailed a family tree history as I could.

I saw many patients whose emotional suffering could not be explained until it was discovered that the pattern of their suffering matched exactly the manner in which someone in the family tree had died. Usually the patient had no conscious knowledge of the ancestor and the unresolved issue that accompanied this ancestor's death.

("Healing the Family Tree" by Kenneth McAll. SPCK Classics Edition **Published:** 17th January 2013. **ISBN:** 9780281069613)

I think perhaps I have successfully treated at least 80 cases like this,

I read Rupert Sheldrake's book "A New Science of Life" and I wrote to Rupert asking him if his concept of morphic resonance was what Ken McAll had been describing in his book. Rupert graciously replied and agreed that this was so.

Since reading Michael Newton's two books "Journey of Souls" and "Destiny of Souls", I think I may have found the

answer to my question "Where do these templates (morphic resonance) directing body shape and behaviour actually reside?"

(Michael Newton PhD "Journey of Souls". Published by Llewellyn Publications US ISBN13 9781567184853. "Destiny of Souls" ISBN: 9781567184990)

We know that morphic resonance isn't carried in rearrangements of our DNA, in genetic or epigenetic material.

Michael Newton was an American hypnotherapist who for many years, carried out extensive research on subjects under deep hypnotic trance, interrogating their souls. He was primarily interested in what happens to souls when a person dies.

Through his research Michael Newton found that souls pre-exist in the spirit world and they choose the bodies they will occupy on Earth, arriving in the second trimester of intra-uterine life. But in every case, the soul has left some of itself behind in the spirit world.

The fact of quantum entanglement that I described earlier explains how a soul's experiences on Earth can be instantaneously transmitted to the spirit world to be shared with the soul remnant left behind.

This is hard for us human beings to imagine, but it doesn't matter if the spirit world is actually quite near to us or 100 thousand light years away, the transmission of information between the soul in a human body on Earth and the soul remnant in the spirit world is instantaneous.

Quantum entanglement can explain how habitual patterns might be stored in the fractions of souls remaining in the spirit world, and how those patterns might easily be carried into future incarnations. There is no need, therefore, to have to search for

changes in the genetic DNA to explain habit patterns being carried into subsequent generations.

And the soul remnants are probably where family tree aberrations persist.

Ken McAll found, and I confirmed in my practice, that asking God in a Christian Communion Service to heal the anomalous family tree pattern that was showing up in subsequent generations, was the most effective treatment.

In these cases, medical treatment never helps. Pain-killing drugs don't stop the pain, tranquillisers don't diminish the fear, antidepressants have no effect on the sadness. But prayer and Christian rituals always help.

This confirms that the problem with the family tree is in the spiritual world, because attention to the spiritual dimension addresses the problem completely.

I Believe - a Creed for 2023 CHAPTER THREE God created human beings And then the gods showed up

The first book of the Bible is Genesis, containing an account of God's creation of our world. After creating plants, trees, fish, birds and animals, God created human beings.

The creation of our world is described as taking place over a number of "days". I can't see anything wrong with regarding a "day" as referring to a stage or a phase or a passage of time.

I really like the fact that after each act of creation, "God saw that it was good". God enjoyed His work.

The creative stages in Genesis chapter one are consistent with what geologists have come to understand about the very early history of our planet. For example, from analysing continental drift, we have deduced that at one stage in the early history of our planet, all the continents were together in one land mass.

And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

And also in Genesis 1, what appears to modern scholarship to refer to the Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter, is described by various names, in the King James Version a "firmament".

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

Verse 7 in Genesis 1 might therefore claim that the Asteroid Belt divides the waters below the Asteroid Belt from the waters above it. Until recently, this statement was a mystery, and Bible readers could only conclude that the waters being referred to were waters on Earth.

However, we now know that the-solar-system-and-beyond-isawash-in-water. See https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/resources/ 16178/

"As NASA missions explore our solar system and search for new worlds, they are finding water in surprising places. Water is but one piece of our search for habitable planets and life beyond Earth, yet it links many seemingly unrelated worlds in surprising ways."

There is water on the Moon, water under the surface of Mars, the planets Neptune and Uranus are massive water planets, the comets are dusty snowballs, there are ice blocks in the asteroid belt, beyond Pluto in the Kuiper belt, and surrounding our solar system in the Oort Cloud.

And NASA is finding water surrounding developing galaxies in deep space.

Could water perhaps be a necessary precondition for creation? Genesis 1:2 tells us water was present even before God created our world.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

And water may be necessary for creating the bodies our spirits will use in the spirit world. In the Gospel of John, Chapter 3, Jesus tells Nicodemus "I tell you most solemnly, unless a man is born through water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

Back to our creation story. And then, after creating all the other life forms on Earth, God and The Word created human beings.

Verse 26: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

Verse 27: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

Verse 28: "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."

We looked like God. Emanuel Swedenborg claimed that there is a template existing throughout all life in all the planets, that Swedenborg described as "the divine human". Swedenborg wrote that he was given to understand that when God the Creator wanted to be visible to His angels, God usually took the form of a human being.

(Afterlife. A Guided Tour of Heaven and Its Wonders By Emanuel Swedenborg. Edited by Donald L. Rose. Afterlife is an abridged version of Swedenborg's classic work Heaven and Hell, with passages specially chosen to help guide the reader through the spiritual world. Paperback and e-book, 216 pages. info@swedenborg.com)

And I heard in a YouTube video of someone describing his near death experience (I wish I could remember which one) that the angels were delighted to see a flesh and blood mammal from Earth (us) who actually physically resembled God.

When I was a medical student studying zoology it appeared to me that animals on Earth seemed to be evolving a body shape always moving towards a human shape. For example, lizards have four legs, and then later the front legs specialise into hands with claws, or wings with feathers, and the back legs specialise into limbs for running and standing. The human body shape starts to appear when the animal prefers to stand upright and loses its tail.

Our local Water Dragon looks like an iguana ("goanna"), with dinosaur spikes on the top of his head. His back legs look somewhat like frog's legs, while his front legs are very different. The Water Dragon is rather fond of human beings, and can be easily tamed. It "seems" right to me that a lizard who is more intelligent and more positively oriented towards human beings appears to be evolving into a form more like a human than his other lizard relatives are.

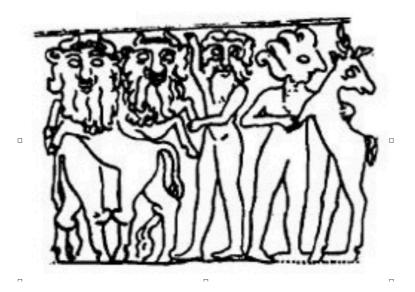
Having created human beings (Homo erectus) and appointed them vegetarian caretakers of life on Earth, God decided to take a rest. In indigenous Australian terms, after God's frenetic creating during the Dreamtime, He rested and left it up to us to look after everything He had created.

On the next page is an engraving of what Homo erectus looked like, according to the ancient Sumerian scribes. (From Zecharia Sitchin's book "The Twelfth Planet")

Also from Zecharia Sitchin's book "The Twelfth Planet": A Sumerian tale dealing with the primordial times states:

"When Mankind was created They knew not the eating of bread, Knew not the dressing in garments; Ate plants with their mouth like sheep; Drank water from a ditch." "Such an animal-like 'human' being is also described in the 'Epic of Gilgamesh.' That text tells what Enkidu, the one 'born on the steppes' was like before he became civilized:

"Shaggy with hair is his whole body, he is endowed with headhair like a woman.... He knows neither people nor land; Garbed is he like one of the green fields; With gazelles he feeds on grass; With the wild beasts he jostles at the watering place; With the teeming creatures in the water his heart delights."



"Not only does the Akkadian text describe an animal-like man; it also describes an encounter with such a being: "Now a hunter, one who traps, faced him at the watering place. When the hunter saw him, his face became motionless....His heart was disturbed, overclouded his face, for woe had entered his belly."

"There was more to it than mere fear after the hunter beheld 'the savage', this 'barbarous fellow from the depths of the steppe'; for this 'savage' also interfered with the hunter's pursuits:

"He filled up the pits that I had dug, he tore up my traps that I had set; the beasts and creatures of the steppe he has made slip through my hands."

"We can ask for no better description of an ape-man: hairy, shaggy, a roaming nomad who 'knows neither people or land', garbed in leaves, 'like one of the green fields', feeding on grass and living among the animals. Yet he is not without substantial intelligence, for he knows how to tear up the traps and fill up the pits dug to catch the animals."

"In other words, he protected his animal friends from being caught by the alien hunters. Many cylinder seals have been found that depict this shaggy ape-man among his animal friends."

(The Twelfth Planet Earth Chronicles Series : Book 1 By: Zecharia Sitchin Published: 27th March 2007. ISBN: 9780061379130)

I like this story about our loving caretaking ancestors Homo erectus, living out the role that our creator had designed for them.

And now back to the Bible. Most of us have assumed that the second chapter of Genesis was written about the creation of mankind, and we have wrongly taught our children that Adam and Eve were the first human beings.

Of course this isn't true. We have already seen that Genesis 1 verse 26 describes God's creation of the first human beings, male and female.

Here is where the story of the creation of mankind becomes suddenly ridiculous when we look at Genesis Chapter 2, King James Version. When we take the trouble to actually read Genesis 2, we realise it doesn't make much sense as a creation story.

These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens,

And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 2 tells us that all that existed on our planet Earth at the beginning, was dirt, irrigation, and an entity known as the Lord God. There were no plants or trees because there had not been any rain on the Earth. Then the Lord God took some dirt from the ground, blew his breath into it, and created a male human being. Nothing else.

Does this sound credible? The only living organism on planet Earth was a male human being. No bacteria in this person's colon. Nothing for this lonely man to eat. There were no plants, no trees, no insects, no birds, no fish, no animals.

But then while Adam exists on thin air, the Lord God starts planting his Garden of Eden.

And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.



Here is a photograph of an ancient Sumerian sculpture of two Mesopotamian gods and the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden. Note that the "Tree of Life" looks a lot like DNA. This ancient sculpture in Iraq was destroyed by ISIS Islamic militants.

The Mesopotamian gods (the Anunnaki, known to the Israelites as Nephilim) came to Earth to mine gold to take back to their home planet to use in a vaporised state to repair the extensive damage to their atmosphere that they had themselves caused by endless (probably nuclear) wars. After a very long time, the lower status Anunnaki, who had to do the hard rock mining , rebelled. The work was too hard.

The leaders of the gods' mission on Earth decided to breed a worker slave who would do the hard work for them. They selected Homo erectus for their genetic experiments, mixing male Anunnaki sperm with female Homo erectus ova.

The Mesopotamian gods, after much experimentation and many failures, eventually succeeded in making hybrid humans from mixing the male sperm of the gods with ova from female Homo erectus, and using 14 volunteer goddesses to carry the fertilised ova to full term. Seven giving birth to male babies and seven giving birth to female babies.



Enki and Ninharsag modifying or "creating" mankind.

This was us, Homo sapiens. We functioned up to expectations as slaves, but unfortunately like other hybrid animals, such as mules, we were infertile, unable to reproduce.

Homo sapiens babies were being born but when they grew up, they were infertile, incapable of reproducing.

In Genesis 2 we read of a surgical operation under general anaesthesia, where Adam had part of a rib removed. This was part of a complex procedure involving female Anunnaki DNA that resulted in the first fertile female Homo sapiens, Eve.

And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.....

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;

The procedure that involved resecting a part of Adam's rib would have been aimed at collecting cells from Adam's bone marrow. But this time, genetic material from an Anunnaki female would be used. Up to that point, the Anunnaki had been using female Homo erectus eggs and male Anunnaki sperm. They had not used any female Anunnaki genetic material, and the hybrid Homo sapiens had proved to be infertile.

We have some idea of the Garden of Eden procedure that was able to produce a fertile female Homo sapiens. It must have involved injecting female Anunnaki mitochondria and their chromosomes into fertilised Homo erectus ova. We know that the mitochondria we see in the cytoplasm of female cells are necessary for reproduction.

The chromosomes responsible for the mitochondria in every Homo sapiens female cell today, are not carried in the cell nucleus, as are all the other human chromosomes, but they

reside in the cytoplasm, where they would seem to have been originally injected through the cell wall into the fertilised ovum in that original Garden of Eden procedure.

And every human female on Earth today has an exact copy of Eve's mitochondria and mitochondrial chromosomes, necessary for women to be able to bear children.

Gold

10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;

12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

13 And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

This aspect of Genesis Chapter 2 clearly revealing its Mesopotamian origin is its focus on gold. It tells us that gold is to be found in Havilah, and the gold to be found there is good.

We have always assumed, wrongly, that the second chapter of Genesis was about the beginnings of human life on Earth. Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. So why the mention of gold?

The answer is that gold was more important than human life to the authors of Genesis 2. Gold was why the gods were here on Earth, and gold was why they genetically interfered with Homo erectus, to breed a worker slave, a useful idiot, who would do the mining and the farming work in the fields and caring for the domestic animals.

In Genesis 2, the Lord God is revealed as a bad-tempered bully who tempts Adam and Eve with a delicious fruit that he plants in their midst, but forbids them to touch.

And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.....

Of course Eve tries it and finds that the Lord God was lying when he told them it was poisonous and would kill them. They eat the fruit, the Lord God gets furious and kicks them out of the only home they had known.

Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

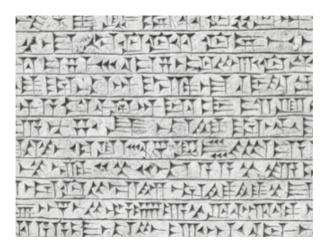
And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the

ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

What a vindictive bully! The Lord God, quite clearly, was not our God.

What Bible students did not know until after the cuneiform documents, discovered in Iraq in 1850, had been translated, was that between the stories of the first and the second chapters of Genesis, the gods had arrived.

Genesis 2 is about the Mesopotamian gods, the Anunnaki.. Genesis 2 came from a story that originated in a Mesopotamian account of the design of a fertile female hybrid Homo sapiens.



Cuneiform text on a clay tablet, discovered in Iraq

The favourite story of women-blaming, punitive preachers, the "Now see this marvellous fruit, don't touch it!" "You disobeyed

me, now get out!" story is the alleged "fall" where human beings allegedly disobeyed God and earned God's displeasure.

We can clearly see that the Lord God was not the God who created our ancestor Homo erectus, the God of Genesis 1. God the creator spirit of Genesis 1 would never inflict such cruelty on his beloved people.

Genesis 2 is a story about the Mesopotamian gods, their selfish hybridisation of Homo sapiens, and gold. And once Homo sapiens became able to produce slave offspring, the gods' lives just got better and better.



Here is a photograph of the massive granite platform of Baalbek, near the Lebanon-Syrian border. With the image of a full-grown man in the foreground, we are looking at the "Trilithon", three cut stones each at least 1200 tons placed on top of other massive

stones running at right angles. Baalbek is supposed to have been built in 9,000 BC.

The Baalbek massive granite platform was built by ancient



Grand Quarry of Baalbek, ca. 1920-1933. (Scan of original negative; LOC/Matson image #15481)

Anunnaki engineers as a landing and taking-off platform for chemical rockets, much like the heavy concrete launch pads for space rockets today. They used tools something like lasers to cut the granite stones and it is speculated that they employed sound levitation to move them.

The gods were selfish, territorial, cruel taskmasters, sex-addicted lovers of war. It was through their ceaseless wars on their own planet that they had wrecked their atmosphere. The threat to their planet's biosphere was the only reason they stopped killing

each other and began looking for a large quantity of gold to use in a vaporised state to mend the hole in their atmosphere.

One might have hoped that when the gods arrived on our planet they might have decided to give up wars. After all, endless wars almost destroyed their planet.

There were about 600 gods on our planet's surface plus 300 of them (the Igigi or astronauts) who manned the Mars base and controlled the chemical rockets and the Earth-orbiting space ships.

The gods had established a base on Mars at a time when Mars had plenty of surface water. The gods navigated their way through the Asteroid Belt by blasting asteroids with high pressure water hoses. By the time they had gotten through the Asteroid Belt, they needed to fill up with water, which they did on Mars. So they had a base on Mars, manned by something like 80 to 120 Igigi male astronauts.

(This information is from Zecharia Sitchin's books.)

The Mars base was also useful as a point of departure for the bigger spaceships loaded with gold, because of Mars' lower gravity. Smaller space craft would bring smaller payloads of gold to Mars from Earth to load into the bigger spaceships.

At a later time, the gods' planet orbited a little too close to Mars, its gravity taking a lot of water and atmosphere off Mars, leaving the red planet dry and desolate. After this, the Igigi were brought to Earth from Mars and the base was closed.

The Igigi were the "Watchers" described in the Book of Enoch in the Ethiopian Christian Bible. They were the gods who manned the spaceships orbiting Earth, able to "watch" what

happened on the planet surface. It was not their role to come down to the Earth's surface.

However, after some of them had been brought back from Mars, and had claimed a right to some rest and recreation on Earth, 200 of them had successfully applied for surface leave.

The Book of Enoch names the 20 captains of the groups of 10 who came down to the Earth's surface to land on top of Mount Hermon. In defiance of the rules, these "watchers" went down and cohabited with Earth women. The women became pregnant and gave birth to babies that grew into giants.

The Bible calls these giants Anakim, descendants of Anak. (The similarity to Anunnaki is obvious). The Old Testament records that the last of the Anakim was Og the King of Bashan (Syria) who slept in an iron bed 14 feet 6 inches long and 6 feet wide. The bed was on show in a village at the south end of the Dead Sea.

Deuteronomy 3:11. For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of giants; behold his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon? nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man.

Numbers 13:33 And there we saw the Nephilim, (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim): and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them. (Revised Standard Version)

After Homo sapiens began having children, Earth's population grew enough for the gods to entertain themselves again with

making wars, employing horrid weapons, and using us to kill each other.

We read the Old Testament account of the attack on Sodom and Gomorrah. I do not believe that the God who created us sent his three assassins to destroy all those people. It was one of the gods calling himself Yahweh.

The Old Testament tells of almost continuous involvement of the gods in making war on one another. They went to war for various trivial reasons, using us, Homo sapiens, their useful idiot slaves, to do the killing and dying for them.

Is our current modern propensity for starting wars something in the DNA we inherited from the gods? Or is it just something we have always known, always grown up with? A bad habit we caught from the gods? Rupert Sheldrake's "Morphic Resonance"?

If the obsession with war is mainly morphic resonance, then perhaps we can do something to eradicate it with worldwide prayer.

The gods lived a very long time in Earth years. And the children born of Earth women inseminated by the gods, lived much longer than ordinary Earth people. This is why we accepted demigods as kings. And where the tradition of royalty marrying only royalty came from, originally to preserve the bloodline of the gods.

There is extensive literature available about the gods. For a reader interested in researching the pre-history of our planet and the origins of mankind, a good start would be to read Zecharia Sitchin's book "The Twelfth Planet" and Michael Tellinger's book "Slave Species of the Gods".

("Slave Species of the gods" by Michael Tellinger. Published by Bear & Company. Distributed by Simon & Schuster.)

I Believe - a Creed for 2023 CHAPTER FOUR Jesus Christ, the Son of God

In this chapter I have written down a few provable facts I have learned about Jesus of Nazareth. I believe that Jesus Christ truly is the Son of God, the Messiah whose coming was foretold a very long time ago, in the time of the gods, by Moses himself.

As an introduction to the life of Jesus Christ, the Pali language Buddhist manuscript, published by Nicolas Notovitch "The Unknown Life of Jesus Christ" does it well:

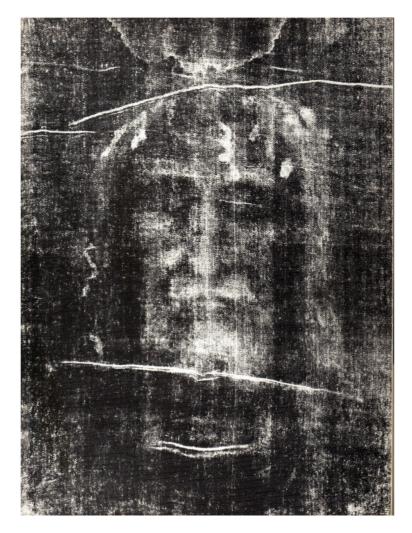
"The earth trembled and the heavens wept, because of the great crime committed in the land of Israel. For there was tortured and murdered the great and just Issa, in whom was manifest the soul of the Universe;

Which had incarnated in a simple mortal, to benefit men and destroy the evil spirit in them;

To lead back to peace, love and happiness, man, degraded by his sins, and recall him to the one and indivisible Creator whose mercy is infinite."

We have material evidence of the Son of God's senseless murder by the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate, in that the linen cloth used to cover his bleeding and battered body has been preserved. It is known as the Shroud of Turin, kept in a secure case in Turin Cathedral, Italy. It shows a mysterious imprint that is a functional photographic negative of the dead body of Jesus of Nazareth.

Here is the face of the Shroud of Turin, See the website at https://www.shroud.com



"The Shroud of Turin is a centuries old linen cloth that bears the image of a crucified man. A man that millions believe to be Jesus of Nazareth. Is it really the cloth that wrapped his crucified body, or is it simply a medieval forgery, a hoax perpetrated by some clever artist? Modern science has completed hundreds of thousands of hours of detailed study and

intense research on the Shroud. It is, in fact, the single most studied artefact in human history, and we know more about it today than we ever have before. And yet, the controversy still rages.

This web site will keep you abreast of current research, provide you with accurate data from the previous research and let you interact with the researchers themselves.

We believe that if you have access to the facts, you can make up your own mind about the Shroud. Make sure you visit the page where you can Examine the Shroud of Turin for yourself. We hope you enjoy your visit. **Barrie M. Schwortz, Editor.**"

As of 2023, nobody has been able to identify how the image on the Shroud of Turin was made. All the available evidence so far is consistent with the man whose image is on the Shroud being Jesus of Nazareth.

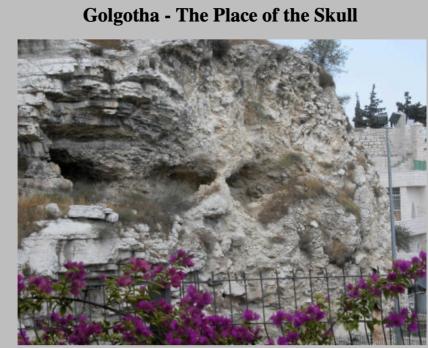
Analysis of the image reveals that the man on the Shroud was cruelly beaten and scourged, and died an asphyxiating death by crucifixion.

Flesh was ripped out of Jesus' body by the Roman scourges, whips with sharp hooks on the ends. Someone counted 600 wounds on the body of Jesus, as well as those on his head from the Crown of Thorns. His nose was broken from Jesus' being punched in the face and from falling heavily on the ground face down.

The red colour of the blood on the cloth (not brown or black as would be expected with very old dried blood) is due to high levels of bilirubin in the blood.

This is known to occur when a person has died an extremely traumatic shocking death. Blood containing high levels of bilirubin stays red for ever.

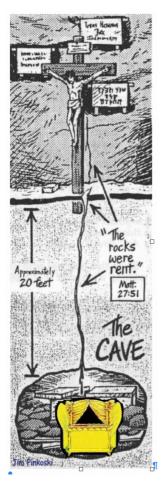
Here is a photograph of the place outside the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem where Jesus and the two thieves were crucified. Called Golgotha in Hebrew and Calvary in Latin, this



Two eye sockets and nose are seen in the center of the photo

escarpment looks like a skull. It was the city rubbish dump. The moment that Jesus stopped breathing and died, an earthquake occurred. We can see the broken rocks in the top left of the picture. The fracture of the rock continued down to split the edge of the square hole that held the upright timber of the cross.

"The main advocate of this site was a British army officer and administrator, Major-General Charles Gordon, who visited Jerusalem in 1882-83. Though he had no academic education in history or archaeology, a dream assisted him to identify the cliff as the place where Jesus was crucified ..."



Ron Wyatt found the Ark of the Covenant in a cave 20 feet below the square hole that held the wooden cross on which Jesus died.

In the moment Jesus died, an earthquake broke the rocks, as can be clearly seen in the picture of Golgotha on the previous page.

After the Roman Centurion pierced Jesus' side with his spear, blood flowed down the wood of the cross, down the cracks in the rock and onto the top of the Ark of the Covenant, the Mercy Seat.

The earthquake had also broken open the stone box containing the Ark of the Covenant.

Ron Wyatt was able to take a sample of blood from the Ark and he had it analysed by a Pathology company in Israel. See. https://wyattmuseum.com/

The Ark of the Covenant had been

placed in its cave, along with other Temple furniture and the sword of Goliath, by the Prophet Jeremiah and the Temple

priests at the time of the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem in 586 BC. The cave today is secured by the Israeli authorities

From the website. https://www.freechristianteaching.tv/theark-of-the-covenant/unique-blood-of-jesus-christ-withonly-24-chromosomes

According to the lectures given by Ron Wyatt, the blood that he discovered and had analysed had only 24 chromosomes. The full text of one of his many sermons may be read on www.arkdiscovery.com/talk_1-9-99.htm

Ron Wyatt actually stated, "We tested it to make sure it was blood. It is unique blood. I will quickly state this, I know that there are some doctors here, and nurses, and people who are familiar with blood. All of us have 46 chromosomes, unless we have Downs Syndrome. Christ had 24. Each parent supplies 23 chromosomes to a new infant. Christ got 23 from His mother, He got one from His Father, and it was a Y, which made Him a male. He got it not from an earthly Father, or He would have had 46 like the rest of us."

According to his account, Ron Wyatt had the Blood analysed in a laboratory in Tel Aviv. Ron Wyatt has shown these results to only a few trusted friends. The technicians in the laboratory were amazed at the analysis this unique human Blood. They found that this Blood did not contain the normal complement of 46 chromosomes, but in fact contained only 24 chromosomes.

In the sample of blood there was a full complement of 22 autosomal chromosomes and one X chromosome from the mother, but only one Y chromosome, the sex determining chromosome from the father. The other 22 autosomal chromosomes from the father, the paternal chromosomes, were missing.

The technicians from the laboratory in Tel Aviv asked Ron Wyatt where he had obtained this blood. He replied, "It is the blood of your Messiah."

"When the test results will be shown, nobody will be able to honestly doubt that this is indeed the blood of God's Son. That is why He says that this is His Testimony of His Son. It is His proof to this world. [It bears repeating that the blood analysis is the only hard scientific, tangible, physical evidence that Jesus actually was crucified, died and shed His blood as Scripture says. There is no greater proof that can be given.]"

Q. What about the cells?

A. White blood cells. And you are saying how can you test a dead white blood cell for a chromosome count? His blood is not dead. When put in a growth medium the cells divided and reconstituted themselves. If that doesn't blow your socks off, I don't know what will.

Anyone who wants to read about the life of Jesus of Nazareth will find four different accounts of his life, written by **Matthew**, **Mark**, **Luke and John**. These accounts are known as the four Gospels and are contained in the second part of the Holy Bible that we know as the New Testament.

The first part that Christians call the Old Testament, is what the Jewish people call their Bible.

The four gospels are not the only accounts written of the life of Jesus. There were other Gospels, such as the Gospel of Barnabas, that were not included by the early Christian Church amongst their holy books, mainly for the sake of economy.

The Russian writer Nicolas Notovitch discovered in India in 1887 a Buddhist account of Jesus' life, and Notovitch published it as "The Unknown Life of Jesus Christ".

(This book is available free of charge from Project Gutenberg. If you would like your own copy free of charge, Google "Project Gutenberg" and select author Notovitch.)

Jesus was known to the Buddhist monks as Issa. (the same name he is known by today in Arabia) He had lived from the age of 14 to 29 in India. His teachings, recorded in Notovitch's book, are the same beautiful truths we find in the four gospels of the New Testament.

Here is an excerpt from "The Unknown Life of Jesus Christ". Most people have not heard of this book. It was written down in Pali, the ancient language of Nepal, by Buddhist monks not long after the merchants travelling the Silk Road had brought news that Jesus had been executed.

I am including here part of the book to show that the claim that the Jewish High Priest wanted Jesus dead, and he had pushed Pilate to put Jesus to death, is a lie.

This excerpt begins after Jesus had returned to Israel. He was well known through regular reports by the merchants of the Silk Road and in today's idiom, already enjoyed "rock star" status when he arrived back in Israel.

1. Issa went from one city to another, strengthening by the word of God the courage of the Israelites, who were near to succumbing under their weight of woe, and thousands of the people followed him to hear his teachings.

2. But the chiefs of the cities were afraid of him and they informed the principal governor, residing in Jerusalem, that a

man called Issa had arrived in the country, who by his sermons had arrayed the people against the authorities, and that multitudes, listening assiduously to him, neglected their labor; and, they added, he said that in a short time they would be free of their invader rulers.

3. Then Pilate, the Governor of Jerusalem, gave orders that they should lay hold of the preacher Issa and bring him before the judges. In order, however, not to excite the anger of the populace, Pilate directed that he should be judged by the priests and scribes, the Hebrew elders, in their temple.

4. Meanwhile, Issa, continuing his preaching, arrived at Jerusalem, and the people, who already knew his fame, having learned of his coming, went out to meet him.

5. They greeted him respectfully and opened to him the doors of their temple, to hear from his mouth what he had said in other cities of Israel.

6. And Issa said to them: "The human race perishes, because of the lack of faith; for the darkness and the tempest have caused the flock to go astray and they have lost their shepherds.

7. "But the tempests do not rage forever and the darkness will not hide the light eternally; soon the sky will become serene, the celestial light will again overspread the earth, and the strayed flock will reunite around their shepherd.

8. "Wander not in the darkness, seeking the way, lest ye fall into the ditch; but gather together, sustain one another, put your faith in your God and wait for the first glimmer of light to reappear.

9. "He who sustains his neighbour, sustains himself; and he who protects his family, protects all his people and his country.

10. "For, be assured that the day is near when you will be delivered from the darkness; you will be reunited into one family and your enemy will tremble with fear, he who is ignorant of the favour of the great God."

11. The priests and the elders who heard him, filled with admiration for his language, asked him if it was true that he had sought to raise the people against the authorities of the country, as had been reported to the governor Pilate.

12. "Can one raise against strayed men, to whom darkness has hidden their road and their door?" answered Issa. "I have but forewarned the unhappy, as I do here in this temple, that they should no longer advance on the dark road, for an abyss opens before their feet.

13. "The power of this Earth is not of long duration and is subject to numberless changes. It would be of no avail for a man to rise in revolution against it, for one phase of it always succeeds another, and it is thus that it will go on until the extinction of human life.

14. "But do you not see that the powerful, and the rich, sow among the children of Israel a spirit of rebellion against the eternal power of Heaven?"

15. Then the elders asked him: "Who art thou, and from what country hast thou come to us? We have not formerly heard thee spoken of and do not even know thy name!"

16. "I am an Israelite," answered Issa; "and on the day of my birth have seen the walls of Jerusalem, and have heard the sobs of my brothers reduced to slavery, and the lamentations of my sisters carried away by the Pagans;

17. "And my soul was afflicted when I saw that my brethren had forgotten the true God. When a child I left my father's house to go and settle among other people.

18. "But, having heard it said that my brethren suffered even greater miseries now, I have come back to the land of my fathers, to recall my brethren to the faith of their ancestors, which teaches us patience upon earth in order to attain the perfect and supreme bliss above."

19. Then the wise old men put to him again this question: "We are told that thou disownest the laws of Mossa, and that thou teachest the people to forsake the temple of God?"

20. Whereupon Issa: "One does not demolish that which has been given by our Heavenly Father, and which has been destroyed by sinners. I have but enjoined the people to purify the heart of all stains, for it is the veritable temple of God.

21. "As regards the laws of Mossa, I have endeavored to reestablish them in the hearts of men; and I say unto you that ye ignore their true meaning, for it is not vengeance but pardon which they teach. Their sense has been perverted." XI.

1. When the priests and the elders heard Issa, they decided among themselves not to give judgment against him, for he had done no harm to any one, and, presenting themselves before Pilate--who was made Governor of Jerusalem by the Pagan king of the country of Romeles--they spake to him thus:

2. "We have seen the man whom thou chargest with inciting our people to revolt; we have heard his discourses and know that he is our countryman;

3. "But the chiefs of the cities have made to you false reports, for he is a just man, who teaches the people the word of God. After interrogating him, we have allowed him to go in peace."

4. The governor thereupon became very angry, and sent his disguised spies to keep watch upon Issa and report to the authorities the least word he addressed to the people.

5. In the meantime, the holy Issa continued to visit the neighbouring cities and preach the true way of the Lord, enjoining the Hebrews' patience and promising them speedy deliverance.

6. And all the time great numbers of the people followed him wherever he went, and many did not leave him at all, but attached themselves to him and served him.

7. And Issa said: "Put not your faith in miracles performed by the hands of men, for He who rules nature is alone capable of doing supernatural things, while man is impotent to arrest the wrath of the winds or cause the rain to fall.

8. "One miracle, however, is within the power of man to accomplish. It is, when his heart is filled with sincere faith, he resolves to root out from his mind all evil promptings and desires, and when, in order to attain this end, he ceases to walk the path of iniquity.

9. "All the things done without God are only gross errors, illusions and seductions, serving but to show how much the heart of the doer is full of presumption, falsehood and impurity.

10. "Put not your faith in oracles. God alone knows the future. He who has recourse to the diviners soils the temple of his heart and shows his lack of faith in his Creator.

11. "Belief in the diviners and their miracles destroys the innate simplicity of man and his childlike purity. An infernal power takes hold of him who so errs, and forces him to commit various sins and give himself to the worship of idols.

12. "But the Lord our God, to whom none can be equalled, is one omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent; He alone possesses all wisdom and all light.

13. "To Him ye must address yourselves, to be comforted in your afflictions, aided in your works, healed in your sickness and whoso asks of Him, shall not ask in vain.

14. "The secrets of nature are in the hands of God, for the whole world, before it was made manifest, existed in the bosom of the divine thought, and has become material and visible by the will of the Most High.

15. "When ye pray to him, become again like little children, for ye know neither the past, nor the present, nor the future, and God is the Lord of Time." XII.

1. "Just man," said to him the disguised spies of the Governor of Jerusalem, "tell us if we must continue to do the will of Cæsar, or expect our near deliverance?"

2. And Issa, who recognized the questioners as the apostate spies sent to follow him, replied to them: "I have not told you that you would be delivered from Cæsar; it is the soul sunk in error which will gain its deliverance.

3. "There cannot be a family without a head, and there cannot be order in a people without a Cæsar, whom ye should implicitly obey, as he will be held to answer for his acts before the Supreme Tribunal."

4. "Does Cæsar possess a divine right?" the spies asked him again; "and is he the best of mortals?"

5. "There is no one 'the best' among human beings; but there are many bad, who--even as the sick need physicians--require the care of those chosen for that mission, in which must be used the means given by the sacred law of our Heavenly Father;

6. "Mercy and justice are the high prerogatives of Cæsar, and his name will be illustrious if he exercises them.

7. "But he who acts otherwise, who transcends the limits of power he has over those under his rule, and even goes so far as to put their lives in danger, offends the great Judge and derogates from his own dignity in the eyes of men."

8. Upon this, an old woman who had approached the group, to better hear Issa, was pushed aside by one of the disguised men, who placed himself before her.

9. Then said Issa: "It is not good for a son to push away his mother, that he may occupy the place which belongs to her. Whoso doth not respect his mother--the most sacred being after his God--is unworthy of the name of son.

10. "Hearken to what I say to you: Respect woman; for in her we see the mother of the universe, and all the truth of divine creation is to come through her.

11. "She is the fount of everything good and beautiful, as she is also the germ of life and death. Upon her man depends in all his existence, for she is his moral and natural support in his labors.

12. "In pain and suffering she brings you forth; in the sweat of her brow she watches over your growth, and until her death you cause her greatest anxieties. Bless her and adore her, for she is your only friend and support on earth.

13. "Respect her; defend her. In so doing you will gain for yourself her love; you will find favor before God, and for her sake many sins will be remitted to you.

14. "Love your wives and respect them, for they will be the mothers of tomorrow and later the grandmothers of a whole nation.

15. "Be submissive to the wife; her love ennobles man, softens his hardened heart, tames the wild beast in him and changes it to a lamb.

16. "Wife and mother are the priceless treasures which God has given to you. They are the most beautiful ornaments of the universe, and from them will be born all who will inhabit the world.

17. "Even as the Lord of Hosts separated the light from the darkness, and the dry land from the waters, so does woman possess the divine gift of calling forth out of man's evil nature all the good that is in him.

18. "Therefore I say unto you, after God, to woman must belong your best thoughts, for she is the divine temple where you will most easily obtain perfect happiness.

19. "Draw from this temple your moral force. There you will forget your sorrows and your failures, and recover the love necessary to aid your fellow men.

20. "Suffer her not to be humiliated, for by humiliating her you humiliate yourselves, and lose the sentiment of love, without which nothing can exist here on earth.

21. "Protect your wife, that she may protect you--you and all your household. All that you do for your mothers, your wives, for a widow, or for any other woman in distress, you will do for your God."

XIII.

1. Thus Saint Issa taught the people of Israel for three years, in every city and every village, on the highways and in the fields, and all he said came to pass.

2. All this time the disguised spies of the governor Pilate observed him closely, but heard nothing to sustain the accusations formerly made against Issa by the chiefs of the cities.

3. But Saint Issa's growing popularity did not allow Pilate to rest. He feared that Issa would be instrumental in bringing about a revolution culminating in his elevation to the sovereignty, and, therefore, ordered the spies to make charges against him.

4. Then soldiers were sent to arrest him, and they cast him into a subterranean dungeon, where he was subjected to all kinds of tortures, to compel him to accuse himself, so that he might be put to death.

5. The Saint, thinking only of the perfect bliss of his brethren, endured all those torments with resignation to the will of the Creator.

6. The servants of Pilate continued to torture him, and he was reduced to a state of extreme weakness; but God was with him and did not permit him to die at their hands.

7. When the principal priests and wise elders learned of the sufferings which their Saint endured, they went to Pilate, begging him to liberate Issa, so that he might attend the great festival which was near at hand.

8. But this the governor refused. Then they asked him that Issa should be brought before the elders' council, so that he might be condemned, or acquitted, before the festival, and to this Pilate agreed.

9. On the following day the governor assembled the principal chiefs, priests, elders and judges, for the purpose of judging Issa.

10. The Saint was brought from his prison. They made him sit before the governor, between two robbers, who were to be judged at the same time with Issa, so as to show the people he was not the only one to be condemned.

11. And Pilate, addressing himself to Issa, said, "Is it true, Oh! Man; that thou incitest the populace against the authorities, with the purpose of thyself becoming King of Israel?"

12. Issa replied, "One does not become king by one's own purpose thereto. They have told you an untruth when you were informed that I was inciting the people to revolution. I have only preached of the King of Heaven, and it was Him whom I told the people to worship.

13. "For the sons of Israel have lost their original innocence and unless they return to worship the true God they will be sacrificed and their temple will fall in ruins.

14. "The worldly power upholds order in the land; I told them not to forget this. I said to them, 'Live in conformity with your situation and refrain from disturbing public order;' and, at the same time, I exhorted them to remember that disorder reigned in their own hearts and spirits.

15. "Therefore, the King of Heaven has punished them, and has destroyed their nationality and taken from them their national kings, 'but,' I added, 'if you will be resigned to your fate, as a reward the Kingdom of Heaven will be yours.'"

16. At this moment the witnesses were introduced; one of whom deposed thus: "Thou hast said to the people that in comparison with the power of the king who would soon liberate the Israelites from the yoke of the heathen, the worldly authorities amounted to nothing."

17. "Blessings upon thee!" said Issa. "For thou hast spoken the truth! The King of Heaven is greater and more powerful than the laws of man and His kingdom surpasses the kingdoms of this earth.

18. "And the time is not far off, when Israel, obedient to the will of God, will throw off its yoke of sin; for it has been written that a forerunner would appear to announce the deliverance of the people, and that he would reunite them in one family."

19. Thereupon the governor said to the judges: "Have you heard this? The Israelite Issa acknowledges the crime of which he is accused. Judge him, then, according to your laws and pass upon him condemnation to death."

20. "We cannot condemn him," replied the priests and the ancients. "As thou hast heard, he spoke of the King of Heaven, and he has preached nothing which constitutes insubordination against the law."

21. Thereupon the governor called a witness who had been bribed by his master, Pilate, to betray Issa, and this man said to Issa: "Is it not true that thou hast represented thyself as a King of Israel, when thou didst say that He who reigns in Heaven sent thee to prepare His people?"

22. But Issa blessed the man and answered: "Thou wilt find mercy, for what thou hast said did not come out from thine own heart." Then, turning to the governor he said: "Why dost thou lower thy dignity and teach thy inferiors to tell falsehood, when, without doing so, it is in thy power to condemn an innocent man?"

23. When Pilate heard his words, he became greatly enraged and ordered that Issa be condemned to death, and that the two robbers should be declared guiltless.

24. The judges, after consulting among themselves, said to Pilate: "We cannot consent to take this great sin upon us,--to condemn an innocent man and liberate malefactors. It would be against our laws.

25. "Act thyself, then, as thou seest fit." Thereupon the priests and elders walked out, and washed their hands in a sacred vessel, and said: "We are innocent of the blood of this righteous man."

XIV.

1. By order of the governor, the soldiers seized Issa and the two robbers, and led them to the place of execution, where they were nailed upon the crosses erected for them.

2. All day long the bodies of Issa and the two robbers hung upon the crosses, bleeding, guarded by the soldiers. The people stood all around and the relatives of the executed prayed and wept.

3. When the sun went down, Issa's tortures ended. He lost consciousness and his soul disengaged itself from the body, to reunite with God.

4. Thus ended the terrestrial existence of the reflection of the eternal Spirit under the form of a man who had saved hardened sinners and comforted the afflicted.

5. Meanwhile, Pilate was afraid for what he had done, and ordered the body of the Saint to be given to his relatives, who put it in a tomb near to the place of execution. Great numbers of persons came to visit the tomb, and the air was filled with their wailings and lamentations.

6. Three days later, the governor sent his soldiers to remove Issa's body and bury it in some other place, for he feared a rebellion among the people.

7. The next day, when the people came to the tomb, they found it open and empty, the body of Issa being gone. Thereupon, the rumour spread that the Supreme Judge had sent His angels from Heaven, to remove the mortal remains of the saint in whom part of the divine Spirit had lived on earth.

8. When Pilate learned of this rumour, he grew angry and prohibited, under penalty of death, the naming of Issa, or praying for him to the Lord.

9. But the people, nevertheless, continued to weep over Issa's death and to glorify their master; wherefore, many were carried into captivity, subjected to torture and put to death.

10. And the disciples of Saint Issa departed from the land of Israel and went in all directions, to the heathen, preaching that they should abandon their gross errors, think of the salvation of their souls and earn the perfect bliss which awaits human beings in the immaterial world, full of glory, where the great Creator abides in all his immaculate and perfect majesty.

There never was anybody like Jesus of Nazareth before him in our recorded history, and there has never been anyone like him since.

I Believe - a Creed for 2023 CHAPTER FIVE Life after death

In 2023, we have abundant evidence that human beings survive physical death on Earth and continue to live forever in a spiritual reality. Advances in medical and surgical technology have allowed us to revive people after their hearts have stopped beating and their souls have left their lifeless bodies. When the heart starts beating again, the soul has to come back.

Many people have told us their stories of what happened to them after they died and spent some time in the spiritual reality that awaits all of us after the death of our physical bodies. Many of these accounts are available in books written by these near-death survivors and we also find many accounts in videos on YouTube.

We also have data from the detailed research done by Michael Newton, an American hypnotherapist who became adept at putting his subjects into deep hypnotic trance, when he would interview their souls. His books, including "Journey of Souls" and "Destiny of Souls" provide information on where souls go after they leave their dead bodies, and they provide a detailed description of the spirit world.

Much of the survivors' accounts of near death experiences confirm information about the spirit world that Michael Newton has written about.

The information in Michael Newton's books also confirm the writings of the famous Swedish genius Emanuel Swedenborg.

Emanuel Swedenborg, original name (until 1719) Emanuel Swedberg, or Svedberg, (born January 29, 1688, Stockholm Sweden—died March 29, 1772, London. England), Swedish

scientist, Christian mystic, philosopher, and theologian who wrote voluminously in interpreting the Scriptures as the immediate word of God. Soon after his death, devoted followers created Swedenborgian societies dedicated to the study of his thought. These societies formed the nucleus of the **Church of the New Jerusalem, or New Church**, also called the Swedenborgians. (from Encyclopaedia Britannica)

Here are some excerpts from the "Book of Heaven and Its Wonders and Hell", by Emanuel Swedenborg, from Project Gutenberg.

THE RESUSCITATION OF MAN FROM THE DEAD AND HIS ENTRANCE INTO ETERNAL LIFE.

When the body is no longer able to perform the bodily functions in the natural world that correspond to the spirit's thoughts and affections, which the spirit has from the spiritual world, man is said to die. This takes place when the respiration of the lungs and the beatings of the heart cease.

But the man does not die; he is merely separated from the bodily part that was of use to him in the world, while the man himself continues to live.

It is said that the man himself continues to live since man is not a man because of his body but because of his spirit, for it is the spirit that thinks in man, and thought with affection is what constitutes man. Evidently, then, the death of man is merely his passing from one world into another......

After the separation, the spirit of man continues in the body for a short time, but only until the heart's action has wholly ceased, which happens variously in accord with the diseased condition

that causes death, with some the motion of the heart continuing for some time, with others not so long.

As soon as this motion ceases the man is resuscitated; but this is done by the Lord alone. Resuscitation means the drawing forth of the spirit from the body, and its introduction into the spiritual world; this is commonly called the resurrection.

The spirit is not separated from the body until the motion of the heart has ceased.....

How this resuscitation is effected has both been told to me and shown to me in living experience. The actual experience was granted to me that I might have a complete knowledge of the process.

As to the senses of the body I was brought into a state of insensibility, thus nearly into the state of the dying; but with the interior life and thought remaining unimpaired, in order that I might perceive and retain in the memory the things that happened to me, and that happen to those that are resuscitated from the dead.

I perceived that the respiration of the body was almost wholly taken away; but the interior respiration of the spirit went on in connection with a slight and tacit respiration of the body...

I was in this state for some hours. Then the spirits that were around me withdrew, thinking that I was dead; and an aromatic odor like that of an embalmed body was perceived, for when the celestial angels are present everything pertaining to the corpse is perceived as aromatic, and when spirits perceive this they cannot approach; and in this way evil spirits are kept away from man's spirit when he is being introduced into eternal life....

As my thought and perception continued, that I might know and remember how resuscitation is effected, I perceived the angels first tried to ascertain what my thought was, whether it was like the thought of those who are dying, which is usually about eternal life...

Especially was I permitted to see and feel that there was a pulling and drawing forth, as it were, of the interiors of my mind, thus of my spirit, from the body; and I was told that this is from the Lord, and that the resurrection is thus effected....

The angels appeared to roll off, as it were, a coat from the left eye towards the bridge of the nose, that the eye might be opened and be enabled to see. This is only an appearance, but to the spirit it seemed to be really done.

When the coat thus seems to have been rolled off there is a slight sense of light, but very dim, like what is seen through the eyelids on first awakening from sleep. To me this dim light took on a heavenly hue, but I was told afterwards that the color varies.

Then something is felt to be gently rolled off from the face, and when this is done spiritual thought is awakened. This rolling off from the face is also an appearance, which represents the spirit's passing from natural thought into spiritual thought.

The angels are extremely careful that only such ideas as savor of love shall proceed from the one resuscitated. They now tell him that he is a spirit.

When he has come into the enjoyment of light the spiritual angels render to the new spirit every service he can possibly desire in that state; and teach him about the things of the other life so far as he can comprehend them.

But if he has no wish to be taught, the spirit longs to get away from the company of the angels. Nevertheless, the angels do not withdraw from him, but he separates himself from them; for the angels love everyone, and desire nothing so much as to render service, to teach, and to lead into heaven; this constitutes their highest delight.

When the spirit has thus withdrawn he is received by good spirits, and as long as he continues in their company everything possible is done for him.

But if he had lived such a life in the world as would prevent his enjoying the company of the good he longs to get away from the good, and this experience is repeated until he comes into association with such as are in entire harmony with his life in the world; and with such he finds his own life, and what is surprising, he then leads a life like that which he led in the world.

This opening state of man's life after death lasts only a few days. How he is afterwards led from one state to another, and finally either into heaven or into hell, will be told in what follows. This, too, I have been permitted to learn by much experience.

I have talked with some on the third day after their decease, when the process described above had been completed, especially with three whom I had known in the world, to whom I mentioned that arrangements were now being made for burying their bodies; I said, for burying them; on hearing which they were smitten with a kind of surprise, saying that they were alive, and that the thing that had served them in the world was what was being buried. Afterwards they wondered greatly that they had not believed in such a life after death while they lived in the body, and especially that scarcely any within the church so believed.

Those that have not believed in the world in any life of the soul after the life of the body are greatly ashamed when they find themselves to be alive. But those that have confirmed themselves in that disbelief seek affiliation with their like, and are separated from those that have had faith.

Such are for the most part attached to some infernal society, because they have also denied the divine and have despised the truths of the church; for so far as any one confirms himself against the eternal life of his soul he confirms himself also against whatever pertains to heaven and the church.

MAN AFTER DEATH IS IN A COMPLETE HUMAN FORM

It has already been shown in several previous chapters that the form of the spirit of man is the human form, that is, that the spirit is a man even in form, especially where it is shown that every angel has a complete human form (n. 73-77) that in respect to his interiors every man is a spirit (n. 432-444); and that the angels in heaven are from the human race.

This can be seen still more clearly from the fact that it is by virtue of his spirit, and not by virtue of his body that man is a man, and that the bodily form is added to the spirit in accordance with the spirit's form, and not the reverse, for it is in accordance with its own form that the spirit is clothed with a body......

From "Thirty Years Among The Dead", a book written by Dr Carl Wickland MD. Copyright © 2011 by White Crow Productions

"Death does not make a saint of a sinner, nor a sage of a fool. The mentality is the same as before, and individuals carry with them their old desires, habits, dogmas, faulty teachings, indifference or disbelief in a future life."

"Assuming spirit forms which are the result of their life on Earth, millions remain for a time in the Earth sphere, and often in the environment of their Earth lives still held by their habits or interests."

"Those who have progressed to the higher spirit world ever endeavour to enlighten these earthbound spirits, but the latter, due to preconceptions concerning the hereafter, labor under the delusion that the departed are "dead", or are "ghosts", and often refuse to recognize their friends or to realize their own condition."

Many are in a state of heavy sleep, others are lost or confused; troubled minds may be haunted by fear of the strange darkness, those conscience-stricken suffer in anguish or remorse for their Earth conduct; some, impelled by selfish or evil inclinations, seek an outlet for their tendencies, remaining in this condition until these destructive desires are outgrown, when the soul cries out for understanding and light, and progressive spirits are able to reach them and aid them."

"Lacking physical bodies through which to carry out earthly propensities, many discarnate intelligences are attracted to the magnetic light which emanates from mortals, and consciously or unconsciously attach themselves to these magnetic auras,

finding an avenue of expression through influencing, obsessing, or possessing human beings."

A patient was referred to me with a diagnosis of schizophrenia. (She did not have schizophrenia) She told me she had been seeing spirits and hearing voices ever since she was a child. She was a highly sensitive person.

The voices she was hearing during the times I interviewed her did not seem to be speaking to her, but they were talking among themselves and she could clearly hear what they were saying. During our ongoing interviews, it appeared that that these voices came from three men who did not know each other, but they had been working in a factory in the west of Sydney that had caught fire.

These men had obviously died in the factory fire but they were unaware of that fact. I began looking up the Trove website that carried past stories from newspapers, to see if I could find reference to a factory fire in the west of Sydney.

The three men seemed to overhear the conversations between me and my patient, and thereby learned of their unfortunate demise. The voices disappeared, and I assumed they had been rescued by good spirits.

My assumption was that my patient's sensitivity must have stood out like a bright light in what Dr Wickland often heard spirits describing as the "strange darkness".

CHAPTER SIX Heaven and Hell Angels and Demons

All angels in heaven were once the souls of good human beings. Likewise all demons in hell were once the souls of evil human beings. This is what Emanuel Swedenborg learned in his many visits to the spirit world.

Swedenborg wrote that people like to continue after death in the lifestyles they led during their lives. And we are aided by angelic beings supporting us from the spirit world. Thus people on Earth living the way God intended us to live, have a group of angels in heaven helping us out.

People on Earth enjoying their lives of deception, creating for themselves wealth from criminal enterprises, practising selfish sexual immorality and loving the personal power they achieve by imposing their will on others, will seek to continue such a lifestyle after the body dies and the soul arrives in the spirit world.

Swedenborg explained that evil people don't like chatting with angels and being welcomed by them. In the same way that evil people on Earth tend to become infuriated by innocent people, evil souls quickly lose their patience with the loving innocence of angels interviewing them when the souls arrive in the spirit world. The interviewing angels soon recognize this and suggest that these impatient souls might seek some more congenial companions amongst other souls like themselves.

The spirits of evil people cannot tolerate the bright light of the spirit world, and they will fairly soon seek refuge in the semidarkness of one of the many caves in this intermediate place

between heaven and Earth. In the half-light of their caves they will argue and fight and push each other around they way they were accustomed to doing during their lives on Earth.

These collections of evil souls resemble prisons on Earth run by the inmates. Those in control are the ones who can inflict the most pain on the others who irritate them. The "wailing and gnashing of teeth" described in Biblical accounts of hell result from the trauma these spirits inflict on one another.

God does not punish people by sending them to hell. Evil people seek their own type of company.

Swedenborg describes some groups of angels from heaven whose role is to visit the hells to find any souls who are repentant and who wish to undertake rehabilitation. There are also some angels who visit the hells to administer necessary discipline to establish some control over a chaotic hellish population. Sometimes an evil spirit is so disruptive that it is banished alone to a desert place.

In the spirit world where we all go after death, there is an assessment process from which some souls will go on to serve the Lord in heaven.

Two questions have bothered me about the spirit world:

1. Where exactly does demon possession take place? Where does the soul of a living human being become the victim of an evil spirit? In a human brain, perhaps?

A Swedenborgian pastor told me it takes place in the spirit world. That is where the evil spirits reside in their own particular hells. And we understand from the research of Michael Newton that a remnant of each soul that incarnates on

Earth resides in the spirit world also. And we know that in the spirit world, the authority of Jesus Christ is absolute.

In my psychiatry practice I have witnessed that an evil spirit must obey any orders given in the Name and the Authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. Exorcists appointed by the Catholic Church exert authority over evil spirits in the Name and the Authority of Jesus Christ.

2. The second question that has bothered me. Who is Satan, the Devil, Beelzebub, the Lord of the Flies? The boss of all the evil spirits, the entity who hates human beings and who regards himself as owning our planet Earth?

Emanuel Swedenborg thought the Devil didn't exist. But Swedenborg did not live to learn about the pre-history of our planet recorded in the cuneiform texts on the clay tablets found in Iraq in 1850.

When we read about the gods arriving on Earth 450,000 years ago to take gold back to their home planet, we learn that the chief of their Earth mission E-DIN was En-lil. En-lil was the god who wanted all the human beings to drown when the Thwaites "Doomsday" Glacier was about to slide off western Antarctica and send a 300 foot tsunami wave up the Indian Ocean.

This was Noah's flood of the Old Testament. (Actually, the story of the Flood had been written 1,000 years prior to the ancient Hebrew account, in cuneiform script with Sumerian names.)

Given that En-lil was the boss of the Earth mission at the E-DIN, (Eden) and at the time he arrived there were no Homo sapiens in existence, given that therefore En-lil could claim to have owned our planet, and given that he really hated human

beings, En-lil's spirit, upon the death of his body, could well fit the description of the Devil.

There is no doubt that Satan, or the Devil, exists today. And perhaps some of his Anunnaki god colleagues could fit the role of the "fallen angels" occupying a hierarchy of control in the world of the evil spirits.

The Catholic Church teaches that the angels were created first before human beings were created, that there was a rebellion in heaven and God banished a third of these rebellious angels to Earth. This is not mentioned in Genesis 1, and I doubt that our loving creator God in Genesis 1 would have banished the rebellious angels to Earth to cause us ongoing misery. Instead Mercury or Venus might have been a better destination for these trouble-makers, in my humble opinion.

There may be some truth in the Catholic Church's teachings that the fallen angels had been created before human beings were created. If the fallen angels were Anunnaki, they were certainly created before Homo sapiens. But they were not thrown down to Earth. They arrived in their own spaceships.

I think Emanuel Swedenborg's explanation is the better fit- that evil spirits are the eternal spirits of evil people, and not fallen angels.

CHAPTER SEVEN Reincarnation

People in all cultures on Earth regularly report indications of human beings having lived previous lives on Earth. **Dr Ian Stevenson** made a large study of children who claimed they had lived before, in another body. They could accurately recall details from their former lives.

Here is a Scientific American article written by Jesse Bering (www.jessebering.com) on November 2, 2013:

Stevenson, who died in 2007, was a psychiatrist by training and a prominent one at that. In 1957, at the still academically tender age of 38, he'd been named Chair of psychiatry at the University of Virginia.

After arriving in Charlottesville, however, his hobbyhorse in the paranormal began turning into a full-grown steed. As you can imagine, investigating apparitions and reincarnation is not something the college administrators were expecting of the head of their mental health program.

But in 1968, Chester Carlson, the wealthy inventor of the Xerox copying process who'd been introduced to Stevenson's interests in reincarnation by his spiritualist wife, dropped dead of a heart attack in a Manhattan movie theatre, leaving a million dollars to UVA on the condition it be used to fund Stevenson's paranormal investigations.

That money enabled Stevenson to devote himself full-time to studying the minds of the dead, and over the next four decades, Stevenson's discoveries as a parapsychologist served to sway

more than a few skeptics and to lead his blushing acolytes to compare him to the likes of Darwin and Galileo.

Stevenson's main claim to fame was his meticulous studies of children's memories of previous lives. Here's one of thousands of cases.

In Sri Lanka, a toddler one day overheard her mother mentioning the name of an obscure town ("Kataragama") that the girl had never been to. The girl informed the mother that she drowned there when her "dumb" (mentally challenged) brother pushed her in the river, that she had a bald father named "Herath" who sold flowers in a market near the Buddhist stupa, that she lived in a house that had a glass window in the roof (a skylight), dogs in the backyard that were tied up and fed meat, that the house was next door to a big Hindu temple, outside of which people smashed coconuts on the ground.

Stevenson was able to confirm that there was, indeed, a flower vendor in Kataragama who ran a stall near the Buddhist stupa whose two-year-old daughter had drowned in the river while the girl played with her mentally challenged brother. The man lived in a house where the neighbors threw meat to dogs tied up in their backyard, and it was adjacent to the main temple where devotees practiced a religious ritual of smashing coconuts on the ground.

The little girl did get a few items wrong, however. For instance, the dead girl's dad wasn't bald (but her grandfather and uncle were) and his name wasn't "Herath"—that was the name, rather, of the dead girl's cousin.

Otherwise, 27 of the 30 idiosyncratic, verifiable statements she made panned out. The two families never met, nor did they have any friends, co-workers, or other acquaintances in common, so

if you take it all at face value, the details couldn't have been acquired in any obvious way.

This Sri Lankan case is one of Stevenson's approximately 3,000 such "past life" case reports from all over the world, and these accounts are in an entirely different kind of parapsychological ballpark than tales featuring a middle-aged divorcée in a tiedyed tunic who claims to be the reincarnation of Pocahantas.

More often than not, Stevenson could identify an actual figure that once lived based solely on the statements given by the child.

Some cases were much stronger than others, but I must say, when you actually read them firsthand, many are exceedingly difficult to explain away by rational, non-paranormal means.

Much of this is due to Stevenson's own exhaustive efforts to disconfirm the paranormal account. "We can strive toward objectivity by exposing as fully as possible all observations that tend to weaken our preferred interpretation of the data," he wrote. "If adversaries fire at us, let them use ammunition that we have given them."

And if truth be told, he excelled at debunking the debunkers. I'd be happy to say it's all complete and utter nonsense—a moldering cesspool of irredeemable, anti-scientific drivel. The trouble is, it's not entirely apparent to me that it is.

So why aren't scientists taking Stevenson's data more seriously? The data don't "fit" our working model of materialistic brain science, surely. But does our refusal to even look at his findings, let alone to debate them, come down to our fear of being wrong?

"The wish not to believe," Stevenson once said, "can influence as strongly as the wish to believe."

Stevenson's magnum opus, published in 1997, was a 2,268-page, two-volume work called **Reincarnation and Biology**. Many of his subjects had unusual birthmarks and birth defects, such as finger deformities, underdeveloped ears, or being born without a lower leg. There were scar-like, hypopigmented birthmarks and port-wine stains, and some awfully strange-looking moles in areas where you almost never find moles, like on the soles of the feet.

Reincarnation and Biology contained 225 case reports of children who remembered previous lives and who also had physical anomalies that matched those previous lives, details that could in some cases be confirmed by the dead person's autopsy record and photos.

A Turkish boy whose face was congenitally underdeveloped on the right side said he remembered the life of a man who died from a shotgun blast at point-blank range. A Burmese girl born without her lower right leg had talked about the life of a girl run over by a train.

On the back of the head of a little boy in Thailand was a small, round puckered birthmark, and at the front was a larger, irregular birthmark, resembling the entry and exit wounds of a bullet; Stevenson had already confirmed the details of the boy's statements about the life of a man who'd been shot in the head from behind with a rifle, so that seemed to fit.

And a child in India who said he remembered the life of a boy who'd lost the fingers of his right hand in a fodder-chopping machine mishap was born with boneless stubs for fingers on his right hand only.

This type of "unilateral brachydactyly" is so rare, Stevenson pointed out, that he couldn't find a single medical publication of another case.

The psychiatrist found several patterns in his work on children's memories of previous lives. First, he was convinced that there is only a brief window of time—between the ages of about two and five—in which some children retain these reminiscences of an earlier self.

Importantly, their statements are, in principle at least, empirically falsifiable. If adults don't automatically dismiss young children's utterances as gibberish, any spontaneous comments suggestive of a past life can be carefully recorded, so researchers like Stevenson might later confirm or disconfirm their accounts.

Also, as with the Sri Lankan girl, memories of previous lives tend to occur only when something in the child's current life jars the recollections awake (in cognitive science terms, a form of recognition memory).

In other words, it's mostly useless to "interview" a child about his or her past life, since—like remembering one's dream from the night before only while lying in bed tonight—recall can't be forced on the spot. Stevenson also believed that although past lives may be common, only a small percentage of children retained any memories of their previous existence.

Even in India, where nearly everyone believes in reincarnation and it's nothing special, only about one in every 500 children fit the bill.

Stevenson, an expert on psychosomatic medicine, suspected strong emotions are (somehow) related to a child's retention of

past-life memories. Traumatic deaths, he thought, leave an emotional imprint.

Indeed, most of the children he studied claimed that they had met a violent end previously. There was also a gap of a few years between lives; reincarnation is never immediate. And for the most part, souls seemed to stay local. That's to say, the "previous personality" often lived in a distant village, but not quite so far away as to require a passport.

Oftentimes, Stevenson observed, the child had habits and fears linked to the nature of death. Those who said they'd drowned in a previous life had an unusually intense fear of water; those who were stabbed displayed a crippling knife phobia, and so on.

There were even three cases of children who'd reacted violently when they'd unexpectedly crossed paths with their own "murderers." It's bizarre to picture preschoolers lunging for the throats of adult strangers. Nonetheless, it made sense to Stevenson, since in his view, the children were attacking those who'd gotten away with their murders.

Interestingly, and contrary to most religious notions of reincarnation, there was zero evidence of karma. On the whole, it appeared to be a fairly mechanical soul-rebirthing process, not a moralistic one.

What those mechanisms involve, exactly, is anyone's guess even Stevenson's. But he didn't see grandiose theorizing as part of his job. His job, rather, was simply to gather all the anomalous data, investigate them carefully, and rule out, using every possible method available to him, the rational explanations. And to many, he was successful at doing just that. Michael Newton made a serious study of people under deep hypnotic trance, interviewing their souls about previous lives and how these lives ended. Michael Newton then questioned the previous soul about what took place after the previous death this person had experienced. Michael Newton's two books "Journey of Souls" and "Destiny of Souls" provide us with a great deal of information about the processes of life review and reincarnation.

Michael's clients were people who felt they had lived before. And therefore his subjects were souls that were incarnating to gain experience from living on Earth. There are many souls that do not want to return or don't have to return to life here.

It seems from my reading in this area that human beings are never reincarnated into bodies of another species, at least not here on Earth. And if we seek reincarnation here on Earth, it is to learn something more, to gain more skills.

Michael Newton's clients usually describe having chosen the foetus they will inhabit in the second trimester of pregnancy. The spirit will have been given a reasonable summation of the various factors likely to impact the life of this child, and will have chosen this incarnation for a particular reason.

A previous life may have been too easy, and the spirit had not learned enough survival strategies. This time, the spirit may choose a life in a child being born into a life of poverty.

Michael Newton's clients describe the group of souls they belong to in heaven, choosing to reincarnate using the same cast of actors. Souls who will be in love relationships in their lives on Earth will be playing opposite their soul-mates. These two are always together throughout history, sometimes being the

husband, sometimes being the wife. Other souls may play various roles such as daughter in one life, mother in another. Those souls involved in reincarnation may be just a small number of the souls in the spirit world. Michael Newton's clients tell of spirit guides and more experienced spirits who take part in life reviews as a Council of Elders. These spirits don't reincarnate.

My personal view on reincarnation is that it represents an opportunity for souls to gain the knowledge they failed to learn the last time they lived on Earth. It is the gift of our compassionate, loving Creator, who loves us like a parent offering His child another chance of learning a particular skill.

The fact of reincarnation also indicates that life on Earth is regarded as an important experience amongst life experiences elsewhere in our universe. Our Creator chose to become a human being here on our planet to help all human beings in our universe become the useful, loving people He designed us to be.

This is what I believe.