



Let my people go!
Ministry of Cpt. Gordon Nelson
The Old Ship of Zion
(Christian-Zionist Publication)
"Godliness with contentment." (1 Tim. 6:6)
"To the Jew first." (Rom. 1:16)

JULY 2003

THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL

By Gordon F. Nelson

"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." (Gen. 2:17)

Is the Bible the story of these two trees, namely the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and the tree of life? The fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil brought forth death, while the fruit from the tree of life was life.

Because this lesson on the two trees of scripture could prove controversial, we must first explain the process to establish truth by comparing *"precept upon precept."* (Isa. 28:10)

There is no Encyclopedia Britannica we can turn to to establish the truth. The Bible must be the final authority. The Bible explains itself: *"Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: for with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people."* (Isa. 28:9-11)

"Blessed Are Your Eyes." (Matt. 13:16)

Isaiah reminds us that regardless of what you think scripture is saying, there is no magic formula. You must learn to *"anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."* (Rev. 3:18) You must humble your mind and acknowledge the Holy Ghost as the Author of the 66 books that collectively we call "The Holy Bible". *"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."* (2 Pet. 1:21) This book *"came not...by the will of man,"* but by the Holy Ghost.

The Apostle John prophesies of the coming Comforter (the Holy Ghost) who would *"teach you all things."* *"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, HE SHALL TEACH YOU ALL THINGS, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."* (Jn. 14:26) It is absolutely impossible to understand the scriptures and deny the existence of "the Teacher" (the Holy Ghost). *"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth."* (Jn. 16:13)

“But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.” (1 Cor. 2:10) I plan to touch on one of those “deep things of God” in this letter. What makes truths “deep”? It is simply covered over by the traditions of men, and one has to dig through this rubble as one digging for buried treasure.

Laodicean Christian

Tradition appeals to the mind, and then is repeated often by man until it becomes accepted as doctrinal truth. *“Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition...and many such like things do ye.”* (Mk. 7:13) This is what the Bible terms, Laodicean. Are you a Laodicean Christian?

Laodicea was lukewarm. In other words, they were plain backslid! A slap in the face to the eternal security doctrine of Jerry Falwell! In the Greek, the word literally means, “people rule,” or a democracy. Our founding fathers never believed in a democracy. The word is not found in our Constitution. After signing the Constitution, Ben Franklin said, “We give you a republic, if you can keep it!” Democracy, or “mob rule,” is the halfway mark to socialism. FDR was the first President to use the term democracy. One day we will awake to a socialist dictator state, and wonder how we arrived thusly. Tradition, not the Constitution, will have brought us there.

One is Laodicean, *“Because thou sayest, I am rich (the prosperity message), and increased with goods (stuff), and have need of nothing.”* (Rev. 3:17) Is this your testimony? Is this your sign of arrival? Listen to the end of Revelation 3:17, *“and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.”* The “once saved, always saved, and can never be lost” crowd are blind to their own real spiritual evaluation.

Pure Religion – James 1:27

In our society today, both the hireling and the *“lords over God’s heritage”* (1 Pet. 5:3) carry this same testimony. In both cases, “the orphans, the widows and the strangers” go neglected. This is the call and responsibility of the church, not of some man.

“Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report.” (Acts 6:3) The business of taking care of widows and orphans was an integral part of the entire church, not a separate ministry of some individual, as also saith the law. *“Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry; and my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.”* (Ex. 22:21-24)

Christianity often forgets the horrible pit they were brought out of while under the domain of Satan. We get all Christianized and we simply forget. David, in one of his psalms sang, *"I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD."* (Ps. 40:1-3)

Did God bring you out of a horrible pit? As a church, we are to never forget that pit! The evidence should be our involvement in helping the widows, the fatherless, and strangers. This is how we reveal to ourselves and to the world that the church has not forgotten we once lived in Egypt (a type of the world) under a severe taskmaster, Satan (a type of Pharaoh). Only the Deliverer (a type of Moses) can lead us out of Egypt.

Adam, a Son of God!

Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden of Eden. *"Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken."* (Gen. 3:23) Did you ever ask why?

Here was a man created without sin, therefore unlike any man on planet earth. This was literally God's son. Adam was God's creation. Do you believe God created a sinner to inhabit the Garden of Eden? God created man exactly as the angels in heaven; without sin. *"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation (heaven), he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."* (Jude 6) The angels in heaven never had unconditional eternal security. Jude is reminding you so that you don't get *"puffed up."* (1 Cor. 5:2)

God Created Heaven For The Angels

God created a beautiful garden for all the angels in heaven before ever making a similar paradise on earth for mankind. By hearkening to a false prophet, Lucifer, the son of the morning, around a huge round table where 1/3 of the heavenly host gathered to listen. *"For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation."* (Isa. 14:13)

Hillary Rodham Clinton is singing the same song in her heart, "I will ascend unto the Oval Office in Washington, DC. I will exalt my throne above just America. I will sit upon the United Nations through my husband's appointment as Secretary-General of the UN."

If you listen to this lesbian siren call, you are as guilty as the angels who hearkened unto Satan. They lost their habitation in heaven, and you'll lose your habitation as free men to that of a secular socialistic

state where the state becomes god. Judgment will follow as surely as it fell on the angels that sinned in heaven. It could prove to be the demise of America as we have known it.

God Created America for Christianity to Thrive!

God created heaven for the angels. God created America so America would be “the city on a hill”. The light and its message, “the land of the free and the home of the brave,” would set an example to the world. Now we have termites eating at our foundation from within to put out that light. Ted Kennedy has already announced, “It is over! We’ve taken over the Judiciary branch of government and served notice that no archaic Neanderthal man (a Christian Republican conservative) will ever again sit on the Supreme Court or any lower court bench again!”

Nobody repented!

Do you think God’s two witnesses preached the health and wealth gospel in Jerusalem? Think again! These two witnesses are Elijah and Moses preaching tormenting sermons of how these folks sinned against God. *“And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.”* (Rev. 11:10)

Nobody repented at the preaching of Noah. Noah preached and built his ark for 120 years without a convert. When will Pentecostalism stop the building of these dioceses?

Just when do you think Pentecostalism will repent of these “one-man shows,” that makes a god out of the pastor? Even when the preacher is dead wrong, he is right because he owns the church. Our Pentecostal priests rule over their diocese as any archbishop of Roman Catholicism. The word “Protestant” stems from being a “protester.” These protesters of the infallibility of the Pope became known as Protestants. They were forever protesting. “Purgatory is a lie!” and *“there is (only) one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”* (1 Tim. 2:5) Roman Catholicism has at least a thousand mediators, producing more every day. Catholics, of which I once was, direct their prayers to Mary, the mother of God. Catholicism can well be called “Maryinism.” They really are not Trinitarian in their belief system, but believe in 4 Gods! Mary has been so elevated that she, too, is a god.

I believe this entire ecumenical movement is none other than the Laodicean church in scripture. (Rev. 3:14-20) If you’ve compromised with Rome, and believed the big lie to surrender under the authority of the Pope, you cease to be a Protestant. It is that simple! Martin Luther would roll over in his grave if he knew of the great compromise of 21st century Christians bowing to Rome. *“And I saw the*

woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.” (Rev. 17:6)

There is only one church we are commanded to come out of. *“Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”* (Rev. 18:4) The plagues are all going to fall on Laodicea, the church that compromised with Romanism. *“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”* (Rev. 17:5) Is your church one of the harlot’s daughters? Are you a member of a diocese where one man rules as bishop?

Is Laodicea The Witness To Repeat The Wilderness Scene?

“Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.” (1 Cor. 10:1-5)

This is the witness that God says will be repeated at the end time. *“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”* (Matt. 24:14) The children of Israel had the right preacher, Moses, and were all under the cloud of God’s grace and mercy, and were all baptized in the same Red Sea and did cross it dry shod; yet all died in the wilderness and went to hell, save Joshua and Caleb and the children.

Paul goes on to explain, *“Now these things were our examples (the witness), to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.”* (1 Cor. 10:6) *“Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”* (1 Cor. 10:11-12) The wilderness scene tells us “eternal security” is a lie!

The witness is that Laodicea performs and acts like the children of Israel in the wilderness, with the same results; death, except for Joshua and Caleb and the children.

God Hath Set Government In The Church (1 Cor. 12:28)

“The elders (the ministers) which are among you I exhort (said Apostle Peter), who am also an elder.” (1 Pet. 5:1) Apostle Peter never ever claimed to be a deacon (a table waiter for the orphans and widows), but Peter was an elder. *“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint...neither as being lords over God's heritage.”* (1 Pet. 5:2-3) *“For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.”* (1 Cor. 14:31) To feed the flock of

God is not a one-man show. What does the church do with such scriptures? Just sweep them under the rug? *“Let the elders (presbuterous) that rule well.”* (1 Tim. 5:17) Elders are chosen by God, but the church only recognizes “the pastor.” Deacons are chosen by man. *“Look ye out among you seven men of honest report.”* (Acts 6:3) Only through the ministry of a Jewish Apostle will these scriptures ever come alive.

We choose to build bishop’s dioceses and houses for “hirelings,” instead of building the church *“which hath foundations.”* (Heb. 11:10) Our “lords” and “hirelings” will be the witness (Matt. 24:14) that history has repeated itself in Laodicea, the church in the wilderness. Take heed to the counsel of Revelation 3:18. You can escape the *“great falling away.”* (2 Thess. 2:3)

Tree of Knowledge

Returning to our text: *“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.”* (Gen. 2:17) In the Garden of Eden man lived under grace. How do I know this? Because man only had one sin that would send him to hell. To have no sin is anarchy. If there was more than one sin, you’d be saved by legalism! In the Garden, there was only one sin; that was to eat of the tree in the midst of the garden.

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any BEAST.” (Gen. 3:1) Why wasn’t the serpent’s subtlety compared to birds or mammals? Why BEASTS? The Bible says, *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by EVERY WORD that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”* (Matt. 4:4) Also, applying, *“In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall EVERY WORD be established.”* (2 Cor. 13:1)

Our second witness is Genesis 3:14, *“And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all CATTLE, and above every beast of the field.”* The serpent was cursed, *“upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.”* What was the form of this creature before it was cursed to go on its belly?

The Egyptians are one of the oldest civilizations known to man. Of course, Egypt had many gods, but among them was a young bull calf of the CATTLE family. Did the Egyptians know the form that the serpent presented himself to beautiful Eve?

Virgins Need Father; Others Graduated to Hunters (Prov. 6:26)

Eve was the most beautiful woman that ever lived. Beauty is beholden to beauty. It requires no introduction. Satan understood all this, but beauty is only skin deep. Women (particularly virgin women) are swept into marriage simply upon “eye appeal,” only to discover later they had married a devil. He knows he is a devil, but when he gets ready to marry he goes to church to seek *“the precious life.”*

(Prov. 6:26) Please, virgins, allow your father to check him out first. If he says, no, *“Let his nay be nay.”*
(Matt. 5:37) Jesus did!

The woman Christ chose as His bride is a type of the woman of Samaria, a sinner and a Gentile woman having five husbands, and shackled up with a sixth. Jesus confided spiritual truths to her the disciples were never told. *“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall WORSHIP THE FATHER in spirit and in truth: for THE FATHER seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him MUST worship him in spirit and in truth.”* (Jn. 4:23-24) Wow! What truths were revealed to this Samaritan woman who came for water from Jacob’s well?

Jesus is seeking a Gentile bride. This Samaritan met all the qualifications as far as the Son is concerned. *“For many are called (by the Son), but few are chosen”* (or accepted) by the Father. (Matt. 22:14) This Samaritan became an evangelist; *“Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?”* (Jn. 4:29) Her audience was all males. With her beauty alone she had no problem gathering a bunch of men to hear what she had to say.

But would this same woman be able to pass the scrutiny of the Father? As a church, we are only engaged, or betrothed, to be married. The church is much like this Samaritan, *“Come see a man”* that can give you prosperity and miracles! You girls who have found a man, you tell your family, *“Come see a man,”* but that man must be acceptable to the father or the wedding is off! Do you hear me?

Aaron’s Molten Golden Calf

“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses...we wot not what is become of him.” (Ex. 32:1)

The children of Israel believed Moses was dead. Immediately, they were ready to return to Egypt. Aaron took their golden earrings and fashioned a molten golden calf with his graving tool. Aaron made an announcement after the golden calf was completed, *“These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.”* (Ex. 32:4)

Aaron knew that the young bull calf was a god of Egypt and would be acceptable to Pharaoh upon their return. The church world doesn’t even care what you worship. It can be a calf or a doorknob according to the Alcoholics Anonymous, as long as you call it a “higher power.” Just look at the miracles. *“Is not this the Christ?”* the Samaritan woman asked. (Jn. 4:29) We can’t just have a religion that is acceptable to the Egyptians, but must be pleasing to the Father.

What form did Satan choose to deceive Eve? Like I tell my Russian princess friend, “You were deceived. He had a drinking problem before he ever met you.” You never really “know” a person until it is too late. A whole lot of wife beating could have been avoided had the father entered into the contract. But women are taught by Hollywood, “I can handle this job all by myself!”

Satan appeared as a beautiful young bull to Eve. Many believe the image of the beast of Revelation is this same young bull calf. This image of Revelation is also called a BEAST, *“that they should make an image to the beast”* (exactly as Aaron did). The only difference will be, *“And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.”* (Rev. 13:14-15) Eve’s of this hour are being deceived again!

Imagine the worship that would have evolved from Aaron’s molten calf if he could have caused it to have life and speak! *“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...ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”* (Gen. 2:17, Gen. 3:5) *“And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”* (Gen. 3:4-5)

Eating of the Forbidden Fruit Birthed Bestiality, The Original Sin

After both Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, their eyes were opened. This is exactly the testimony of every homosexual that has eaten the “forbidden fruit.” Their eyes are opened like they are born again into a new religion, knowing good and evil. The homosexual sets about to aright the brain of the heterosexual world. *“And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden.”* (Gen. 3:22-23) The act of bestiality is the original sin. Mankind ate of the tree of the young bull calf and sin entered. Thus, yours and my parents are born sinners.

Read Romans 1:21-32, *“And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient.”* (Rom. 1:28) Once you receive this reprobate mind to know good and evil, you are forever damned! Is it any wonder homosexuals are the vehicles chosen to introduce AIDS? *“And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast. And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast.”* (Lev. 20:15-16)

Rome fell from within. America has chosen to follow the same path today.