

# **DISCOVERING GOD**

**By**

**ART MOKAROW**

## DISCOVERING GOD

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Evanow Publishing, Inc.

Box 1197

Montgomery, TX 77356

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Written by Art Mokarow

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# DISCOVERING GOD

## PREFACE

Why is knowing The One True God so vital for Christianity? God reveals His purpose is to be ALL and IN ALL (I Corinthians 15:28). If you don't become just as HE is, you cannot be in God's kingdom. You are told that in God's kingdom you will be just like Him (I John 3:2)! To be like God, you must first come to know God explicitly. This will only occur when you are Spirit "beings" as God. The Apostle Paul said, in this life, you will only know God in part (I Corinthians 13:10). Discovering the REAL GOD is a spiritual process which *The Bible* calls spiritual growth. As you grow, you become more like Jesus who is exactly like God, The Father (Hebrews 1:1-2). The human dilemma is you can grow up with a false concept of God. God refers to it as IDOLATRY. Idolatry is the worship of a FALSE GOD or "idol worship." God warns that you are to be just like God, "The Father" and His Son, Jesus (I John 5:19-20). His closing remark states, "**Little children** [babes in Christ], **keep yourself from idols, Amen.**" This book covers the human and spiritual process of discovering the true God.

No monies can ever be accepted, but feel free to offer any comments or criticisms. Ask for your free CD containing eleven books which you can read on your computer. Also, feel free to ask biblical questions by mail or e-mail.

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***Children's Books***

*God's Two Trees*

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*God's Three Houses*

## CHAPTER 1

# SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS

Debates always flourish among Christians over what is “spiritual blindness.” Basically, just understanding the definition of these two words would clear up the confusion.

### WHAT IS SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS?

Breaking down the two words, “**spiritual**” and “**blindness**,” from a **biblical** viewpoint will help you understand what *The Bible* means when it refers to “**spiritual things**” and “**being blinded to their meaning**.”

Jesus had the same problem with Nicodemus in John 3. Read the account. Nicodemus tried to make “**spiritual**” things “**physical**.”

Nicodemus thought when Christ told him to be in God’s **kingdom**, he had to physically be **born again**. Jesus gave him a very simple answer. Christ said in order to inherit God’s **kingdom** he had to be **born spiritually** and **not physically**. Jesus said “SPIRIT is SPIRIT and FLESH is FLESH.” They are not of the **same species** or **kind**.

### THE GREEK

In Greek, “Spirit” is “*pneuma*.” Christ related that “Spirit” is “like the wind but invisible.” Spirit is real, but humans can only feel its energy and not SEE it. Where does “**Spirit**” come from? Solomon said when humans DIE their “**Spirit**” goes back to God, who gave it. So initially, mankind’s **spirit** is from God and at death it goes back to God (Ecclesiastes 12:7). “**Spirit**” is a very part of God.

Elihu, Job's young friend, said, "**But there is a spirit in man and the inspiration of the almighty giveth them understanding**" (Job 32:8).

Now you know what "**Spirit**" is. It is not anything physical but a very "**part**" of God which is put in a human when born. This "**Spirit**" is part of God, Himself, which gives your brain consciousness to have understanding or a MIND. When you die, this SPIRIT goes back to God.

## **BLINDNESS**

In Greek, the word "blindness" is "*parosis*." Its meaning conveys "**stupidity**" or "**hardness**." One who is "**spiritually blind**" is refusing God and is "**STUPID**" or "**hard-hearted**."

Now you know what SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS is. It is those who REFUSE to know and discover **The True God**. "**Spiritual blindness**" occurs when you REJECT God. Paul also said individuals just do not know God.

Paul tells you, as Christians, you can only attain **salvation** or **life** in "**the Spirit**" (II Corinthians 3:6). You must get to know The REAL GOD. God is a Spirit, and Jesus said you must worship God "**spiritually**" (John 4).

Paul revealed that The Letter of The Law given to Moses "blinded" Israel or made them hard-hearted (II Corinthians 3:13). It was like someone putting a **vail** over their eyes so they would be "**spiritually**" stupid. They could not see past The Letter of The Law.

That is why God said it was their RIGHTEOUSNESS (Deuteronomy 6:25). Paul said where "The Spirit of God" is, there is **liberty**. In Greek, the word "liberty" is defined as "unrestrained **freedom**." Noth-

ing, in a “**spiritual**” Christian’s MIND restrains them from seeing clearly. They are not blinded “spiritually.”

## AN AGENDA

An “agenda” or “one’s point of view” when held to the point of not willing to look at any NEW TRUTH, but only what they accept, as “their truth” is in “**spiritual blindness**.” In science, it is known as one’s “**point of view**” or “**paradigm**.” Unless you are at liberty or free to prove any **truth** which is “**true**” or “**real**” you might find yourselves with blindness (I Thessalonians 5:21).

Those who have “**the mind**” of Christ are at liberty to **prove all things and hold** on to what is true (I Thessalonians 5:21). “**With [an] open face beholding as in a GLASS The Glory of The Lord, are CHANGED [Spiritual Growth] into the same image from GLORY to GLORY, even as by The Spirit of The Lord**” (II Corinthians 3:18).

There you have it. Unless you are FREE to **search** and **prove truth**, any other “**agenda**” or “**belief**” can “**spiritually**” BLIND you into the realm of “**falsehood**” or literally “stupidity.” How does this happen? Everyone is considered an IDOLATER. Jesus calls “**idolatry**” a “**form**” of Babylon and wants His people to come out of Babylon, which only causes confusion (Revelation 18:4).

## PUTTING IT TOGETHER

Putting *The Bible* **truths** together comes down to two major points. Jesus said, “FLESH is FLESH and SPIRIT is SPIRIT.” They cannot be one and the same. One is in contradiction to the other. “Spirit” is of God and “flesh” is of man’s human nature. That is why Paul told you to CAST down any HUMAN IMAGINATIONS (II Corinthians 10:5). What are human imaginations?

In Greek, “imagination” is “*logismos*” or “HUMAN THOUGHT” or “THINKING.” Any *biblical* understanding that is initiated from the HUMAN MIND is of the FLESH and not of God. That includes all humans. What is the answer? Paul gives you the solution.

Paul declares every one of your human thoughts must be CAPTIVE (put down) under the OBEDIENCE of Christ (II Corinthians 10:5). This, therefore, is God’s formula for **truth**. You must be sure they are Christ’s thoughts and not of your human reasoning or thinking. Jesus spoke only The Words of God, His Father and not His own. So, the only words which are “TRUTH” are from God. They must be God, The Father’s “**words**” which is **The Word** of God.

If *The Bible* does not specifically say what you may believe at this moment in time, then, you must understand, they are not **The Words** of God. They are your own words, summations or some other human’s words. Only God’s “**words**” are **spiritual** or **life giving**. Interpretations that alter the clear meaning of a Bible verse are of human imagination or interpretation. Human thinking is fleshly and not **spiritual**. You must ALWAYS BE SURE *The Bible* states plainly, without any human interpretation of what it may seem to mean. If you do not know or understand what God’s “**word**” states, it means you must keep studying and praying until Christ, through God’s Holy Spirit, directs you to where and when your **spiritual understanding** becomes clear and understandably simple. Then you will have the gift of understanding **The Word** of God and you will begin to grow **spiritually**. No longer will the flesh or any idol begin to blind you from God’s **truth**.

## CHAPTER 2

# WHY GOD HATES IDOLATRY

**The Great Commandment of God is: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord, our God is one Lord, and thou shalt love The Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy might” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5). The question is, “How do you learn to love someone you don’t know?”**

### SIN OF IDOLATRY

Some theologians see God as a self-serving, self-concerned **“being.”** They see God requiring all His **“creation”** to idolize Him continually. Idolatry or **“worshipping”** any other “god” is a contradiction to God’s nature. Nothing could be further from **the truth.**

It is true, God is a jealous God and wants you to worship no other “gods,” but it is for this very good reason: He considers the second commandment such a sin.

Why is idolatry such a sin to God? Logically, you would reason or think God is against every and all “gods” that mankind could create for themselves. But in the end, all these “gods” are not real. That is partially true; these “gods” are only man-made.

But God allows exceptions. God reveals that Satan is, indeed, “the god of this world” (II Corinthians 4:4). Satan is definitely real. So, there are many “gods” which are not real, with the exception that Satan is very real. God is allowing Satan to be the “god of this world.”

## COMMON IDOLATRY

Most of you have been taught that idolatry is bowing down to images such as religious statues, pictures, trees, totem poles, the sun, the wind and even the mountains. That is worshipping the creation instead of **the creator** (Romans 1:25). You probably were taught those who worship idols or religious things that are man-made “were superstitious.” You may have thought idolaters actually believed these idols were a “god” or represented a “God.” Perhaps you thought humans, in the past, just weren’t as educated as societies are today. Thinking this is one thing, but in reality, it is not true. People do worship **things** and bow down before “**created objects**” and “**man-made items.**” But do these individuals really believe these physical things are really “a god?”

## INTELLIGENCE

Human intelligence has been scientifically proven to be quite constant. Increased knowledge does present more factual data so that intelligence leads to the ability to reason more realistically. Intelligence, however, is hereditary. It is also possible to exercise the brain. That is, when the brain is productively utilized, some growth does occur. Latest scientific proof, through archeology, has substantiated that early man was as intelligent as individuals are today. And there are humans, today, who do worship “**things**” as “**a god.**” Intellectually, those individuals are the same as you and everyone else you know. Do these idolaters really think “**items**” or “**things**” can be “**a god?**” In Paul’s day, they worshipped Diana, at The **Temple of Diana** in Ephesus. The Ephesians bought small statues of Diana, before which, they worshipped in their homes. Did The Ephesians of Paul’s day really believe these man-made idols of Diana were “a god” of any type (Acts 19:28)?

The truth is any individual who builds or makes an idol or image of “a god” knows that the idol is not real. Some of the idols were made by

individuals with their very own hands. In the past, they knew, as well as you do today, that those manufactured idols are not really “gods.”

God demanded that no representation, or even a reminder of God, ever be duplicated. This is why The Commandments state you should not make any image, bow or pray before an image of God or Christ for any reason.

## WHY GOD HATES IDOLATRY

What is the **biblical reason** God does not want you to bow down to any idol or image? Surprisingly, you will find God, because He loves you, doesn't want you to be **fooled**. It is extremely important to know only **the true** God who created you and everyone and everything. If you worship anything, it must be **the one real** God who made everything, and He only can give **life**. Idolatry of any kind can totally mislead you and will not allow you to receive the gift of **eternal life**. Yes, the worship of any false god that is manufactured or a real “god,” such as Satan, denies the world of God's **salvation**. That is why it is so important to keep the **first three commandments**. Idolatry of any kind denies you the gift of **salvation** or **living forever**.

## GOD'S PURPOSE

The true God is the only one who has **life**, and **life** can only come from Him. God has given His firstborn “**power**” to have **life** and the power to give **life** (John 5:21). God gave **life** from Himself to His Son. Only God has **life**, and only God can give **life**.

God wants you to look to Him and only to Him. God wants you to worship only Him because, only, He has **life**. God's main objective is for you to have **eternal life**. God disdains idolatry of any type. Only

God knows **sin** keeps you from Him and from the chance of **eternal life**.

After Christ defeats God's enemies, including death, God's **purpose** will be fulfilled – to be ALL and IN ALL in each and every one of you (I Corinthians 15:28). God wants each individual to become Holy, like Him and His Son, Jesus (Ephesians 1:4). Unless you become Holy, like God, you cannot receive **the gift of eternal life**. Being anything less than perfect can and will doom or destroy a society. To live in God's **kingdom** is to live in a blessed, vibrant, happy state. There will be no sorrow, pain, stress, illness, depression or death. God's **plan** is to have a society living in **eternal bliss**, or living in **paradise**.

God alone through His Son, Jesus, is the only way to live an eternity in paradise. To be like God you must come to know who **the true** God is and what He is like. Jesus is the express image of His Father; and as “sons” of God, you must also be like Christ (Hebrews 1:3). Then God will be ALL and IN ALL and you, with Jesus, will be at “**one**” with Him, your Father.

## WHAT IS AN IDOL?

An idol (inanimate or animate) is a point of worship. Idols are held in reverence and desired above all else. When someone worships anything besides God, it becomes a point of **coveting** (Colossians 3:5). To covet anything, whatever it is – individuals, wealth, fame or power – can be a stumbling block for you. To desire anything to the point that you cannot live without **that particular image or in lustful pursuit of it** – no matter what it may be – is a sin. Idolatry is coveting, and that breaks The Commandments. The commandment not to covet is of extreme importance and is intended to save you from sin that leads to harm. Idolatry leads to death. You are to desire God only, above all else, even above your very own life.

God requires absolute dedication and worship so that you are never distracted or allow yourself to be deceived and thereby lose your chance for **salvation**. Since Jesus is exactly like His Father, you must become like Christ, which is *Christ In You* (Colossians. 1:27 and John 8:19).

## GENESIS OF SIN

Sin began with Adam and Eve in The Garden of Eden. What caused them to sin? They both lacked **faith** and **trust** in their Father. God made them, but Adam and Eve didn't believe God and instead followed a stranger, Satan. Why did they decide to sin? Because Eve coveted the fruit from The Tree of Good and Evil as "an idol" and lusted after it and forgot everything, except having what she wanted – at any and all costs.

Obviously Adam loved his wife, who came from his very own body – even more than he loved God. Adam couldn't resist following his wife, even though he knew better. All he wanted to do was please her. Eve was Adam's idol. Idols of "**any type**" keep you from knowing **the truth** because an idol blinds you from **the truth**. Idolatry causes humans to lose their rational thoughts; above all, they must satisfy their "**want**" and have their **idol**. This is the reason God hates idolatry of any kind. Idols cause blindness, which keeps you from knowing **the truth** and can even lead to death. As a Father, God **loves** you and wants to **save** you, so He can give you "**eternal life**."

God is the only **one** who is Holy and **perfect**; therefore, your job is to become just like Him so you can be in His family (Matthew 5:48). Idolatry of any type is hateful to God because He loves you so much, and only He knows the full penalty you will have to pay if you disobey. Notice, "**the time frame**" from when an offense began in The Garden of Eden.

## SEPARATION FROM GOD

Why does God hate sin so intensely? Is God envious if you choose a different **standard of morals** than His? Is there more than **one way** to live forever in bliss and paradise? Satan, because of his ego, believes “his way” is as good as or better than **God’s way**. What has been the result? Do you have any proof?

You certainly do. You have nearly six thousand years of human “**history**,” which has proved that no society can find true peace and happiness despite all the human effort of so many different individuals and all the many nations combined.

No matter what *homo sapiens* have attempted to do, they can never produce a **paradise**. If mankind only knew how much everyone really needs “God and **His way of life**.” History has validated this point over and over again. There are times of peace and then times of war. **Man needs God and His “way” to live the perfect life**. What is the culprit?

God clearly states that it is **sin**, which separates you from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). As long as you live “in sin,” God will **not** listen to you, help, or heal you. You, because of sin, have separated yourself from **the true God**. But, in spite of the mess humanity produces, God will **save** you and that is a guarantee. It is sin which keeps you from God. Do you have to come out of sin on your own before God will intervene and **save** you?

“**Shall I [God] bring to the birth and not cause to bring forth** [the babe to be born or come to maturity]” (Isaiah 66:9)? God never personally hurts anyone. God promises to **save you along with the rest of the world**. That is why God sent His Son. Christ came to save **the world** (I John 4:14). The only question is what you, as an individual,

must do or become to overcome sin. Only then can God, once again, restore paradise for you and the rest of the world.

## MANY GODS

The Jews said they were going to kill Jesus because He blasphemed God by saying He, Himself, was equal to God (John 10:33-35). Christ answered and said that in their very Law it is written Israelites were called “gods.” What could He have meant? Surprisingly, those who receive and accept God’s “**word**” are “**gods**” themselves, and *The Scriptures* cannot be broken (Verse 35). This is very clear. Those who receive God’s “**word**” by The Holy Spirit are “gods.” How can that be? There is only **one God** (I Timothy 2:5). Why did Christ say once a person lives by God’s “**word**” they are “gods?”

The Greek word “*theos*” means “**a god**” but not necessarily “**The God.**” Remember, **the one God’s real name** is JHVH. “*Theos*” in Greek can also mean “**a magistrate**” or “**ruler.**” Generally, in *The New Testament*, when referring to **The One True God**, the word “**the**” is before the word “*theos*,” for example “**the one God**” or “**The God.**” Any magistrate, ruler, being, or judge can be “a god” or “*theos*.” Check these words in *Strong’s Concordance*.

Those who have God’s “**word**” “**in them**” are “**the sons of God,**” and the same “**word**” also made Jesus “a God.” In God’s family, with the “logos” “**God’s divine Word,**” “in you” makes you part of His **family, carrying His name.** Paul said, “**Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named**” (Ephesians 3:15). All humanity is named with a family name or has God’s name. In Greek, the word for “family” is “*patria*” or “**father.**” Paul said mankind’s “**father**” or “*patria*” carries the father’s name, which is “**God.**” “*Theos*,” or “gods,” is truly a “**god**” in God’s family. Then everyone will have The Father’s name, which is “**God.**” **Scripture** always interprets **scripture** for you.

There are many “gods” or “magistrates.” However, when you have God’s **word “in you”** by God’s Holy Spirit, then you are in God’s family and carry His name. You are “gods,” as Christ said, because you are one of God’s sons and you are in His **family**.

## ONE GOD WHO HAS “LIFE”

There is only **one true** God who is The Father of “**everyone**” (I Timothy 2:5). **ONLY the one true God** has “**life**” just as God gave “**life**” to Jesus (John 5:26). There was a time when Christ did not have **life**. God, The Father gave “**life**” to Jesus. Now, Christ has “**life**” to give to you, which is *Christ In You*.

How simple! **Only** God has **life**, and He gave it to His Son, Jesus, so He could give **eternal life to you and the rest of mankind**. This is the reason Christ came to the earth (I John 4:14).

Now, you know **scripturally** why God hates IDOLATRY. Since only **the one true God** has **life** to give, worshiping ANY other “god” is sin. God hates sin. God is “**the one**” who can give you **eternal life** through His Son, Jesus (I John 5:11). It is apparent why God hates idolatry. God hates idolatry because it keeps you from knowing **The Real True God**. Sin keeps you from God because God does not and cannot sin. You, therefore, must become like God or “sinless” in order to discover **the true God**.

## FALSE GODS

Whenever humans worship **false gods**, they are guilty of **coveting**. When you worship anything, you desire that thing above all else, perhaps even your own family or your very life. Then your idolatry causes you to lose the **gift of life**. If you want **life**, you must worship only “**the one true**” **God**. If necessary, you are to give your life for Him just as

Christ gave His **life** for you. You worship **the real God** because **only** He has **life** to give to you.

God hates idolatry because “the man-made idols” cannot give you **life**. Worshipping any **image** or any likeness as Holy is coveting “**a false god**.” Since only God can give **life** through His Son, He hates idolatry which causes you death. Now you know God doesn’t hate idolatry because of His ego, but He hates idolatry because He loves you and wants to give you “**eternal life**.” And, without Him, you cannot receive **eternal life**.

God is **love** (I John 4:8)! God’s “**love**” is then given to you. Once God’s “**love**” is given to you, then you can know that, “**all things work together for good to those that love God**” (Romans 8:28). Once God’s “**love**” is “**in you**,” from that **point on**, anything that happens to you ends in “**good**.” No matter what **tribulations** or **persecutions** you encounter or have to go through, “God’s **love**” will always be there for you. How does this happen? God predestinated you to be conformed to the image of His Son, Jesus (Romans 8:29). Since Jesus is in the image of His Father, you therefore become just like God, your Father – just as Jesus did (Hebrews 1:3).

Now that you understand what God is like, you can begin to emulate Christ and God, The Father to begin to become like them.

## CHAPTER 3

# GOD'S WAYS

**Knowing “the one true” God is paramount so you will be able to receive eternal life. God will give the gift of life only to those who are like Him. Jesus is the express image of The Father (Hebrews 1:3). To know The Father, you must be just like Jesus. You must have the “love” of God to be “at one” with Jesus and The Father (John 17:26).**

To get to know someone you must understand and learn their **ways**. When Israel was in the wilderness for forty years, being tested by God, they lacked **faith in their Father**. God tested them over and over again, so they would gain enough **faith** and begin to **trust** Him. Instead, they just did not know **God’s “ways”** (Hebrews 3:10). Notice, by not believing God they erred in their hearts.

God said the people had an “evil heart” because they did not believe Him and did not know His ways (Hebrews 3:12). Having a lack of **faith** in their hearts and not **knowing the true God**, they were not able to enter God’s **rest**. You must have absolute **faith** in The Father to come to be able to know Him.

God was grieved with The Israelites (Hebrews 3:10). When God is not believed with “**total faith**,” He feels deep sorrow. Normally, seeing God on a personal level can be very frightening. God grieves and sorrows for His children when they do not listen to Him or do not believe Him. Only God can give eternal **life**. To be in **paradise**, you must discover **the true God** and His **ways**; if you do not, you cannot enter His **rest** or **paradise**. Paul warns Christians that if they do not have

**faith** in God, they will be working towards having an “**evil heart**” (Hebrews 3:13). Knowing God’s **ways** and how He will bring you **salvation** is a must.

## FAITH AND REST

**Faith** or **total trust** in God is the only way you will find God’s **rest**. God’s **rest** will create **total peace**. To be **at rest**, you must be **without any stress**. At times you may have experienced needing to sleep; but, because of stress, you could not sleep and get the rest you desperately needed.

God promises, “**There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God**” (Hebrews 4:9). God’s “**rest**” promises such a peace that you can be truly “**at ease**” with no effort or work (Hebrews 4:10). When you do “no work” you are at complete rest or peace. When you are “**in God’s rest**,” God will be doing **all the work** for you; when He does, then you can be completely **at ease and at peace**. This is all based upon absolute **faith** or **trust** and you must learn who God is and learn all His **ways**.

## CONFUSION AND BABYLON

Confusion or Babylon exists because you may have some **false ideas** about God. The **true** God is not known because so many people have many false images of who God is and what His **plans** might be for them. If you have a false image of God or worship “**idols**” and “**false ideas**,” anyone of these can and will cause you to lose God and all His “**love**.” Those who have any of these false ideas are in “**Babylon**.”

## SON OF MAN

Since Jesus was born in the flesh as “**The Son of Man**,” Christ experienced all of man’s infirmities (Hebrews 5:8-10). You now have a “**just**”

High Priest who knows, **first hand**, your infirmities or shortcomings and **makes** intercession for you. Knowing God and His “**ways**” requires a path or “**a way**” to learn your lessons so you can pass all your tests. Since you were born human as Christ was, you also must come out of the bondage of your fears so you can find God’s “**true rest.**” As humans you are subject to death and always must struggle to survive. Yet all have been appointed “once to die” (Hebrews 9:27). So when all is said and done, how do you come out from **this bondage of death**? Survival of the fittest is paramount in your thoughts and more so when there is a “danger” of some sort. Man’s “ways” lead to death; God’s “ways” lead you to **life eternal**. How is that possible? Paul said, “**Ye have not received the Spirit of bondage again to fear**” (Romans 8:15). As Christians, with God’s Spirit, you are now adopted from **humankind** and are in the process of becoming “**Spirit.**” You are literally God’s **sons**. God’s process of becoming “Spirit” delivers you from “**the human bondage of death**” to “**life eternal**” in God’s **rest**. Christians keep the real Sabbath or they rest in Christ. God does the work and it is His gift to you (Hebrews 4:9-11).

## HUMAN NATURE

As a living, mortal human, what type of a “nature” do you have? God reveals that in “the beginning” mankind was born on the sixth day of the week just like the animals (Genesis 1:24-31). Humans, besides being given such a wonderful mind, have, in addition, many **animalistic “traits”** with **animalistic “behavior.”** Both are subject to death and must, in various degrees, struggle to survive. The number “six” is the number of man (Revelation 13:18). But the number “six” is also the number designated for animals. Man’s nature and the nature of animals is much the same. Both are in bondage to survive. The question is how do these animalistic **natures** manifest themselves? What is the difference between the nature or behavior of an animal and that of a

human? God's rule of thumb is for you and all other humans to have dominion over the animals. Exactly how?

## ANIMAL KINGDOM

Animals have a diversity of behaviors. Some are beast-like or live in the wilds. Some animals can be domesticated or can become very docile. There are the carnivorous animals, such as lions, leopards and bears. Some are herbaceous – like oxen, turkeys, chickens and goats – meaning that they eat only plants. Then, there are the very docile animals, such as sheep, which are easy to lead. Humans, in differing degrees, can be categorized much the same way. Human nature is animal-like, ranging in various degrees from beastly to docile.

Since humans are to rule over animals, how can they gain this control? When attacked, humans, just like animals, will fight to survive. In the end, there is usually **a winner** and **a loser**. The end result is one or both are maimed or killed. This is not God's "**way**" – it is not how God is or how your Father thinks. God is "**love**." So, to follow God's **ways**, you must also live and be **ruled** by love and not by your human nature or any animal behavior. Are you beginning to understand by discovering "**the one true**" God? Eventually, you will become like sheep or like Christ, Himself – a Lamb.

## CHAPTER 4

# THE SCHOOLMASTER ORDERS SACRIFICES

The Apostle Paul made an amazing statement. “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a **LIVING SACRIFICE**, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service” (Romans 12:1). The Christian life is an existence of **SACRIFICE**. What kind of sacrifice? It may scare some of you, but it has to be a **human-life sacrifice**.

### A PRIEST

Paul’s description of a Priest is **the biblical** definition of Priests and what their job is. Paul defined a Priest according to a **godly sacrifice** (Hebrews 5:1). He said a person who is a Priest must offer sacrifices that are **acceptable** to God for the good of the people. Why? If God accepts a sacrifice, then their sins are **covered**. This is the exact **purpose** of The Levitical Priesthood. The Levitical Priests offered animal sacrifices for that particular purpose. What did those **ANIMAL SACRIFICES** represent? Today, Jesus, as your High Priest, Melchizedec, offered His **body** as an acceptable sacrifice as a **LAMB**. Why is Christ pictured as a **LAMB**? “**He who LOSES [sacrifices] His life for my SAKE shall find it**” (Matthew 10:39)! Notice, you must give your **life** as a sacrifice for Jesus. Now it’s your turn to sacrifice your life for Jesus, exactly as He sacrificed His **life** for you. In this way, you become a Royal Priesthood showing forth the praises of Jesus (I Peter 2:9). By being a **LIVING SACRIFICE** in this **life**, you are a representation of Christ, or *Christ “in you”* (Colossians 1:27).

A Christian's human existence is one of "giving" or "self-sacrifice" for others. This is what Christianity is all about.

## GOD'S NATURE

Jesus plainly said that it gives His Father **pleasure** to give to His "little flock" **the kingdom** of God. It is in the very nature of your **true God**. This is why John said God is LOVE – because God receives PLEASURE when He **gives**. The sacrifice of His Son was the ultimate gift for you, so you could be **saved** and be given eternal life (I John 4:8). God's children are also called "**a flock**." What type of flock? Just like Jesus you are to become as **sheep** so you can be in God's "**kingdom**" (Matthew 25:31-32). Salvation has to do with becoming a "**lamb**." By being a sheep or a lamb, you are like Christ, the sacrificial LAMB.

With *Christ "in you,"* you are willing to give your "**life**" as a sacrifice just as Jesus did. By so doing, you are "**one**" with Christ and The Father. It is the very make-up and NATURE of God to be sacrificing and giving to His flock. The **sheep** go into God's "**kingdom**," but the **goats** are thrown into The Lake of Fire or hell (Matthew 25:31-46). Why? Both of the animals are clean animals according to Leviticus 22. If both are clean animals in God's sight, why would He throw the GOATS (which are clean) into The Lake of Fire? To be in God's **kingdom** you must become a LAMB. Only sheep can enter God's **kingdom**. The answer is in *The Old Testament* and has to do with sacrifices in **the temple**.

Paul announces that The Law is a **shadow** of good things to come (God's **kingdom**) but not the real or genuine **kingdom** (Hebrews 10:1). Also, Paul relates that even the SACRIFICES are a SHADOW, just as **all** The Law is a **shadow of things to come**. Since the **sacrifices** are **shadows** or **images** of The Good News of *The Gospel* to come, **bibli- cally** you can discover what the animal sacrifices foreshadow. The

word “sacrifice” is defined as “for the good of others,” which is part of God’s **very nature**.

## SACRIFICIAL ANIMALS

In *The Bible*, God separates animals into two major categories: “the clean” and “the unclean.” The Old Covenant forbids the eating or even the sacrifice of unclean animals. God does not accept an unclean animal as a sacrifice. Why not?

## PURPOSE OF SACRIFICES

The sacrifices that Israel offered year-by-year could never make them perfect. Sacrifices have to do with steps taken **to begin** to become PERFECT as God is (Hebrews 10:1). Since God is perfect and these sacrifices do reveal some state of being “**less than perfect**,” you need *The Bible* to discover what these sacrifices represent.

These sacrifices are **shadows** of good things to come. Let *The Bible* give you the answer. Moses said that *The Scriptures* revealed Christ (John 4:46).

Paul said the sacrifices were a REMEMBRANCE of SINS each year when they offered their sacrifices (Hebrews 10:3). When The Israelites sinned, they had to offer a sacrifice as a reminder they were by nature “**sinners**.” This had to continue yearly to make them aware and to remind them they were not **perfect**, towards whose end you also are striving for – to be in God’s family.

It is not possible that the blood of BULLS or GOATS can ever begin to erase SINS (Hebrews 10:4). The purpose of sacrifices was to prove that the one offering the sacrifice was less than perfect and therefore still a SINNER, or to put it bluntly “an animal” in God’s sight. They were **not perfect** like God.

The blood of bulls and goats could not take away any of The Israelites' sins. *The Bible* names two specific animals that are clean animals, YET THEY DO NOT cancel the sins of the transgressor of The Law. None of the other clean animals used for sacrifice, such as a lamb, are mentioned. Why not? This will be covered later and has a very important **spiritual truth** behind it.

### THE SIXTH DAY

The number of The Beast is "666," which is the number of MAN. Why? On the sixth day of creation, man and animal were both created. This was man's number when he was created. Humans are of the animal kingdom, which is another reason both were created on the same day – the sixth day. Animals and humans have much in common. However, there are a variety of animals and human beings that are very much alike. Ever hear of a man with characteristics similar to his dog? Since animals vary in nature, humans also VARY in NATURE. Some humans take on the dominate nature of one or more specific animals. The question in each case is which animal or group of animals is a human's behavior most like. Remarkably, the choice is on your shoulders. Peter had a vision and saw a multitude of every type of animal or creature on the earth. Remember, the snake represents Satan, God's adversary. Satan is very deceptive and his deceptiveness can be poisonous to you. What did this vision that God gave to Peter mean (Acts 10)?

Cornelius, a Gentile Roman Centurion, was being called by God to become "a son" to Him. He was to be the first Gentile (meaning without God) to become a Christian. What did Peter say? In Peter's vision God said, "**Rise, Peter; kill and eat.**" Peter's reply was, "**Not so Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is COMMON or UNCLEAN**" (Acts 10:13-14). Even though God directed Peter to eat unclean and

clean animals in this vision, Peter wondered what God was trying to teach him or make him understand.

Later when Peter found out God was converting Cornelius, the first Gentile, this was Peter's answer. **“Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh RIGHTEOUSNESS, is accepted with Him”** (Acts 10:34-35).

When Peter returned to Jerusalem he explained all this to **the church**. Peter revealed his vision and repeated exactly what God told him. **“What God hath cleansed, that call not thou COMMON [or UN-CLEAN]”** (Acts 11:9).

God clarified to Peter the meaning of **the shadow of the purpose of sacrifices**. Each animal that is diverse in nature, whether unclean or clean, can now be made clean in God's sight. God has the ability to take **“any animal nature”** and cleanse it and make it perfect! These animals, **clean** and **unclean**, represent humans; each individual has a **behavior** in one form or another just like an **animal** – whether **clean** or **unclean**. Now, **biblically**, you know why God had instituted **sacrifices**. Sacrifices made God accept all the human beings who had sinned. Originally, God only accepted CLEAN animals. Why? Because they had a **gentler “nature”** or **“behavior,”** such as bulls and goats as opposed to lions or bears. Clean animals are gentler to master than wild animals. Have you ever tried to train a lion or a tiger?

Yet God gave a command to Adam and Eve **“to master”** all the animal kingdom (Genesis 1:28). Your behavior is to be changed, whether you are ferocious or have shadows of gentleness or any degree in between; you must subdue yourself to the point of **perfection**. When you begin to conquer your human nature, God will take you **“the rest of the way”** to **“perfection.”**

## CHAPTER 5

# THE TRUE GOD

**Christians who are begotten of God's Holy Spirit have their Father revealing His "word" or truth about Him. God has a plan or system that discloses the truth about the real God so God's "kingdom" has a perfect conclusion. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new" (II Corinthians 5:17). When God creates all things new, all mankind will live in eternal bliss.**

## GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT

God defines "**His Holy Spirit**" as having **power, love** and a **sound mind** (II Timothy 1:7). God's Holy Spirit is the very essence of what God is.

In the Greek the word "*sophronisnos*" carries the meaning of "self-discipline" or "control." When one has a **sound mind**, then he or she can consider the facts or truth, and has the capacity and control to accept that truth, will always do what is **right** and **good**.

The Holy Spirit of God, given to you, is motivated by love alone and always accepts the **truth** and disciplines "**the self**" to do what is **right** and **good** for God's **creation**. The Holy Spirit reveals and defines God. It is what God is. The Holy Spirit, therefore, discovers the truth of God because God's Spirit is Holy and unblemished or totally clean with no fault or darkness. **Light** is revealing. Darkness is blindness or confusion. That is why God made day and night – to picture a creation that

is in truth “good” when you can see the truth or “evil” as the night, when it is engulfed in darkness and you cannot see much of anything, let alone **the truth**.

**“God is LIGHT, and in Him is no darkness at all”** (I John 1:5). God doesn’t lie, and neither can His Holy Spirit lie which is **the very essence** of God. When God’s Holy Spirit is “in you” it will be God or **Christ “in you.”**

The word “Spirit” in Greek is “*pnuema*” – “the very breath of God residing in every Christian.” That is why Paul said God’s “**word**” is inspired or “**God-breathed**.” God’s very **breath** is His **very thoughts**, which are placed in each Christian’s mind (II Timothy 3:16). If you have **faith** residing in your human “**Spirit**” or “*pnuema*,” you must accept God’s Holy Spirit. Then, God’s very **mind** or **thoughts** will dwell “in you.” God’s Spirit only reveals **truth** or **light** so you can make the right decisions. Then you have God “**in you**” and know the truth and need no man to teach you (I John 2:27). At that time, you have the power to discern “**right**” from “**wrong**” by your very nature.

## TRUE GOD

Everyone knows Satan is “the god” of this world. But, Jesus also said “**ye are gods**.” The question you should now ask is, “How can you know when *The Bible* is referring to ‘**the one real**’ God?” God knows there are “many gods” in the world, and He calls having these “god’s” by one word – “idolatry.” *The Bible* defines **the true** God by God’s “**works**” and many of His other miraculous signs. In His Word, *The Bible*, God also uses the article “**The**” to refer to God. When Paul was converted and Ananias baptized him, Ananias said, “**The God of our fathers hath chosen thee [you] that you should know His will**” (Acts 22:14). Ananias used the article “the” to denote which God he was speaking about. Since there are many “gods,” *The Bible* refers to “**the**

**one true God**” as “**THE GOD**” in many verses. However, God also describes Himself by specific definitions of what He is and then what He is not.

### **GOD IS SPIRIT**

God is a SPIRIT (John 4:24). God is self-perpetuating **life energy**. God is not combustible but He is a flaming fire (Hebrews 12:29). This fire is describing His composition or what He is made of. God declares His attributes by what He is composed of and thereby gives insight into His character. You already know that God is **Holy, just, righteous and perfect**. God is describing His composition and what His character is like. Many times people accept these descriptions of God and do not realize they have deep **spiritual significance**.

### **GOD IS LIGHT**

John wants Christians to have fellowship with God and His Son (I John 1:3). How? John tells you that your fellowship is with The Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. God’s **purpose** is to give Christians complete joy though this fellowship with Himself and His Son (I John 1:4). Now John describes this fellowship that will give you JOY.

The message is that GOD is LIGHT and in Him is no DARKNESS. John is discovering or defining “**the true God**.” God is a brilliant jewel much like a “rainbow” type of fire with all its brilliant colors. He physically appears as a glowing jewel with a multitude of colors, like a rainbow after a rain or storm. He radiates **light** and He has no **darkness** in Him. Then John makes a dramatic statement. “**If we say we have fellowship with him, and walk [live] in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from ALL SIN**” (I John 1: 6-7). This is an amaz-

ing **promise**. Jesus said that John is giving a **new commandment**. This new commandment is true because the **darkness** is past and the “**true light**” now shines. What is the true light? “**He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in DARKNESS even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the LIGHT, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh [lives] in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes**” (I John 2:9-11).

This is very clear. God is LIGHT with a beautiful rainbow that has sparkling jewels shining from Him. But God is also LOVE (I John 4:8)! When someone is LOVE, they cause no harm or offense and do not cause anyone to sin. God does not lie but reveals **the truth** only.

God, being only **light** with no darkness, is referencing The Father’s **very nature** and the **essence** of what He is. He never harms, lies or causes any danger to His **creation**, and He especially will never hurt His family in any way. God, who has no **darkness**, never deceives or causes confusion to His people. God is the complete essence of truth. That is what **The Word** of God is (John 17:17). God truly is **light**.

## **DARKNESS Vs. LIGHT**

When you are in darkness, you cannot understand **the truth** of God or who God really is. That is why Jesus came as The Word of God (John 5:20, 38). Christ only spoke God, The Father’s “**word**.” That is why Jesus was **The Word** of God. Jesus never spoke His own “**words**,” He only spoke His Father’s “**words**” (John 8:47).

“**Light shines in darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not**” (John 1:5). Because Christ spoke God’s “**words**,” *The Scriptures* prove

those in darkness **cannot** understand **the truth** of God. When you are in darkness, there is no chance to know God (John 8:19).

## HUMANITY – GOOD AND EVIL

Man in his natural state is as a brute beast, or violently carnal. “**Survival of the fittest**” is the name of the game (Jude 1:10). By being beastly they have reserved for themselves the BLACKNESS of DARKNESS (Jude 13).

In The Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve ate of The Tree of Good and Evil that is the combination every natural human became. They then had both **good** and **evil** within themselves. God is totally **LIGHT** with **NO DARKNESS in Him**. Humans are a mixture of **light and dark** or **good and evil**. Light **without** any darkness is completely good or perfect like God. That is why God is **HOLY** without any blemishes.

## SATAN AND DEMONS

When Satan left his first estate as **the light bringer**, he ended in darkness (Jude 6). This included the fallen angels who followed Satan. They are chained in total darkness. Since God has **NO** darkness, no one, either human or “**spirit**” who does not have complete light, is “**in heresy**.” They know not The Father or The Son. Jesus declared that when an unclean spirit (or one in darkness) leaves a man, that demon walks in dry places (without growth) and seeks “rest” but finds none. An unclean spirit or demon wants to enter a body; and if it cannot, it must wander in darkness without any rest. Remember, when the demon asked Christ if He had come before “**the time**” (The White Throne Judgment) to **TORMENT** those demons (Matthew 8:29)? The Greek word for “torment” in *The Scripture* means “pain, as a stone going to the bottom.”

The demons know when they are not in a body; they are in chains of darkness or complete stress and confusion. That is why Jesus commanded them to go into the pigs – to prove they were correct and it wasn't their time of torment in The White Throne Judgment. The demons were as unclean as the pigs they entered.

## CHAPTER 6

# THE CREATION OF GOD

**Keep in mind that only that which is total “light” is of God or like God. God predestined you to be adopted as one of His children (Ephesians 1:5). Now, in your natural human state, you are a mixture of “light” and “dark.” You are not completely “light” like God, The Father, and His Son.**

You must be adopted from being “human” or “flesh” to become **complete “Spirit”** like God, The Father. It is truly an adoption. Jesus said, **“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit”** (John 3:6). Ultimately, you must become totally **“Spirit”** and then you will see God as He is, and one day you will be just like Him (I John 3:2). Remember, the entire creation was made in **“light”** and **“darkness.”** When you are in total **“light,”** like God, you will then be **“Spirit.”**

When the earth was without form, there was darkness upon the face of the deep. Then, what did God do? God said, **“Let there be light: and there was light.”** God said the **“light”** was **“good,”** and He made a division between the **light** and the darkness. And remember, He never called **the darkness** **“good”** (Genesis 1:1-4). God called the **light** day, and the darkness was called night (Genesis 1:5). Even the earth was a place where one could see in the daytime but not at night. **Light** is **good**, and darkness is **evil**. **Why?** Because at night, you cannot see where you are or where you are going without some light of the stars or the moon. In fact, this world, which is composed of both **light** and **dark**, is in bondage and confusion.

Paul said that Christians have not received “**the spirit of fear**,” which gives bondage or confusion, but “**the spirit of adoption**” (Romans 8:15 and Ephesians 1). That is why Christians call God “Our Father.” The entire creation is in bondage and waiting for the manifestation of **the sons of God**. Why? Because the **new heaven** and **new earth** will be in God’s **light** and **glory** (Revelation 22:5).

God created the entire universe in both **light** and **darkness**. The entire universe is comprised of stars, which are **light**, and the space is **darkness**. God, from the very beginning, intended the earth to be a **mixture of light** and **darkness**. Before the **creation**, there was only God with no space at all. How can this be substantiated? God has no darkness; so with only God **present** – everything was “**light**.”

In the beginning, God’s **plan** was to have both light and darkness when He created His family. A choice had to be given to His children, so they could choose **the true** God or not. You can choose a false god because the creation is a mixture of light and dark, just as humanity has its good side and its dark side. Why does God want you to choose? Because God Himself has total free choice, He had to offer that same free choice to you. It is an attribute of **the one true, actual God** – to have free choice. When you are talking about **the one true God**, you are not talking about false “gods” or “idols.” Then, once you choose **light**, which is what God is, you also prove your **faith** or **trust** in God, The Father. Then, by faith, you can receive **eternal life** and there will be **no darkness in you**. When you are able to see, the entire universe will be in light, which means you can see every part of God’s creation.

God created **a good tree**, The Tree of Life, and **a bad tree**, The Tree of Good and Evil. God reveals that some trees produce good fruit and some have no fruit at all. This can also be likened to animals that are more destructive than others. Some – such as lions, leopards and bears – devour flesh when they are hungry. Then, there are others that are more docile, like goats, oxen and sheep. They fit into one of

two categories: wild or domesticated. Why would God have ferocious beasts along with the domestic type? To start with, God, The Father, explains that mankind is to rule over the entire animal **kingdom** (Genesis 1:28). Why does God want mankind to rule over the animal kingdom and what does it reveal about God?

### “SIX” – THE NUMBER OF A MAN

John writes about The Mark of The Beast as “666,” which is the number of a man. God is telling you there is something about **the number “six” that refers to man** (Revelation 13:17-18). What does the number “six” tell you? This number is a **bestly number** (Verse 17). What type of beast is it? This beast is defined as a leopard, bear and lion (Revelation 13:2). Even children know what type of beasts these are. They are all wild and not domesticated. Wild animals are carnivorous or tear apart and devour flesh, which includes humans. Why is the number “six” the number of man and also the number of beasts? Knowing this will help you understand why the number “six” is so important.

On the **sixth day of creation**, what did God create? God made the animal kingdom and the human **kingdom** (Genesis 1:24-28). Both man and all the animals and beasts were made on the same day. Humanity is included in the animal kingdom. Man’s nature, in too many cases, resembles some of the animals God created. The nature of man and the nature of animals are very similar. God revealed that mankind can be like a carnivorous beast, which is **the mark of the beast**. This mark manifests exactly which beasts are wild or carnivorous. Carnal beasts, like humans, kill each other just like a leopard, bear or lion.

God reveals mankind is of the animal kingdom and can be just like the animals. Humans can be carnal and completely **wild** at times. Many who have these traits find themselves confined to isolated cells in the prison system. This is **the mark or the sign of the beast**. The “**mark**”

distinguishes the difference in **behaviors** between **ravenous, devouring humans** and **Christians**. Next, you need to examine the **spiritual differences** between those with **the mark of the beast** and the “seal” reserved for **Christians**.

## CHAPTER 7

# LIGHT AND DARKNESS

**More debates have occurred over the last two thousand years as to whether or not Christians can eat unclean animals as revealed in God's "word." The question should be why God instituted what man can eat and what animals could be offered for sacrifice in *The Old Covenant*.**

### DIVINE SERVICE

All the rituals performed in the **earthly tabernacle** were a "divine service" (Hebrews 9:1). In Greek, the word "divine" means "a Holy thing." All the priestly activities carried out according to God were Holy.

Some of the duties performed by The Priesthood were **the sacrifices**. Only **clean animals** could be sacrificed. What did these sacrifices mean? These sacrifices were offered for the sins of the people (Hebrews 5:1). But why did God insist they could offer only clean animals as sacrifices for their sins?

In reference to those sacrifices, The Law was only a shadow or a shade of what would eventually become clear or "real" (Hebrews 10:1-4). These sacrificial animals never removed the sin; they were only to remind a person that he or she was a sinner.

These sacrifices **never** removed the sin. Perhaps, the "homework" of endlessly offering sacrifices for their sins, might cause them to try harder not to sin and ask God for the **faith** they needed.

So these sacrifices were a “shadow.”

## SHADOWS

God is only **light** and has no darkness in Him (I John 1:5). The Law and the sacrifices could never make those keeping The Letter of The Law perfect or Holy. And the sacrifices could not stop anyone from sinning.

It is not possible for the blood of bulls or goats to take away anyone’s sins. This is why *The Scriptures* refer to The Law and sacrifices as only a “shadow” (Hebrews 10:4).

Not only were the sacrifices a shadow or a type of what was real, but they also appeared as a shadow that contained many different shadows of darkness. It is only a “**shade**” with some light, but some had many shades of darkness from light to dark.

## THE LIGHT

Jesus became **The Word** in the flesh (John 1:1-5). *The Bible* states that **The Word**, meaning Christ, had life and the life was “the light” of men. **This “light” (Christ)** shines in darkness and **the darkness** did not comprehend.

So Jesus was **the “light” of God**, but those in **darkness** didn’t understand **the truth** because they were still in darkness, just like the **shadows of the sacrifices**.

The Priests performing these sacrifices didn’t really understand the true meaning of **the sacrifices**. That is why The Law blinded The Israelites; they didn’t comprehend what The Law “**shadowed**,” which included the sacrifices (II Corinthians 3:14).

## A BODY PREPARED

Paul reveals that God doesn't want sacrifices (being only a shadow) but your **body**, which **you are to prepare** for Him. God removes the blindness of the **shadow** or darkness of The Law with its sacrifices. Sacrifices pointed to Christ as the true sacrifice that God accepted for sin. That is why Jesus as The Christ was The Anointed One – anointed by God to be Melchizedec, your High Priest who actually takes away your sins. Christians are no longer under **the shadows** or **darkness** of The Law with its **sacrifices** because Christ's sacrifice actually takes away or covers your sins. That is why The Letter of The Law brings death. The Letter, or what is written, brings death (II Corinthians 3:6-7). When the shadow or darkness is removed, then the **light** – Christ – shines through.

## WHAT ANIMALS FORESHADOW

Since humans are of the animal kingdom, they are like animals in many ways; but there are many different types of animals. Two major divisions show there are wild animals and animals that can be domesticated. Humans have a variety of behaviors just as the animals do. God states animals are shadows, just as humans, depending upon the individual. What animal foreshadowed Jesus?

John declared through an angel that “**no man**” was worthy to open *The Book of Revelation*, which contains prophecy (Revelation 5:3-6). One of The Elders states, Christ, as a Slain Lamb, was counted worthy or an acceptable sacrifice to God (Revelation 5:3-6). What animal portrays Jesus? **A LAMB!** Christ's behavior was gentle, following **The Shepherd** and obeying “the Shepherd's voice.” Remember, Jesus lived only by **EVERY WORD OF GOD**, His Father. The Lamb, which portrayed a **shadow** also, as an animal, typified Jesus. You, as a Christian, are

to have **Christ** “**in you**” and have the same gentle behavior (Colossians 1:27). Now, to prove it **biblically**.

Jesus said, “**I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine**” (John 10:14). Christ relates that He laid down His **life** for His SHEEP (Verse 15). Jesus was sacrificed as The Lamb of God, and now Christians are also to be sheep emulating Jesus. Also, you are to be willing to sacrifice your life as Christ did (I Corinthians 11:1 and Hebrews 12:1).

God’s “**word**” proves The Sacrificial Lamb was a shadow, first of Jesus and then of Christianity. The true sacrifice is Jesus and Christians who follow their “Shepherd.” The shadow, with different shades of darkness, in *The Old Testament* is “**The Lamb**” (which was to come and die for you). Jesus as a human, as The Son of Man, had an animal nature such as sheep. Now you know why clean animals, such as a “**lamb**,” can be sacrificed (Leviticus 22:19).

However, it is okay for a goat or cattle (beef), because they are clean, to be used for sacrifice; they are acceptable as an offering. All these animals portray the behavior of humans. Jesus and Christians are to be like lambs or **sheep**. But what about the oxen and goats; as they are also, clean animals that can be sacrificed to God?

### A REAL SURPRISE

What type of animal goes into The Lake of Fire or hell? And, what animal enters God’s **kingdom**? Jesus tells what happens in The Great White Throne Judgment (Matthew 25:31-46). He states that He will separate His **sheep** from the goats (Verse 32). The rest of the account reveals that the sheep enter God’s **kingdom**. The goats go into an age-lasting area of punishment. But, wait a minute. Aren’t both of these animals “clean animals” and very acceptable as a sacrifice? Well, the

goats must go into The Lake of Fire. Why? Read the book *The White Throne Judgment* for proof and an in-depth answer.

Sheep are docile and willing to be a sacrifice. Goats can be stubborn and kick or resist. Sheep follow their “Shepherd” – Christ. Sheep are clean and also faithful to the shepherd. Goats, as well as oxen or beef, though clean, still **resist** being led or trained. Only sheep have **faith** and **trust** in the shepherd. Goats and oxen cannot resist doing their own thing. Even though repentant, they need to grow **spiritually** to become sheep.

Until an animal becomes a “**lamb**” like Christ, it cannot have access to The Tree of Life in The New Jerusalem (Revelation 22). Once a person is **repentant** and **spiritually grown**, like Jesus, then God accepts that sacrifice. This is the only **body** acceptable as a living sacrifice to God. What about the **wild animals**?

## MARK OF THE BEAST

**Biblically**, you have analyzed the clean animals and understand that Christians must become “**sheep**.” You may be asking what happens to the voraciously wild ones. At best, a wild animal has the number of man, which is “666.” Always remember the number “3” denotes completeness. This beast, which is a man, has three “6s” and is totally carnal. Let’s take a look at these beasts. Daniel had a dream and a vision of **four beasts**. Three of the beasts were like a lion, leopard and bear. All are **unclean beasts**. They are the most dangerous and most violent of the wild animals (Daniel 7:3-6)! Then a **fourth beast** appeared and devoured or ate the lion, leopard and bear (Verse 7). Daniel explained that this fourth beast was more diverse, that is, a composite of the other three beasts. Because it contained all the animal attributes of the other three beasts, it was far more dreadful and far more destructive. What or who is this **fourth beast**?

The **fourth beast** is The Roman Empire in its **last days**. The Roman Empire lasted until about 700 A.D. This Roman system continues as an IMAGE right up to the end-time. This beast is defined as **the image** of a **great statue** of a **man** (Daniel 2). The **head** is **Nebuchadnezzar**, and the **chest** including **arms** comprise **The Media-Persian Empire**, which was followed by Alexander, The Great, and finally the **fourth part** comprising the **legs, feet** and **toes**, which will be destroyed by Christ at His **return**. This fourth beast will be the anti-Christ. This is the time of The Gentiles; in other words, the world is being ruled by these awesome, carnal beasts. Jesus, The Messiah, **returns** and establishes God's **kingdom**, and finally the world will have "**true peace on earth**." This may be a good time for you to read all of Daniel 2 and 7, so these facts can be solidified in your mind. This beast is composed of three destructive and violent animals – the lion, leopard and bear. Now, you have completed the "**three**" complete "**sixes**" or "666." What is their "**mark**?" Each "**six**" is designated for a "**man**" while the "**three**," consummating in the fourth beast, or a total of all the carnivorous beasts. These **three beasts** are The Gentile "**world rulers**" of the **three kingdoms** with the **fourth** to comprise all three animals – lion, leopard and bear. This summarizes "**three**" "**sixes**," each a number of a "**man**" or "**ruler**." The **fourth** is the worst of all of them and is the anti-Christ attempting to be in the place of The Messiah. This comprises the complete number of a "**man**" or "**666**."

## THE MARK

What is the "**mark**?" In Greek it defines the word as "an etching scratched into an idol." What is "**scratched in**" will allow everyone to see and understand. It is not some tattoo or mark on an individual, but it is the very "**behavior**" of this **beast**. Before God's Day of Wrath comes, you will find God "**seals**" His people to be protected from the coming **destruction**. The seal is God's Holy Spirit. This "**seal**" reveals God's people from those with the **mark of the beast**. What does this

“seal” look like? It will look like a **“lamb.” This is the sacrifice God can and will accept.**

The Christians are like “lambs” – docile and giving. What a difference! Those who have the mark “666” will be easily discerned because their behavior is violent and beast-like. God would never accept their sacrifice with their nature of killings and war.

Biblically, you have discovered the two major divisions of the wild animals – unclean and domesticated, especially the “lamb” or Christ. How does God take the clean animals, such as the ox and goat, which can be sacrificed, and make them acceptable to God? They can be led but still can be violent when necessary. God’s **“only acceptable sacrifice”** is **“a human body”** and not animals – whether clean or unclean. Jesus, when He died for your sins, was still human but unblemished (sinless). That is why He is like a “lamb.” Today, Jesus, as Melchizedec, is not human but completely **spiritual** like God. Christianity means you are in **the process of repentance**, unclean like wild animals; but eventually you become **clean animals**, such as an ox, goat or sheep. If you continue to grow **spiritually**, as Christians, you can finally become **“a lamb”** like Christ when He was human. Now, God accepts your sacrifice and you can enter His **kingdom**. God truly drafted a perfect plan for His children. Once you are in the process of becoming like **“sheep,”** as Jesus, you can start to discover **The One True God.**

## CHAPTER 8

# ONLY ONE GOD

**Paul said, “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known” (I Corinthians 13:12).**

The Apostle Paul, with all his visions and revelations, is telling Christians, no one has all **the truth**. **You**, in your human, fleshy, body cannot **ever** discover all that God is. That is why in your animal nature, even as sheep, you cannot know **the complete true God**. Only when you are known and see yourselves as you really are, and that may be as an animal in some form or degree. Until you are completely **Spirit** you have the nature or some form of an animal.

This is especially so when you are faced with survival. Only, as **sheep**, would you willingly go to the slaughter. That is why Jesus said you must be willing to give up your life if you are to **save it**. Paul states as long as you are human you are still in “**a form**” of **darkness**.

Notice what happens when you come before God and Jesus, “**the true light**”: “**Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is**” (I John 3:2). This is referring to the second coming of Christ. When Christians meet Jesus in the clouds with all **the angels**, everyone will see Christ in **reality**, everyone will appear just like Him (I John 3:2). You will look just like God, The Father and Jesus, The Christ (Revelation 4 and 5). Then you will know what God is because, only then, will you be like Him.

## SHEEP

As sheep, following The Shepherd – Christ, you can discover a great deal about “the real only one true God.” God has already told you, according to His “word,” He is “Spirit” and “Light.” “Spirit” has life eternal and “light” is all God’s glory and goodness. God will never deceive you or lie to you.

Now you can, in this life, become as Jesus was – a **“lamb,” “a peaceful, loving being.”** God is absolute **love, which means God has “agàpè love.”** And **“agàpè love”** is what you must **strive** to attain, so you can receive **eternal life and one day live as one big, happy family in God’s family.**

## GOD DISCOVERED

What does it mean to DISCOVER or KNOW GOD? God is love or charitable giving. God receives pleasure or **joy** when He GIVES (Ephesians 1). When you see God you will be just like Him. What is God going to be doing when everyone is like Him? When God is on the **new earth** and **new heaven**, God is going to make ALL THINGS NEW (Revelation 21:5). What does that mean?

## LIBERTY AND BONDAGE

The Apostle Paul gets quite descriptive concerning the time when God makes ALL THINGS NEW. Read Romans 8:18-22. Paul reveals that it is not WORTHY to compare (think about) this present human existence of suffering with your future and “The GLORY” God is going to reveal “in you!” “God’s **Glory**,” in Greek, means “all God’s riches and gifts that He is going to manifest IN YOU.” All God’s creative attributes will dwell in everyone on the **new heaven** and **new earth**. This present life is subject to CORRUPTION and finally DEATH. In fact,

the ENTIRE CREATION suffers in BONDAGE (to death), waiting for God to be in each and every one of you. Wow! When you see God, you will to be LIKE HIM (I John 2). What will you be doing?

## **GOD WILL BE ALL AND IN ALL**

You will be doing God's Work just as Jesus did The Work of God (John 6:29). Continually, all the nations will bring God's glory and honor to God and Jesus. In the kingdom, you will be doing God's "work" just like Christ. This "work" will be CREATING ALL THINGS TO BE NEW. What kind of things (Revelation 21:24)?

Paul clarifies the question. Jesus, as God's Son, was chosen above all others in God's **plan** because He was more RIGHTEOUS than anyone else (Hebrews 1:9). Because of His LOVE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, Jesus created ALL THINGS (Hebrews 1:10-11). To have the **power to create** like Christ and God, requires that all is done in RIGHTEOUSNESS.

God, His Son, and everyone in the **new earth** will CREATE ONLY what is GOOD and PLEASURABLE to the **entire creation**. You will truly be in God's **rest** and forever be rejoicing at The MARRIAGE FEAST of The Lamb. With God being **all and in all**, you will be happily busy in God's creation, for eternity. This will be a REAL PARADISE with complete LIBERTY as The Kingdom of God in **the new heaven and new earth** (Romans 8:38-39).

## **NO WORRIES OR STRESS**

When God, His Son and all the **saved spiritual beings** are "at one," or in Christ's exact IMAGE of God, you will only then, live in eternal bliss. There will be no death, pain, stress, anxiety or any darkness. Everyone, through His Son, Jesus, will have God's **light**.

Only the **love** of God will be in this **new dimension** of **existence**. You will enjoy this existence everlastingly because no competition will exist.

All creative works in God's **kingdom** will be for the **good of others**. Since everyone will do only good and righteousness, you will experience complete value and be in constant pleasure with God, who will be "all and in all." Amen!