



GOLD

Tried in the Fire

**“And the elements shall melt
with fervent heat” 2 Peter 3:10.**

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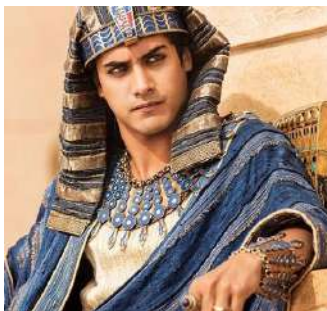
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Gold Tried in the Fire

The Discovery of King Tut's Tomb

Let us go back in time to the land of ancient Egypt. Over 3,000 years ago, a young boy king was buried in the land of Thebes; his name was Tutankhamen. Egypt must have looked much like it does today in certain areas during the time of this boy king.



King Tut.

The Nile is the lifeblood of Egypt. It was called the "River of Life." As we think of the land surrounding it, the Nile Delta—during the time of King Tut, it must have been a very fertile area with much wealth.

Howard Carter, an archeologist, discovered the tomb of King Tut on November 25, 1922. Carter had been looking for King Tut's tomb for many years; eventually, he found it. This was one of the greatest archeological discoveries in history. He found the tomb in central Egypt, specifically in the Valley of the Kings, in a desolate, rock-strewn, hot, dry region. Another name for the area is the Valley of the Dead.

If you go there today, you will see a sign:



Howard Carter discovered the tomb.



Tomb of King Tutankhamen. Imagine what it was like when Howard Carter pulled away the first stones from that tomb. As he looked into the depths for the first time, his friend who was with him, Lord Carnavan, asked him, "What do you see?"

Carter said, "I see gold everywhere." And there was gold everywhere; lots of fabulous jewels. Apparently, grave robbers had tried to take the wealth out of the tomb, but they were nearly discovered, so they left the tomb quickly in great disarray and sealed it. There were numerous boxes containing beautiful jewelry, which no person was supposed to ever see.

Howard Carter began cleaning away some of the debris from the casket of King Tut. King Tut's body had three caskets over it. They were all made of gold and beautiful to behold. The innermost casket weighed 2,448 pounds. Pictured on the right is one of the outer caskets, beautifully wrought, trying to preserve the features of the king. He had the crook and the flail, showing his authority and shepherd-like rule over his people. Notice the holes in his ears. This indicates the king wore earrings. The rent eyes and the eyeshadow were also on the king.



Yes, King Tut wore a lot of jewelry. A serpent and vulture were part of his headdress. **Because they worshipped the serpent as the giver of life**, the king over upper and lower Egypt believed he had power to override life and death. Blue and gold were also on his headdress. Blue is the sacred color of the moon, and gold is the sacred color of the sun.



The Scarab Beetle

Below, we see one of the 143 amulet jewels that were found in King Tut's tomb. An amulet, also known as a good luck charm, is an object believed to confer protection upon its possessor—an object a person believes will protect one from trouble. These amulets have a scarab or dung beetle on them, with a cross on its back. The scarab beetle was a symbol of the life giver and the resurrection. There is also a green stone, which represented the giving of life. **This is one of the greatest insults to God's truth.** The ancients worshipped this beetle which fed on manure, as their creator god. Even today you can go to Egypt and see these scarab beetles rolling balls of dung upon which they feed.

The devil loves to insult our wonderful God. He has been doing it for approximately 6,000 years. Thankfully, Satan's time is almost up!



Bracelet and amulet-charm to protect against evil-worn by King Tut

King Tut's Throne

King Tut's throne was also in the tomb. Two winged serpents were

King Tut's Throne



A serpent as covering cherub.



in variations of covering cherubs on the armrests, which were in blue and gold. What a counterfeit to God's throne, as we read in Ezekiel 1:26 which says, "Above the firmament ... was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire [blue] stone." These were also pictured over the god, Osiris.

The king and his wife wore a necklace, bracelets and much more jewelry.

There were sphinxes, composite creatures—the head of a man, the body of a lion, wings on its back, reminiscent of the counterfeit system Egypt had of the throne of God.



There were solar wheels (a wheel within a wheel), and carvings of captives taken in war. These captives wore jewelry, earrings, and all the trimmings.



The Eye of osiris

The All-Seeing Eye and the Ankh

We also see the all-seeing eye of the ancient Egyptians—the eye of the many-eyed one, Osiris: representing the devil himself.

For over 3,000 years, that tomb with its golden casket was shrouded in darkness until discovered

by Howard Carter. Here they found King Tut's jeweled crown. Notice the serpent on the crown.

Today, the jewelry of ancient Egypt is being revived and worn by many people, both men and women, **not knowing it all points to the wor-**

ship of the sun god or the devil himself. They don't understand jewelry to be a sign that invites evil spirits to come into their lives; it is a sign to Satan that the person who wears it belongs to him.

Ancient Egyptians had earrings in the form of the sacred asp, a poisonous serpent. Eventually, the serpent's head was taken away.



Egyptian snake rings.



Below, you see a sensitive picture which shows the ring being placed on the phallus of the king. This is where the wedding ring came from. It revolves around



fertility rites. The finger represents the male member; the ring, the female.

See also the ankh, a looped cross, that was discovered in King Tut's tomb. The looped cross represents the male and female, a fertility rite; the giving of life. When anyone of the royal line in Egypt died, the priest placed this loop, or Egyptian cross on the nostril. It was called the "ankh" or "key of the Nile," guaranteeing resurrection and eternal life. It is found everywhere in the art and jewelry of Egypt. Today, many people wear the ankh and don't even know from where it came.

These symbols show the counterfeit trinity in Egypt: Osiris, the many-eyed god; his wife, Isis, the queen of heaven; and Horus, their son, the hawk god or god of the sky.[1]

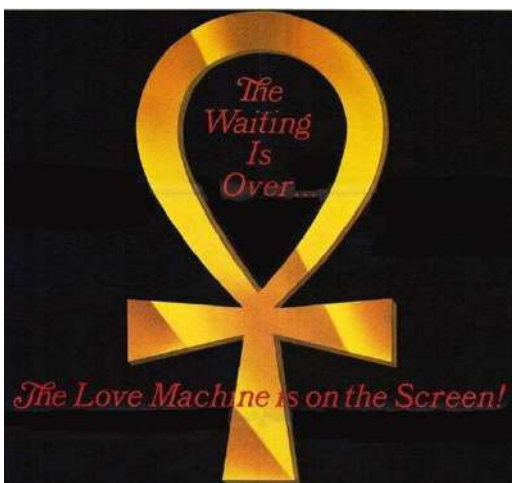
In the ankh we find the serpent, representing the giver of life on the earth; the sun disk, the life giver in the heavens; and that which connected heaven and earth: the cross. That looped cross—remember, Jesus was hung on a cross between heaven and earth. Here we find from an occult society the meaning of the ankh. At the bottom of the figure is the male—the cross; above is the oval—the female; these constitute a fertility rite. Not too many years ago, a movie came out called *The Love Machine*. It showed an ankh as its symbol.

The picture on the right shows a Nubian priest with a looped cross around his neck, long before the time of the Christian era. This invited demons or spirits into their lives and showed they worshipped the sun god.

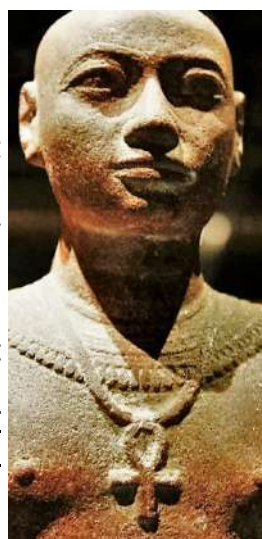
Today, witches wear the same symbols. It has



The ring snake symbolized as the sun, with the Egyptian cross below, called the "ankh."



The poster for the movie, *The Love Machine*.





nothing to do with Jesus Christ. It has everything to do with the sun god and devil worship.

Notice the cross painted on the face of a member of a rock group. He also wears a neck band that looks like a snake skin. They know these



Vinnie Vincent, a member of a rock band, wearing the Egyptian ankh cross.

are Satan's symbols. Satan chose the serpent in the Garden of Eden to be his medium and he is still using the serpent to this very day! (See more details on this fact: page 12.)

The Cross

Here are several types of crosses. Many people of different persua-



sions wear crosses around their necks, but the badge of Christianity is not an outward sign. It is the character. In the ancient cultures, when people looked at the sun, they thought it sometimes looked like it took the form of a cross, so they took the symbol of the cross as a symbol for the sun. They believed the sun

actually possessed gold and considered it to be a sacred phenomena, so they placed golden crosses around their necks for sun worship. Satan has tried to obscure the true meaning of the cross. As we study the cross in the Bible, it's not something literal we are to wear. It represents dying to self, which is impossible for humans to do unless we have the help of the Holy Spirit.

Babylon, Nimrod, Semiramis, and Tammuz

Now we leave the Nile River and go north to Babylon in Syria. Along the Euphrates River is Babylon, also called the "Mother of Harlots" in the Bible. The artifacts found in ancient Babylon indicate a people that wore lots of jewelry, just like that found in Egypt. Their jewelry also re-



involved around sun worship, the moon and stars. It was a pagan teaching. According to the Bible, Nimrod, the son of Cush, who was the son of Ham, who was the son of Noah, was the first builder of Babylon. He rebelled against the true teachings of God. Because he was so evil, Shem, the godly son of Noah, had Nimrod put to death.^[2] He was bringing the sins of Cain to this side of the flood, which was the very reason God had destroyed the earth with a flood in the first place. Nimrod had a queen named Semiramis. After Nimrod's death, Semiramis got pregnant out of wedlock and made up the story that her late husband had united with the sun and impregnated her by its rays. This was a counterfeit of the miraculous virgin birth of Christ. The illegitimate son was named Tammuz, who was also called the fertility god. His name is mentioned in Ezekiel 8:14.

The symbols for Tammuz was a cross or a T, and a sun disk. He was born on December 25. Queen Semiramis had the fertility animals dedicated to Tammuz at Easter time, nine months before the date of his birth. That's where we get Easter traditions, eggs and bunny rabbits, which is another story.

Because Tammuz represented the sun god, people thought he was



the son of the sun god, or god on earth. They took the cross to represent the sun god. Therefore, the cross has come down through history from Babylon right into the church. In reality, it is the victor sign of the devil.

When Tammuz was killed by a wild boar, maidens wept for Tam-

muz. (See Ezekiel 8:14.) The boar became known as the killer of the gods and destroyer of the crops. In different parts of the world, people still worship the boar. In some European countries, they still commemorate the killing of the boar by taking its head and serving it at Christmas time. Most do not have a clue where that practice began. Above is an old *Saturday Evening Post* cover, showing the head of the boar with an apple in its mouth.

Christians should not venerate the cross. Rather, we are to venerate Christ who was made a curse for us. (See Galatians 3:13.) As already mentioned, the true cross of the Christian is dying to self—self-sacrificing love. Jesus said, we are to take up our cross and follow Him. (See Mark 10:20.)

Lucifer

Let's take a trip to the heavenly realm. We cannot imagine what the throne of God is like, but it must be beautiful. And according to the Bible, God had two covering cherubs, one on either side of His throne. Speaking of Lucifer, the Bible says, "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down



in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee" Ezekiel 28:14-15. Verse 13 tells us what adorned Lucifer. "Thou hast been in Eden,

the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering - the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle and gold."

Apparently, Lucifer was decked with gold and jewels. However, all that he wore were not for his glory. They were to reflect the glory of God. Then we learn that Lucifer had to be cast out of heaven. He has tried to duplicate the events in heaven on earth. Therefore, he has made jewelry to glorify himself and has used it throughout the history of this world. Because of his beauty, he became proud and wanted to be worshipped as God, but instead he has dimmed the character of God. Revelation 12:7-9 says, "There was war in heaven: Michael [another name for Christ, the archangel, or ruler over the angels] and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found anymore in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his [evil] angels were cast out with him." Those angels fell out of



heaven like stars being exploded. And Satan and his demons have deceived the whole world ever since.

In the Garden of Eden

In Genesis, we read the story of the fall of humanity. Satan took the form of a winged serpent—at least he used a winged serpent, as already mentioned, in the beginning to deceive mankind. According to inspired writers, the serpent looked like burnished gold as it flew through the air. It was more in the shape of a large butterfly. Satan



spoke through that serpent, like a ventriloquist, and told Eve, "If you eat of the fruit, you will not surely die." See Genesis 3:4. Eve believed Satan's lie. And most people on earth still believe that lie.

The serpent became cursed (Genesis 3:14), and the devil has used the serpent in his teachings and activities ever since, through all the history of the world—clear back to the Garden of Eden. That is why we find the serpent so prevalent in jewelry.

Satan Worship

Back in Egypt, the covering cherubs were also called divining serpents. (When they put legs on the winged serpents, they called them dragons.)

Everywhere, we find the serpent revealed. It frequently took the shape of the number six, which is one of the serpent's sacred numbers, cunningly wrought and worshipped as the life giver.



The Pharaoh of Egypt had the serpent on his crown and was worshipped as a god. Many times, the bracelets, rings, necklaces, arm and leg bands were made in the form of a serpent, showing serpent worship. They were made of gold to resemble the sun.

In Africa, we find many



natives worshipping the serpent. The rings, bracelets, necklaces, the and ear and nose rings are all in the shape of a serpent swallowing its tail. Christians should never wear these symbols of Satan.

Below is a Nubian woman from Africa [south and east of Egypt, along the Red Sea]. She is communing with the spirit world. She puts jewels on her ears, nostrils, and lips; she rents her eyes in the form of a cross; she has necklaces and rings on her fingers, inviting the



spirits to come into her life. It was thought that the head had seven openings: two eyes, two nostrils, two ears, and a mouth, through which spirits could communicate with humans. Therefore, this is where they placed the jewelry. Rings in the nose indicates an occult teaching.

When we study the meaning behind all the rings, we find they invite evil spirits, as already mentioned.

Today, jewelry has been stylized and mystified. It is used in occult worship and still invites demons.

In ancient Babylon, they had a jewel that was in the form of a dove. It represented the dove goddess. Notice its wings in the form of a crescent moon; six balls—three on each wing. These also had to do with the moon.



Next, we see



an idol, the moon goddess, that came from ancient Babylon. Notice the crescent moon on the idol's head. We also see one of the leading witches in England, Monakey Wilson, wearing a crescent moon. Now, we see its connection to witchcraft. This jewelry has come into the church today.



During the time of Abraham, 2000 years before the time of Christ, he lived in Ur of the Chaldees. In Ur, they discovered these beautiful jewels. Here is a jeweled headdress made of blue and gold: blue, to represent the color of the moon; and gold to represent the sun.



Here is a bracelet from the Orient, which shows two winged serpents.

In the Minoan culture,



on the island of Crete, near Greece, they worshipped a bull and had jewelry indicating fertility rites. Today, all this is being revived in the jewelry market. People do not understand the dangers of the charms and jewels they wear or what they all represent. Throughout the world, we find outward adornment that originally came from worshipping the devil. As already mentioned, it is often used as charms to ward off



bad luck and the evil spirits. We cannot use Satan's symbols to stay safe from his attacks. It simply will not work!

Next we see a beautiful woman from India.



Her jewelry is excessive. Many today do not feel able to face the world without jewels and makeup. It is part of their dress.

Notice the neckband on the person below the picture of the Indian woman. It resembles the whole form of a serpent, although it's stylized for today. People don't realize they are wearing serpent jewels around their necks, on their fingers, and in their ears, and it all goes back to Satan worship. The occult world knows exactly what the jewels represent and what the symbols mean. It's no wonder the Bible warns Christians against wearing outward adornment.



"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plating the hair, or of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel. But let it be the hidden man [or woman] of the heart, in that which is not corruptible,

even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" 1 Peter 3:3-4. "In like manner also, that women [or men] adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but ... with good works" 1 Timothy 2:9-10.

Eye Makeup

The rending of the eyes: Here we see a peacock feather representing the sun in the occult world. The rending of the eyes means to set them apart, divide, encircle. Coloring, eye-shadow, mascara, and eyeliner are all methods of doing this. Jeremiah 4:30 says, "When thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair." Here



we are warned against eyeshadow and ornamenting around the eyes. An example we have in the Bible of a person who painted her face is Jezebel. She was a very wicked queen in Israel who reigned with Ahab. "Jezebel ... painted her face, and tired her head" 2 Kings 9:30.

The Wedding Ring

As we have mentioned, many are wearing jewelry ignorantly. They don't understand from where it comes. The wedding ring also has a pagan origin. At the turn of the century, the fundamental churches did not have rings in their wedding services. They knew it represented an act of paganism and had nothing to do with Christianity. We find in the Roman Catholic Church today that they do the same ceremony, only they say, "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." We have already learned that the ring is the symbol of the female, while the finger is the symbol of the male.



Mother of Harlots—Serpent Worship

In Revelation 17, we read the story of a woman. Verse 4 says, "And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand



full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." This woman represents a counterfeit religious movement. Verse 5 says, "Upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." This mother of harlots has a golden cup in her hand filled with wine, which represents her false

doctrines. She is decked in gold, pearls, and jewels. All this outward adorning takes away from the character of a true Christian.

The ancient Babylonian system and teachings became part of Pa-

gan Rome, then Papal Rome. Today, they are part of the Roman Catholic Church. The serpents are very much a part of their system.

Here is a picture of the Serpent Cathedral in the Vatican.



In Saint Peter's Basilica we see pillars that resemble serpents over the throne of the pope. Also at Saint Peter's, you will find representations of Mary as the Queen of Heaven and the Christ child, who is actually Tam-muz in the pagan culture.





Above is Mary, the Queen of Heaven, with a sun disk. They tell you in Saint Peter's that Mary is called, "the way, the truth and the life." All this goes back to the ancient teachings of Babylon.

To the right, we see Mary on an elaborate altar of gold and jewels. She is booting two of the reformers out of heaven, who were considered to be



heretics. Their names are Huss and Luther.

Tour guides do not tell you this story today, because there is an **ecumenical endeavor by Rome** to get all religious organizations to join the Catholic Church so there can be a united, one-world church. They expect to be the leader of this church and will call all the shots.

ANSWERING ANTI-CATHOLIC FALSE ACCUSATION THAT OUR POPE & BISHOP'S HAT 'MITRE' IS ALLEGEDLY ROOTED FROM PAGANIC HAT?



THIS FALSE ACCUSATION OF ANTI-CATHOLIC PROTESTANTS ARE BASED FROM THEIR WEIRD IMAGINATION OF COMPARING TWO DIFFERENT THINGS WHICH IS SEEMINGLY BELIEVABLE IS ACTUALLY FAR FROM THE HISTORICAL TRUTH, AND ARE ALL LIES.

THIS ARTICLE EXPLAINS THAT THE POPE & BISHOP'S HAT 'MITRE' HISTORICALLY HAS NO CONNECTION NOR EVEN ROOTED WITH THIS ANCIENT PAGANIC FISH HAT.

CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS – RESPOND TO DEFEND

Thousands of people come to see the pope every year. On the previous page, we see the pope with a fish-head miter. This goes back to sun worship and the fish god. Judges 16:23 talks about Dagon, who was one of the gods of the Philistines. Dagon was a fish god. Here again, we see the fish-head hat originating in paganism.

The Number of a Man—666

Before we go further in this narrative, we need to consider Revelation 13:18 which says, "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: **for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.**"

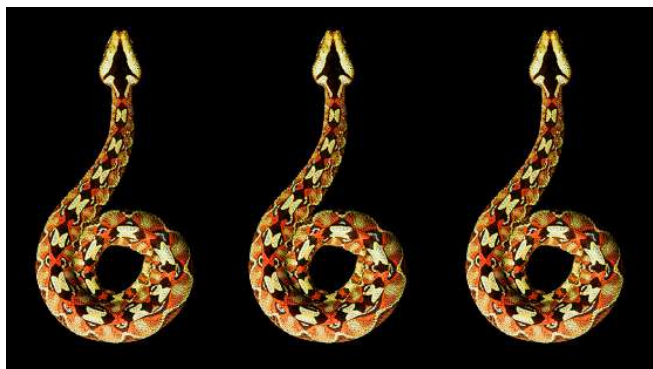
No interpretation of 666 is more proper and suitable than the one given by Irenæus, who lived not long after John the Revelator's time and was the assistant to Polycarp, a disciple of John. According to Irenæus, the name "Lateinos" contains the numbers 666, which referred to Rome because the Roman empire was ruled by "Latins" and Rome was the fourth and last kingdom in Daniel's vision.[3] (See Daniel 7.)

The majority of people today believe the pagan Roman empire has vanished. The truth is, the fourth kingdom in Daniel's prophecy still exists as pagan Rome. It has been absorbed into the "Christian Church." The first efforts of this absorption were by the Roman Emperor Constantine, who ruled 306 to 337 A.D. and transformed pagan Rome into papal Rome.[4]

What is the significance of Latin? This expression represented a group of individuals as well as their dialect. The mass, prayers, hymns, canons, encyclicals, edicts (bulls), scripture readings, and official church communications were all Latinized under the papacy. Latin is still the official language of the one internationally recognized sovereign state, Vatican City, which is also the seat of the papacy. Latin is not used in any other country, nor is it the official national language of any other state. The papacy's mark and characteristic is Latin. This is a decision they have made. And according to Bible prophecy, the number 666 is one of the identifying marks of the beast.

LATEINOS (Latin)

Λ = 30
Α = 1
Τ = 300
Ε = 5
Ι = 10
Ν = 50
Ο = 70
Σ = 200
Total: 666



This was once the most widely held view in Christianity concerning the number 666. This interpretation is based on the idea that when the letters of the name are combined together according to their numerical value, they equal 666. As previously stated, this interpretation was supplied by Irenæus, a saint in the Catholic Church who lived in the second century. The implications of the number 666 indicate a power marked by tyranny, worldliness, sin, abuse, persecution, and a lack of true knowledge, and of obedience to God.

The Pure Woman

As we study Revelation 12:1, we read about another woman: "There appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars." This woman represents God's pure church. The sun represents the



robe of Christ's righteousness. Notice how the woman lacks outward adornment. It's the character of Christ that is revealed in God's true church; not the outward adornment, which we have learned has pagan, satanic origins.

Revelation 3:18 says, "I counsel thee to buy of Me gold [not Satan's jewelry] tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve [not Satan's makeup], that thou mayest see." Jesus is the Heavenly Merchantman. He's knocking on the heart's door. The Holy Spirit wants to come into our minds. He has the gold, which represents faith that works by love. The white garment represents purity—the character of Christ. The eye salve represents spiritual discernment of God's Word. As we study His Word, we learn it condemns outward adornment and jewelry.

The Golden Calf

In Exodus 32:1-6 we read a very sad story. When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, many of them worshipped a golden calf while Moses was up on Mount Sinai. Aaron took the golden earrings from the people, melted them down, and fashioned them into the idolatrous form of a calf. This practice revolved around sun worship in ancient Egypt, a fertility rite and an abomination to God.



Moses went up into the mount to meet with God. God wrote the Ten Commandments with His own finger on tables of stone—the Law that He had just spoken in the hearing of all the people. When Moses came

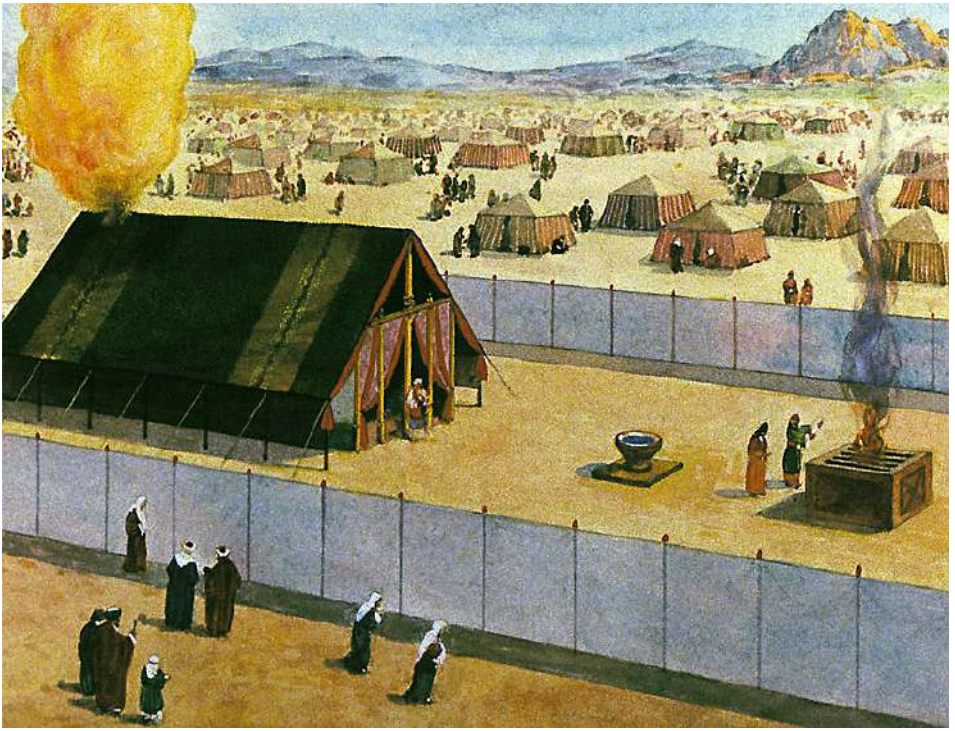


down the mountain, he saw the people dancing around the golden calf and with indignation threw down the tables and broke them. He was very disappointed that his people would disobey so quickly after they had promised to follow all that the Lord had said, (see Exodus 19:8).

God's punishment for the people was for Moses



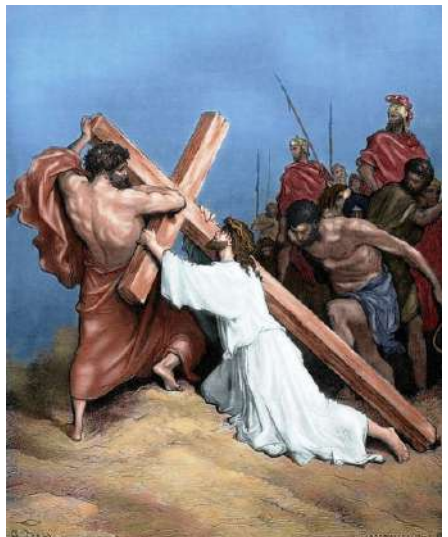
to melt the golden calf and ground it to powder; he sprinkled the gold dust powder on the water and made them drink their idol. Then God had pity on the people who had just come out of Egypt, for Moses interceded for them. Moses was willing for God to blot his own name out of the Book of Life rather than for God to forsake all of Israel. He reminded God that other nations would not understand such rejection.



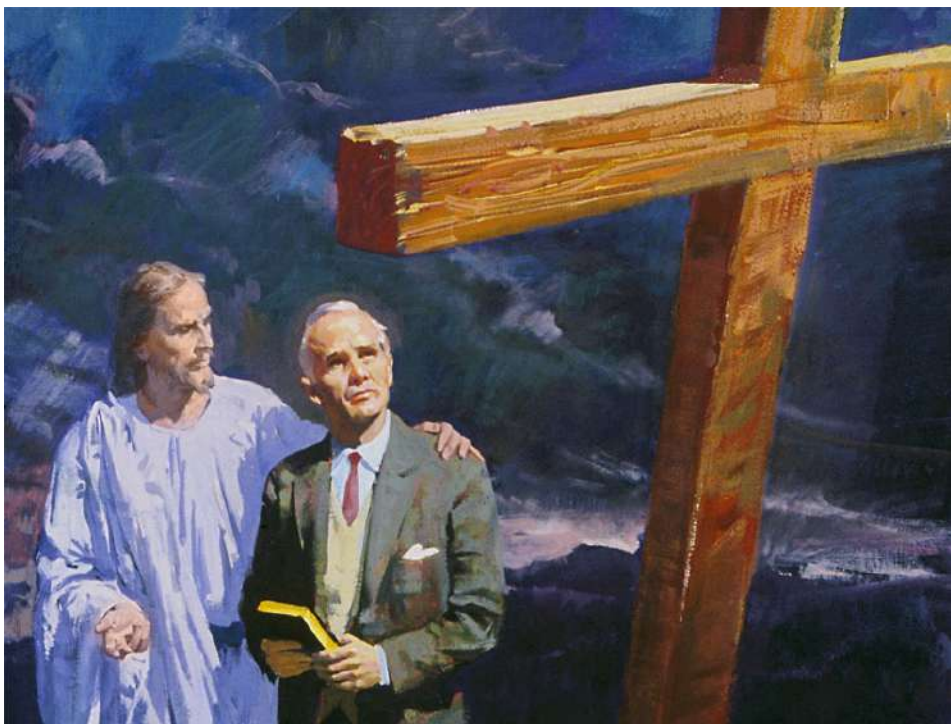
The Sanctuary

After the people repented of their sin and Moses went back up the mountain, he obtained another copy of the Ten Commandment tables, written by the finger of God. He told Moses to build a sanctuary. "Let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them" Exodus 25:8. God gave Moses the pattern and all the details for this tent-church in the wilderness. He called for their jewels: gold, silver, and bronze. Fabric was woven, and angels were embroidered on the curtains inside the portable building.

As we look at the sanctuary, we see there is no gold on the outside. The white curtains represent the robe of Christ's righteousness. The gold was on the inside of the tabernacle. That's how it should be with Christians. It should be in the character, not outward adornment. **The gold of faith that works by love** should be on the inside, and when people look at us, they should see Jesus in us.



This might be a very sensitive subject for some, but think about the Saviour. Jesus, who is God, came to earth, took on humanity, and suffered for all mankind. They placed on His back the symbol of the sun god: a cruel cross. Then they took Jesus and nailed Him to that symbol



of the devil. This is significant—the living Saviour on the symbol of a lying serpent. Jesus died on that cross for you and me. What a sacrifice!

How little of a sacrifice we give for Jesus! How hard for many to give up their jewels—the tinsel that has satanic, pagan origins! **If we truly love Jesus**, we will want to be like Him. His glory was left in heaven when He lived among humanity 2000 years ago. We want the gold of His character on the inside, not the outside.

When Jesus comes in the clouds of heaven, the dead in Christ will rise first and ascend up to meet the Lord; then a special group called the 144,000—will join the resurrected ones; all will meet the Lord in the air.





Three Angels' Messages—Revelation 14:6-12

First

“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”

Second

“And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”

Third

“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast

and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

These do not receive the MARK of the beast:

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

What is the Mark?

It is reverence given to the keeping of Sunday in place of Saturday, the seventh-day as given to us at creation:

“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made” Genesis 2:1-3.

We have no verse in all the Bible that says God changed His mind or the sacred rest day from the seventh to the first day of the week. Therefore, in order to be obedient to our loving God He calls for all to rest with Him on the seventh day as a memorial to His creative power.

“Come out of her My people”

“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils**, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double” Revelation 18:1-6.

What Happens to Babylon (Rome)?

Three times, Revelation says that Babylon (Rome) is gone in one hour. “Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for **in one hour is thy judgment come** ... and saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For **in one hour** so great riches is come to naught. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and

as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for **in one hour** is she made desolate” Revelation 18:10, 16-19.[5]



The Whole Universe in Harmony

We are told that those who live for this world will cast their silver and gold to the moles and bats (see Isaiah 2:20). In the end, God will have a pure people. Friends, we must study the Word of God. We do not have to be extreme in the teachings we find in the Bible, but we need to follow the pure truths that are revealed, and the adornment of a Christian should be the character—faith that works by love and purifies the soul. We find the counterfeit system: the outward show and display in the world. Jesus is coming soon. All the prophecies point to the second coming, and we must be ready. Let us study the Word of God like we’ve never studied it before. Jesus is waiting for us to reflect His image, and if we are faithful, we can go to heaven. He will place a jeweled crown on our heads. Those jewels will reflect His glory, not our own. The whole universe will reflect that glory. Some-



day soon, the whole universe will be in perfect harmony. All the redeemed will sing, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing" Revelation 5:12. Let us be faithful; let us live a life that will reflect Jesus' love and glory. Amen.[6]

Jesus, The Pearl of Great Price

The blessings of redeeming love our Saviour compared to a precious pearl. He illustrated His lesson by the parable of the merchantman seeking goodly pearls "who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." Christ Himself is the pearl of great price. In Him is gathered all the glory of the Father, the fullness of the Godhead. He is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His person. The glory of the attributes of God is expressed in His character. Every page of the Holy Scriptures shines with His light. The righteousness of Christ, as a pure, white pearl, has no defect, no stain. No work of man can improve the great and precious gift of God. It is without a flaw. In Christ are "hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" Colossians 2:3. He is "made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" 1 Corinthians 1:30. All that can satisfy the needs and longings of the human soul, for this world and for the world to come, is found in Christ. Our Redeemer is the pearl so precious that in comparison all things else may be accounted loss.

Christ "came unto His own, and His own received Him not" John 1:11. The light of God shone into the darkness of this world, and "the darkness comprehended it not" John 1:5. But not all were found indifferent to the gift of heaven. The merchantman in the parable represents a class who were sincerely desiring truth. In different nations there were earnest and thoughtful men who had sought in literature and science and the religions of the heathen world for that which they could receive as the soul's treasure. Among the Jews there were those who were seeking for that which they had not. Dissatisfied with a formal religion, they longed for that which was spiritual and uplifting. Christ's chosen disciples belonged to the latter class, Cornelius and the Ethiopian eunuch to the former. They had been longing and praying for light from heaven; and when Christ was revealed to them, they received Him with gladness.

In the parable the pearl is not represented as a gift. The merchantman bought it at the price of all that he had. Many question the meaning, since Christ is represented in the Scriptures as a gift. He is a gift, but only to those who give themselves, soul, body, and spirit, to Him without reserve. We are to give ourselves to Christ, to live a life of willing obedience to all His requirements. All that we are, all the talents and capabilities we possess, are the Lord's, to be consecrated to His service. When we give ourselves wholly to Him, Christ, with all the treasures of heaven, gives Himself to us. We obtain the pearl of great price.

Salvation is a free gift; yet it is to be bought and sold. In the market of which divine mercy has the management, the precious pearl is represented as being bought without money and without price. In this market all may obtain the goods of heaven. The treasury of the jewels of truth is open to all. "Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it." No sword guards the way through this door. Voices from within and at the door say, Come. The Saviour's

voice earnestly and lovingly invites us: "I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich" Revelation 3:8, 18.

The gospel of Christ is a blessing that all may possess. The poor are as well able as the rich to purchase salvation; for no amount of worldly wealth can secure it. It is obtained by willing obedience, by giving ourselves to Christ as His own purchased possession. Education, even of the highest class, cannot of itself bring a man nearer to God. The Pharisees were favored with every temporal and every spiritual advantage, and they said with boastful pride, We are "rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing"; yet they were "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" Revelation 3:17. Christ offered them the pearl of great price; but they disdained to accept it. He said to them, "The publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you" Matthew 21:31. We cannot earn salvation, but we are to seek for it with as much interest and perseverance as though we would abandon everything in the world for it.

We are to seek for the pearl of great price, but not in worldly ways or in worldly ways. The price we are required to pay is not gold or silver, for this belongs to God. Abandon the idea that temporal or spiritual advantages will win for you salvation. God calls for your willing obedience. He asks you to give up your sins. "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne" Revelation 3:21.

There are some who seem to be always seeking for the heavenly pearl. But they do not make an entire surrender of their wrong habits. They do not die to self that Christ may live in them. Therefore they do not find the precious pearl. They have not overcome unholy ambition and their love for worldly attractions. They do not take up the cross and follow Christ in the path of self-denial and sacrifice. Almost Christians, yet not fully Christians, they seem near the kingdom of heaven, but they cannot enter there. Almost but not wholly saved, means to be not almost but wholly lost.

The parable of the merchantman seeking goodly pearls has a double significance: it applies not only to men as seeking the kingdom of heaven, but to Christ as seeking His lost inheritance. Christ, the heavenly merchantman seeking goodly pearls, saw in lost humanity the pearl of great price. In man, defiled and ruined by sin, He saw the possibilities of redemption. Hearts that have been the battleground of the conflict with Satan, that have been rescued by the power of love, are more precious to the Redeemer than are those who have never fallen. God looked upon humanity, not as vile and worthless; He ... saw us as we might become through redeeming love. He collected all the riches of the universe, and laid them down in order to buy the pearl. And Jesus, having found it, resets it in His own diadem. "For they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land" Zechariah 9:16. "They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels" Malachi 3:17.

But Christ as the precious pearl, and our privilege of possessing this heavenly treasure, is the theme on which we most need to dwell. It is the Holy Spirit that reveals to men the preciousness of the goodly pearl. The time of the Holy Spirit's power is the time when in a special sense the heavenly gift is sought and found. In Christ's day many heard the gospel, but their minds were darkened by false teaching, and they did not recognize in the humble Teacher of Galilee the Sent of God. But after Christ's ascension His enthronement in His mediatorial kingdom was signalized by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pen-

tecost the Spirit was given. Christ's witnesses proclaimed the power of the risen Saviour. The light of heaven penetrated the darkened minds of those who had been deceived by the enemies of Christ. They now saw Him exalted to be "a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins" Acts 5:31. They saw Him encircled with the glory of heaven, with infinite treasures in His hands to bestow upon all who would turn from their rebellion. As the apostles set forth the glory of the Only-Begotten of the Father, three thousand souls were convicted. They were made to see themselves as they were, sinful and polluted, and Christ as their friend and Redeemer. Christ was lifted up, Christ was glorified, through the power of the Holy Spirit resting upon men. By faith these believers saw Him as the One who had borne humiliation, suffering and death that they might not perish but have everlasting life. The revelation of Christ by the Spirit brought to them a realizing sense of His power and majesty, and they stretched forth their hands to Him by faith, saying, "I believe."

Then the glad tidings of a risen Saviour were carried to the uttermost bounds of the inhabited world. The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Believers were reconverted. Sinners united with Christians in seeking the pearl of great price. The prophecy was fulfilled, The weak shall be "as David," and the house of David "as the angel of the Lord" Zechariah 12:8. Every Christian saw in his brother the divine similitude of benevolence and love. One interest prevailed. One object swallowed up all others. All hearts beat in harmony. The only ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character, and to labor for the enlargement of His kingdom. "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul. ... With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them all" Acts 4:32, 33. "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" Acts 2:47. The Spirit of Christ animated the whole congregation; for they had found the pearl of great price.



These scenes are to be repeated with greater power. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost was the former rain, but the latter rain will be more abundant. The Spirit awaits our demand and reception. Christ is again to be revealed in His fullness by the Holy Spirit's power. Men will discern the value of the precious pearl, and with ... Paul they will say, "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord" Phil. 3:7, 8.[7]

[1] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horus>

[2] Alexander Hislop, *The Two Babylons*, pp. 179 & 276

[3] <https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0103530.htm>

[4] https://www.worldhistory.org/Constantine_1/

[5] If Revelation 18 depicts a prophetic hour, then one prophetic hour = 15 days

[6] A major portion of this information comes from an old VHS tape, "Gold Tried in the Fire" by Joe Maniscalco, from LLT Ministries. You can also view the DVD online at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xv0pCAjNqc>

[7] This chapter is from *Christ's Object Lessons*, 115-121



When He Cometh

By W. O. Cushing, 1866

When He cometh, when He cometh to make up His jewels,
All His jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own.

He will gather, He will gather the gems for His kingdom,
All the pure ones, all the bright ones, His loved and His own.

Little children, little children who love their Redeemer,
Are the jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own.

Chorus:

Like the stars of the morning, His bright crown adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty, bright gems for His crown.

“And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in
that day when I make up My jewels; and I will
spare them, as a man spareth his own son that
serveth him” Malachi 3:17.