

PREFACE

The scriptures I quote are from the ACV (A Conservative Version), which is my own translation. Also I use gender pronouns and other gender relevant words in their historic meaning.

I chose the title of this book because Jesus said, **“The sons of this age marry, and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage. For neither can they die any more, for they are like the angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection”** (Luke 20:34-36).

This book contains many ideas from the word of God (the Bible) that I have accumulated over a long period time. And since I am now in my mid-seventies, and I do not know how much longer that God is going to preserve my life and my mental faculties, I wanted to share those ideas with you now.

However, I must also warn you that the ideas I present in this book may challenge some of your beliefs and your ways of thinking. And there are many things in this book you will not understand unless you read it through from the beginning.

I also recommend that you read it more than once in order to understand it more clearly, because it gives an uncommon perspective of things natural and things spiritual. And perception is best achieved by examining things more than once. That is also an important reason everyone should study the word of God itself frequently. Indeed, the law of Moses commanded the kings of Israel to read the law often in order to help keep them righteous.

That command says, **“And it shall be, when he sits upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for him a copy of this law in a book, out of it before the priests the Levites, and it shall be with him. And he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear Jehovah his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them, that his heart not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left, to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his sons, in the midst of Israel”** (Deuteronomy 17:18-20).

I wrote this book for every man and woman who loves God’s truth and righteousness, and has an open mind to consider all the evidence about him. For my ideas are based upon the evidence of knowledge, knowledge about natural things, and knowledge about spiritual things that comes from the Bible. For the Bible is the only authentic source

of knowledge about spiritual things, and over one-third of the words in the text of this book are quotations from it.

In this book I make many conjectures about God and man, and about the relationship between things natural and things spiritual. Nevertheless, I have written nothing that challenges or would cause doubt concerning faith in God and his only begotten Son Jesus Christ, or any of the clear teachings in the Bible about our obedience to them. On the contrary, I have deliberately sought to encourage the reader to believe and obey them.

The book is divided into three parts. Part One describes what God is like. Part Two describes what he created. It also gives a very brief summary of the history of the world that is recorded in the Bible. Part Three is about the book of Revelation, which both describes and explains things that happen to us in the world, and what to expect for the future.

I begin Part One by explaining the great value and importance of knowing about things spiritual, even though they are invisible to us. I then describe the meaning of spirit, and I explain how spirits vary. For the world cannot be understood without knowing about the various spiritual forces that are continually working in it.

I also conjecture about the nature of God's body and his spirit. And I try to show how inconceivably great he is by using scientific knowledge we currently have about the world he created for us. I also explain how God uses great spiritual forces to continually control the world and interact with it. The most important of those forces for our eternal sonship is called the Holy Spirit. That spirit is given to every disciple of Christ as a gift for our salvation. And I describe what the Bible says about its influence upon us.

I also give a summary of what the Bible says about the various attributes of God's mind, such as his love and his hate, his patience and his wrath, his joy and his sorrow. There is so much information in the Bible about the nature of his mind, that the chapter I wrote about it is the longest one in this book.

I begin Part Two by conjecturing about what God was like before time began, when he decided to create things and have sons for eternity. And I speak about how he planned in great detail what and how he was going to create. I next conjecture about how he prepared to create the two worlds, the heavenly world and our earthly world. And I make many conjectures about his heavenly world. I also describe his enemies who arose in those two worlds, and I explain the astonishing way he exposes them. The way he combats them is explained in many parts of the book.

I describe the devil and the demons, who arose in his heavenly world, and I explain many things about them, including how they operate. I also tell about the various reasons why God created this world, which is now filled with sin, sorrow, and death. I write about the sin of Adam, and I explain how that sin caused a great changes in human nature. And we cannot understand ourselves without knowing how those changes influence our lives. For we are now all confined in disobedience and captive in the law of sin.

I give a short summary of the historical record contained in the Bible about God's interactions with the world. The New Testament is about Jesus Christ, and it describes his sinless life upon the earth. I explain how his victorious life condemned all who rebel against God, and qualified him to save the souls of all who believe and obey him. I also write a few words about the establishment of his church.

Part Three is my interpretation of the book of Revelation. That book is a record which the apostle John made of a great vision of heaven that he experienced. And it is filled with symbolism, which makes it very difficult to understand. However, it is rich with information about our world, and what to expect for our lives in it, both now and in the future. I omitted the first part of Revelation, which consists of messages Jesus gave for the seven congregations of Asia. That information is of great value for all congregations. However, for this book I only wrote about what John saw in his vision of heaven.

John first described seeing the throne of God, and those in and around it were praising and worshiping him. After that he said he saw a book in God's hand. That book had seven seals, and it seems to have been the plans that God had for developing sons for eternity. For when each of the seven seals was opened it revealed a different kind of basic activity that operates in our world for that purpose.

Most of the rest of Revelation is about the great super-cosmic war between God and the devil. And it describes how God interacts in our world, where that spiritual war is raging. It also tells how he acts to protect and reward those who strive with him for truth and righteousness, and to punish sinners with different kinds of curses against them.

It also describes the most prominent forces of evil in the world, how they persecute all who are becoming God's sons for eternity, and how he combats those evil forces. For those forces of evil predominate in this world of sin, and it is comforting to know that God protects our eternal souls from them. However, it also tells how Satan's kingdom will be destroyed, and he will be bound and cast into the abyss for a thousand years, during which time God's righteousness will reign upon the earth. And I make many conjectures about that.

After that great time, most of mankind will again turn away from God, and the devil will use them to attempt to destroy God's kingdom in the world, which is Christ's church. However, God will intervene to save his people by destroying his enemies and bringing an end to the world. That will be followed by the great day of judgment. And I explain many things about what that will involve.

Revelation then describes the new heaven and earth, and the new Jerusalem where God and Jesus will reign over the nations of that new world with all who become his sons for eternity. And I also make many conjectures about those things. The last part of Revelation consists primarily of words of encouragement to obey God, and words of warning about disobedience.

The last chapter in this book is a plea I make to accept God's testimony about our existence. That powerful testimony can only be found in the words of the Holy Bible. I added an appendix, which contains my conjectures about whether some sinners will ever be able to get out of hell, the great fiery furnace. And if (which is a very big if) some are able, I conjecture how they might.

I wrote this book to help you better understand God and the greater reality of things spiritual. And I am hoping that will encourage you to have a greater love for him and his holy word, and you will want to become one of his sons for eternity. If you truly commit your life to him he will transform you into a new creation. He will give you a new spirit while you live here upon the earth, and a new body in heaven when your life here is over. For the apostle Paul said, **“So then if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new.**

“And all things are from God who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and who gave to us the ministry of reconciliation. How that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not imputing to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation. We are therefore, ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were calling through us. We plead on behalf of Christ, be ye reconciled to God” (Second Corinthians 5:17-20).