

THE ANSWER TO NEARLY EVERYTHING:  
BOOK I

LOVE AND LIFE OR  
FEAR AND DEATH

BY PETER FRANKLIN

Homo sapiens non-sapiens has discovered much about his world but has totally misunderstood it. His proud, egocentric postulations are unravelling into chaos on all fronts. He has corrupted the obvious solution and then ridiculed the mockery he has made of it.

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The non-survival of the fittest or the destruction of the favoured nations.

The world has advanced materially but what has happened to its integrity? Are we at the dawning of a new age of hope and enlightenment or entering a new dark age of deception and conflict? 'Survival of the fittest' has been advanced as the basic force behind business and progress but in reality it is powered by the fear of death.

It is an excuse for lawless behaviour so society becomes regulated by a man-as-god political religion. It incites wars and ends in the mass murder of those judged as politically incorrect or less fit. But the most powerful still die so it is futile. It is covetous, ruthless, self excusing selfishness. It controls by creating a climate of fear that threatens all who do not bow to their fallible man-made god.

It is the opposite of God's ten commandments for life. The most successful species rely on mutual support not self preservation. About 97% of the world's species have already become extinct and the rate of extinction is rising! Mankind is running out of time. The belief that we all came from nowhere and are going nowhere gives no hope for the future. It is ethically and scientifically flawed.

It promotes the philosophy of 'live now and forget about paying later' which is unsustainable and results in terrible insecurity. It encourages self-centred, irresponsible behaviour and fuels a self-defeating culture of manufactured highs and dramatised lows. Atheistic, materialistic societies hide from the futility of this faith by pursuing futile preoccupations, intently progressing towards the abyss. Only the concept of life after death gives our existence any meaning. Man's Kingdoms can never reprise a heavenly Kingdom on Earth. They can never be eternally secure.

The philosophies that unified whole continents have become antiquated and corrupted. There is a tendency for religion to stagnate and maintain even the dress of the past, to retain its past authority. This is an obvious sign that the advances they originally achieved in inspiring people's lives, have not been maintained. Eventually the hope they originally promoted is distorted and buried under the 'cobwebs' of tradition, so they become oppressive instead of redeeming.

How important is this? Without the free acceptance of a convincing religious belief there is little self restraint so unrest and disruption escalate into chaos, panic, terror and war and the repressive forces of evil overtake every element of life. Where has modern man, in his rejection of unsatisfying, confusing, repressive, religion, thrown the 'baby out with the bath water'? The true, dynamic inspiration for life must be rediscovered before some Philistine recovers another 'plastic duck' and claims he has found it. Beware; untruths are promoted more vigorously than the truth.

We must make the effort to establish the truth of where we have come from for ourselves if there is to be any hope for the future. Sadly men do not seek truth but accept any self-certified prophet. Like those of Baal, who destroys and enslaves, they encourage them in whatever error they have already decided on. Deliberately condoning, excusing and pursuing that which is demonstrably wrong and devious, is evil and fosters evil. All get burnt. Without doubt another charismatic 'Hitler' is waiting in the wings to claim unquestioned worship as the demonised saviour of the world. What happens next depends on what the public allow. It is up to you.

*Dedicated to the young man who destroyed his life and the sad old lady who stopped believing in God, and that He could save the broken hearted. They both tragically believed in the blatantly wrong presumptions of metaphysical materialists (mystic atheists!) who, provoked by bad religion, deduced they were their own god, judge and saviour then proved they were not.*

*A man who has a chance beginning and despite his best efforts to combat nature's attacks, he dies, cannot be the author of his own existence; he can only be the author of his own destruction. He lives in a running down, entropic cosmos. His fragile, self preserved life degrades in his anti-life environment so he is dominated by a fear of death. Such a death ruled system could never generate itself or life.*

*Life imposes, short lived purpose on this violent hardware via a very sophisticated double binary program. This can only descend from a pre-existing and so ultimately, immortal life source. Not believing in the probability of God and life after death, based on the speculations of emotionally dysfunctional philosophers is crass. Only a conceited fool, based on his self asserted ignorance of his subject matter, could consign articulate mankind to such a pointless existence.*

*He does not chose his life but inherits it as a gift. Only when he accepts that it must die can he receive from the Father-god of all life the gift of a new God sustained life. Only the God of life can offer man any hope of survival.*

*There is a record of God's plan for us which He confirms with everyone who accepts Him as the Lord of all life. If this record is ignored, man's assumptions about his own being and why he is here will not only be futile but deadly.*

*The answer from the nihilistic, dead-end, dead-god brigade is to escape from or lie about reality and to desensitise the fear by worshipping death. Tragedy is dramatised to insulate 'me' from the truth about 'now'. The preoccupation with natural and man made catastrophes, the plight of the less fortunate, horror games and films, is now big business. The death powered god of deluded self-survivalists offers slavery, guilt, fear and death. The Living God saves people from the rule of sin, fear and death.*

*Manmade gods and devotions oppose God's will. Religion seeks to justify self by doing something that suits man's desire to appease his death centred god rather than seek the true God and obey His will. It unashamedly distorts God's recorded words to suit man's will. God is not a religion. He does not mutate; He is immutable.*

*All those who follow unsustainable, self-sustained ideas, from perfect diets to self certified ideologies, deceive themselves and ensnare others. The foolishness of such self-enhancing pursuits is denied by the existentialists' self-inflated pride but exposed by their angry and aggressive reactions.*

*Defensive egoists cannot give or receive love. Self-giving love is a weakness. Their politically correct conventions are menacing. Teach them the truth and like a goaded animal, they mindlessly attack it and try to ban it because it upsets their superior, sham security. Socrates was condemned to death for ridiculing such unreality. Their self survival only produces loneliness, rejection, fear and death.*

*Fear not! God will rescue all who acknowledge their failings and trust in His self-giving love to save them. Those who diligently seek and find the truth will be astounded by its beauty.*

## Introduction

Sewage, politics, ill health and religion are subjects to be avoided which is sad really because some of my most entertaining anecdotes involve minor disasters with sewage works. Convention has little to do with right and wrong but I will be condemned if I tell the tale of the digger driver who dug up the main sludge pipe or the lady with white, high heeled shoes who went to look for the cesspit in the overgrown, cottage garden and suddenly found it.

Politics today is a major media melodrama that involves juggling with ballot boxes and is entertaining enough until one drops on one's head. Sickness? Well, I have a chronic condition that has caused me months of suffering. Then I took one tablet that someone else had been prescribed for the disorder and almost at once the worst symptoms went. I felt very grieved that those months of pain and inactivity had been unnecessary but my doctor had decided against the treatment because some people had reacted badly to it and had had uncomfortable side effects.

How many people have suffered all their lives and perhaps will suffer for eternity because those who know some truth are afraid to tell them in case it makes them feel uncomfortable? Bad religion may be for the brain-soiled but true religion could prevent a lot of suffering and be eternally rewarding.

Self determined, materially minded people are short sighted and see no need for God yet none are self-sufficient. They downgraded God's 10 vital commandments for a safe society not because they are flawed but because society is flawed.

The self-justified live in fear because they reject God's schooling and believe in shaping their own destiny along the lines of self survival. The strong become aggressive; the weak become fatalistic but eventually none survive.

As this is both powered and defeated by the fear of extinction it is self defeating. 'Survival of Superior Through Improvements in Reproduction' camouflages the futility of this reason for life. Man's desperate, artificial intervention to slow the inherent evolutionary extinction of the remaining species belies it.

Again and again we see the social advances of Mankind are reversed when he excuses his egocentric, bad behaviour with philosophical speculations based on the behaviour of lower species whose life is not directed by nonsensical philosophy but machine like instinct. If you live solely for material concepts and comforts, then wealth, health and enjoyment are paramount so money will control your life like a god, but those in deprived societies, who live closer to nature, whose survival depends more on chance, gain comfort from an immaterial god, and so they believe in life after physical death. Only the hope of a better life after death makes any sense of their troubled and often brief existence. It is the lost 'advanced' societies which need to grasp the enormity of the realisation that **true life might not end at death but only just be starting.**

Some vaguely consider it. Many recognise they do not deserve to go to heaven but cannot contemplate the idea of going to hell either so they just give up thinking about it. The proud justify themselves with excuses or blame someone else for their nagging guilt. The pragmatic repent of their failings and plea and hope for acceptance and mercy. Millions put their faith in a fantasy but only the truth about eternity can replace the fear with the real hope of a better future.

You cannot afford to face the certainty of death based on presumptions, uncertain hopes or dubious guesses on what happens next, yet the subject of religion is avoided because there are so many competing beliefs and philosophies. They cannot all be true so how do you tell the truth from distorted truth or fiction? If you just believe what someone else has said, without questioning his sources, if he is wrong you will suffer for your mistake. A brief examination of their roots should help identify what is good, bad or simply man's invention.

By definition there can only be one 'Truth' even if, to start with, we view it from our individual perspectives but the more we seek it, the clearer it should become. Unfortunately some religious teachings make it less understandable. Many, to promote their own aims, impose untruths that are claimed to be mysterious therefore they neither need to make sense, nor can they be questioned, so a barrier is formed against reaching the truth. Ignorance is promoted as a positive ideology!

The truth should confirm itself, but untruth must be defended with hostility. If you too readily get angry when your belief is challenged you betray your insecurity. If it needs your energy to uphold it, it is not God powered but a political, man attested truth. Those who deal in deception must themselves be deceived and believe in a lie.

**We must question the thoughts and intents of our being before it is too late.**

When hope is invested in a heaven that is an extension of an earthly dream then we are in the realm of fairy stories; the fool's paradise. If heaven exists it would have to be much better than anything we could dream up or it would not last to eternity, but how can we possibly discover if this unimaginable, infinite state exists and how can we hope to get there?

We need information from eternity and not mere human guesses. We also need to be certain that the information comes from, not just some eternal being, but one who can prove that he is honest and has our best interests at heart, not his alone. Only then can we be sure that we will live happily ever after and not fall into a trap.

You cannot expect to ever stop discovering more about eternity. This book should be read quickly but then studied a subject at a time for a separate book could be written about each page. The start is simple enough. A quick examination of our existing nature gives us some clues to what our eternal state would have to include.

From the very start, life is a constantly expanding process of experience and knowledge; of discovering what is true and what is false. When discovering new truths ceases, a person has no new challenge to look forward to; the intellect dies and death starts. Virtual unreality and injections of fantasy are used to make life attractive and worth enduring but, like continually sharpening a pencil that is never used, repetitive nothingness produces nothing and the loss of everything.

We learn wisdom and truth through trial and error. Unreality involves hiding from truth and trusting in falsehood which must end in death and failure rather than hope and salvation. The danger is that the person then arrives at the end of his vain life totally unprepared for death and whatever comes next. Suffering can be the red flag before the 'line goes over the cliff' but so often the warning is ignored or is too late. Conventional, insulating palliatives help many to walk blindfolded into the abyss.

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## WHERE AM I ?

### Where do we start ?

Someone with a map is still lost until he can establish his position on the map, so first we must examine the truth of our present position, then see where we might be heading. Immediately we stumble on a problem. Many are fearful of facing up to their true situation. From the playground, there is a strong desire for justice but an even stronger desire not to be found at fault. Our failures defeat us.

Self-consciousness and self preservation is born of fear. We learn to defend and excuse ourselves and set our own standards of behaviour with which we then tend to judge others. The hypocrite recognises everyone's faults except his own; the liberal denies any responsibility for limitations and failures while others avoid facing the truth by blaming everyone but themselves for their problems.

If we justify or hide from our faults we become trapped in them. We battle with our conscience, become insincere, insecure and defensive, and unforgiving and judgmental towards others. If we excuse our faults we are a menace. To some extent we probably all do a bit of each. Only by discovering the truth about the state of our being can we hope to be set free from a life of fear and deception.

### The right perspective

From our perspective the sun and the stars seem to move around the Earth but we can only grasp the universal truth of that motion when we realise that it is the Earth that is moving. Similarly the truth about eternity cannot be changed to suit the perception of each individual. The individual's experience of life revolves around his consciousness but the reason and meaning of his life revolve around truths outside his existence. The primary reason for life existed before he was born.

He did not make his life, it was a gift, and he cannot save himself from death either so he cannot be his own god or saviour, but humanistic pride and self determination can prevent him countenancing this truth. Such pride is the ultimate sin against life. It is not the exaggeration of true worth but denying the truth and living in a lie about self. It is self-deception.

The self appraised and justified person believes a lie about his life and about God. The self preserving man's idea of god is based on his perspective so he sees him as an embattled, insecure tyrant. An almighty God has nothing to fear: He can afford to love everyone, if they let Him.

Putting self above all else creates a private prison for everything about this life opposes this false stance. Self awareness is the start of life but left alone it is lost, isolated, fearful and mortal. It overflows as jealousy and anger. Its present experience and only future is hellish. Self-centredness or self love is barren. True love from one to another requires the sacrifice of self love and something new and exciting is born out of it, which otherwise would not exist. The warped and restricted self centred perception gradually becomes more balanced and enlarged.

## Love and rejection

Any eternal state must be based on **true love** and **truth**, not self love and self-deception, yet how could anyone expose themselves to the uncompromising light of truth and still survive? True love is unconditional, like a mother's love for her child. I need this acceptance regardless of how I am, in order to be secure enough to love back. Love provokes love. My behaviour may not be acceptable but if I am rejected because of it I will not be motivated to correct that behaviour or respond with love. Without love and help I will find it difficult, or impossible to change behaviour that even I recognise as bad. If I am only accepted when I conform to the wishes of others, I am still rejected as a person; I am not loved. So, many spend their childhood in fear.

Rejection is a stab to the heart and promotes fear, anger, flight, self-containment and unforgiveness. If rejection is coupled with wrong doing both will be fuelled. **No wonder there are so many hurt people in the world who are surrounded by other people yet are lonely and miserable.** Only redeeming love can resolve the futility of a self-centred life. Acceptance begets repentance. The adventure of love inspires faith and hope without which life is mere survival. Love turns a black and white existence into Technicolor.

## God is love

How can a self contained person be capable of love? If one hurt person joins another hurt person it does not halve their problems, it doubles them. Man's nature is not self sustaining and his self-centred outlook is very stressful and psychologically disastrous. We are not self preserving gods and our self-controlled lives are heading for death and corruption. Self-perfection is not possible, so if there is a God He could not demand it as a condition for acceptance. He must have correctly diagnosed man's vain predicament from the start and have deduced the obvious solution; the healing offer of unconditional love. Only in Him can their be unity, trust, peace and love.

The god who cannot afford to be love is not almighty. We can risk exposing all our weaknesses to the God of love without the fear of punishment and rejection knowing that we will be freely pardoned for all wrong doing. He must hate the sin but not the sinner. It would only be impossible for Him to forgive and accept any who rejected His rule of love and mercy and did not repent of their selfish, sinful nature. A loving God must change our self-centred nature and give us a godly life after this one dies. But how could man with his limitations ever feel at ease with an almighty God? There is a side to man's nature that suggests that he was made to respond to God.

A creature moulded by his environment and habit responds in obedience to those conditions but each man is an individual and has free will beyond any caused sequence. **Free will is only essential if a response based purely on love is needed.** Our maker has therefore built in an ability that implies He desires an individual, loving relationship with men and not just conditioned mass obedience induced by force of circumstances. Free will is a spiritual gift from God. Divorced from God's will it results in strife and never in personal freedom. A selfish man is a disaster area.

This life is not enough

Life is definitely a time for growing and learning, but that cannot be an aim in itself. Living just for the sake of living, like a perpetual student, is avoiding reality. Students who have a clear idea of the career they want to pursue, study for a purpose and do not get discouraged and duck out when they find the course too demanding. When life becomes difficult, monotonous or unbearable there is less and less desire to prolong it, till only the fear of death is the motive for living. This basic fear and the concentration on maintaining this earthly life deters many from seeking the truth about eternal life until faced with the reality of death. Instead they claw backwards; concentrating on health issues and busily trying to delay ageing.

Some people suddenly see through the unreality of their existence and react by making a radical change in their life style. They rebel against the demands which drive them along against their will and escape to "discover themselves," but the outlook is still the same. Self-centred 'me' has built in obsolescence and is fatally fault-ridden. I need constant maintenance and treats to sustain me. It is futile trying to refurbish the old 'me'. I need to update to a new model. Surgery, medication, therapies and psychiatry can massage the problems but the only solution is a new life.

The survival of the fittest ?

No one survives or lives happily ever after on Earth so 'Survival of the fittest' is an illusory doctrine that has promoted terrible evil, yet for many life does revolve around day to day survival, like a wild animal, punctuated by short term enjoyment. Their well being depends on the quality of life and the ability to maintain it, so they are fundamentally insecure. Many think that wealth is the answer to this insecurity as it solves some of the more immediate problems but, while millions are dying from a lack of food, other millions are dying from too much food. You only swap one set of problems for another. Those who do not have enough strive for more but those who have too much are not fulfilled by it.

Just living for tomorrow requires constant treats to make life worth enduring. The abuse of alcohol, drugs, eating disorders, and the compulsions to experience many other distractions, like games, television programmes and occult predictions, are a sign of people hiding from the pressures and futility of a life without a meaningful purpose. The trials, disappointments and fears of life, which are augmented by metaphysical materialism or mysticism, are alleviated by overloading or dulling the senses in the hope of escaping reality into a pleasant state which is colloquially called 'heaven', but it is a conjured, contrived heaven so it does not satisfy or last. Self pleasing or satiating desire is a gateway to hell, not heaven.

How much of this dissatisfaction with just day to day survival is driven by a desire for eternal life that is absent in other 'animals'? Man's fear of death involves a fear of judgement which is fed by rejection. Unlike natural animals,

**Man's concerns about killing and survival are moral and spiritual issues.**

Not all escapism is just pleasure seeking. Man seeks inspiration and understanding from beyond his present state; the stars, the subconscious and immaterial beings. He seeks spiritual reassurance to rationalise his insecure existence. The only way to be truly secure now is to be assured of eternal security after physical death. It is vital therefore to discover the truth about eternity now and gain this security as early as possible. To be totally unprepared for death is a very big mistake and perhaps the worst time to have to think about it is when it is about to happen. The thirty year old jogger I once tried to revive by the side of the road had no time to think about it.

Let's talk about the weather

What do you talk about with someone who is dying? Anything but death! Do you try and blot it out with distractions and leave them alone with their fears? If your own ideas are unformed, you become unbearably uncomfortable and wish to escape. Fear comes from the unknown. Our human love tries to help with all the comfort we can provide but a dying person needs peace from outside this earthly existence, not more grapes. I can remember one such conversation that ranged from the weather to football. It took an enormous effort to break through the unreality and say to him "Are you afraid of dying?" The bubble burst! We prayed together to a God we did not fully understand but He understood us; I left him dying but he was not alone anymore.

Fear of death

The immediate worry about death is that dying can be a painful process. The second is a fear of what happens next. If man does not consciously survive death or ends up in a worse state, it is best to ignore it. In which case it does not matter what you do with this life, as long as someone else does not object too strongly, except you will have to battle with anxiety.

The many contradictory beliefs about the quality of life after death are generally related to how well a person has performed while living on Earth. This is of little comfort to a lot of people who anticipate judgement rather than reward and so hope that there is no life after death. The result is that the very real and unavoidable fact of death is appalling and funerals become unreal rituals that give no reassurance to the bereaved. Only a better idea of the purpose of life with the hope of a better future will overcome this unease.

Fear occurs when you are faced with a situation that you do not know how to survive. A natural reaction to the unknown is to block it out like a hedgehog who rolls into a ball in face of danger. The cause cannot be avoided by ignoring the fear. It can only be defeated by hope and love based on a knowledge of the truth. A knowledge of how to survive turns the fear into excitement. Only love can overcome fear and death. It belongs to God's eternal, unselfish realm. Temporal love is apprehensive and painful. Only eternal love gives any meaning to and offers hope in this dis-appointing world. In a 'self-survival world' love is more precious than gold.

## The lost

My life expectancy or survival is my unavoidable problem, so is the love of God the answer? **If entry into heaven is simply based on submitting to God's love and grace, rather than how perfect you are, then it is too good to miss.** We could never earn it so if he proved his unconditional love then all we would need do is trust him. The assurance of such a salvation would transform the fearful concept of death or extinction into the greatest adventure.

If we use this as a starting point where do we go from here? If you start off in the wrong direction, the only place you can be certain of getting is lost. However those who have been lost can experience a wonderful sense of joy when they get back on the right road again.

The road to eternity has signposts; they just need to be pointed out. You also need to be aware of some of the common pitfalls. There are many alluring signs, all pointing in different directions, but only a fool would believe that they all end up at the same place. We will look at some of them later. Many charge off blindly after some guide who seems to know where he is going, so they never bother to check for themselves. They come up to death, jump in and sink into the darkness because nobody told them about the bridge.

### Where are we going ?

Where am I hoping to get to? Why, heaven of course - where else? How could you possibly know if heaven exists or how to get there? Only if someone who lives there came to earth to show you the way then all you would have to do is follow his directions. Rule number one: you cannot believe everyone. Some are either genuinely mistaken or deliberately out to rob and deceive you. Each pointer must be checked by sound judgement but first you must make up your mind. Do you really want to go there?

The idea of 'being in heaven' is not so much being in an ideal place but more the experience of a continuous sense of happiness or well being. We associate this state on Earth with pleasant situations and fleeting sensory pleasures but happiness is a state of mind that does not come from unsustainable delights.

Heaven is never ending so it cannot be just a glut of earthly pleasures which would soon become boring. Well-being depends on contentment, confidence, security, self worth and they stem from being loved, so it must involve being godsmacked by amazing, engulfing, breathtaking love.

Those who die briefly and have 'out of body' experiences are either hallucinating or just getting a glimpse of one of the lobbies. The very few reliable men I know of who had a vision of heaven itself said it was too wonderful and mysterious to describe. That is more like it! To be truthful, I am not close enough yet to know that much about where we are going, but I do know how to get there.

## Pie in the Sky

You certainly cannot make it on your own merit. People who believe they can become spiritually perfect, or earn a place in heaven may fool themselves but not God. However many Brownie points you could earn on Earth, they would not last through eternity and would soon run out. The god who expects us to earn our place in heaven obviously has not understood this problem. Most cannot finance a few years retirement on Earth! In terms of eternity we are already bankrupt.

We need to discover if there is a very wealthy, eternally secure being who likes us enough to foot the bill. We urgently need to find out how to become good friends with this 'God' before it is too late. Many people are aware of the existence of God but, as with wills, pensions and life assurance, there is so much reluctance to think about dying that they put off the idea of doing something about it and lose some of the important early benefits.

## Putting up statues to dead men

We can fill our lives pursuing worthwhile ambitions but even if we leave behind us a life of service to mankind, this may be of no value for the future. How many statues have been pulled down which others gave their lives to erect? Often one person's gain is another's loss and another's sacrifices are wasted by the receiver.

Temporal benefit can be gained by purely human effort and achievement but it cannot have any eternal benefit. If ultimately man does not survive anyway, there is no convincing reason for anyone to make sacrifices in order to serve society, or future generations. The only service to others which would have lasting appreciation would have to be in obedience to some eternal Lord, then the sacrifices would be remembered for eternity, so a knowledge of God inspires diligence and service beyond the employment contract.

## The blind leading the blind

Where can we discover more about the true purpose of life? Society pays out large sums for people to study philosophy and theology, it would seem, for their own amusement. They should be finding out some of the answers to these questions, but if we try to discover more about the reason for our existence, we become more confused, not enlightened. We are getting a very poor return for our money. At best, we end up with a bigger idea of the problem and many conflicting answers.

Only when men humble themselves before God is there a revival of the truth, for God will not add new leaven or life to a pot full of tainted leaven. Man's ways oppose God's ways so it does not last long. It is soon diverted into what people prefer and the basic principles become adulterated with man's puffed up, self justified ideas. Only the forgiven, God-reliant man has a hope of a God-vitalised life.

## True religion

This is all too important to just blindly follow a confident leader, especially one who is ruled by what his followers prefer. A religion which does not give satisfying answers, but hides the truth behind mysteries that you have to follow by blind faith *is* like opium. If the man in front does not present the truth, he does not know it. If he does not make sense, then he obviously does not understand what he is talking about. If he is not constantly seeking more truth, he creates a bar against the truth.

There are so many religions because they serve man's desire to appease and resist God rather than God's desire to fellowship with men. They are more man-fearing than God-fearing. The bulk of religious teaching is about how to behave towards others based on observing political correctness and compromise. These vary with circumstances so many religions do not travel well. The need for these traditional codes to be regularly revised is usually bitterly opposed so divisions occur. Any eternal truths they may have are often obscured by these earthly trimmings.

So much 'religion' today is a part of the problem rather than a help with life's problems for it obscures the truth that would set many free from their problems. At Hyde Park Corner a preacher was challenged by a member of the crowd who pointed to a drunken tramp and shouted, "Communism (a religious belief) would put a new suit on this man" The preacher replied "Yes but faith in God would put a new man in those rags." The spiritual errors at the root of man's problems must be identified and eliminated first. Man-powered solutions will only compound the world's problems.

Usually the psychologists of one generation make a large contribution to the confusion of the next. Those who start their thinking by making the obviously false assumption that man is his own master and saviour, despair when it is proved that he is not. No wonder so many philosophy and psychology students commit suicide, which solves nothing either. Isn't it obvious that man cannot lift himself up by his own boot laces; he can only help to tie them for others so that they do not keep tripping up. The United Nations can have some success if they stick to 'boot lace tying' but they are heading for disaster if they think they can save the World. A creator God must be enthroned on knowledge so those who prefer their wisdom or impose their's on His must be fools. Men are culpable in this respect for if their wisdom was true it would make them feel secure but it does the opposite and they fight to defend it.

Like the old Egyptians, many worship death. God rescued the Children of Israel from slavery to death in Egypt to serve Him freely in abundant life but they did not wait on God to hear how it worked. They wanted to serve God in their own deadly way. They wanted God to serve them. Except for the heroes, who believed in God's promises, they shunned the freedom of a love inspired life and retained their self-centred life inspired by guilt, rebellion, rejection and the fear of death, so their perverseness had to be restrained with laws through fear. Instead of inheriting His new promised life in a land that flowed with abundance, they lived from day to day on subsistence rations and died in the desert. **If man's capacity for life is restricted to his death limited perspective he cannot begin to experience God's capacity.**

## The philosophy of despair

Philosophers are often self absorbed, disconcerted people with disappointing lives and objectionable habits who interpret our existence in terms of their own inadequacies. Their self-centred outlook on life can, very obviously, be terribly wrong yet their 'new' insight is invested with genius by people who have no better idea of what life is all about. Many of them were men who started their thinking with a fundamentally false assumption and so consigned life to absurdity. They strain out the gnats but swallow the camels. Erasmus called them foolosophers.

Some are dangerous, for false philosophies have to be imposed by half truths or propaganda, fear and force, not reason. Some of them are laughable. The empiricist uses rational innate thinking (unexperienced) in an effort to prove that understanding is based only on experience. Then there is the nihilist who starts with the presupposition that God does not exist, concludes that life is therefore meaningless and half-wittingly despairs instead of realising that logically there must be something wrong with his first assumption. Their true value is not in getting caught up in the plausible detail of their conjecturing but finding where they fundamentally erred. Half truths may be intriguing but they are lethal in matters of life or death.

Half right truths are devious; they conceal the fact that they are half wrong. Take the initially very appealing philosophy of Epicurus who was a materialist and had no eternal aspirations; "Pleasure is the beginning and goal of a happy life". Pleasure, like pain, is an inherent part of life but if it is made the reason for living it becomes unsatisfying or a perversion which results in addictive misery. His simple appreciation of life was in reaction to the inefficacy of slaving for happiness through worldly gain but he ignored the futility of his own pursuits.

The upper-cast Stoics argued that emotional involvement produced frustration, not happiness, so restraint, contentment and tolerance were the civilised virtues to aim for. Ah well, we cannot argue passionately against that - or for it! Many believe that sacrifice or suffering produce fulfillment. Millions have followed this unbalanced, supercilious, self-consuming, ascetic path into a desert of despair.

The trials of this life are an essential part of our schooling not to elevate us but to humble us (Jas. 4 v 1-10). As the purpose of our existence they are disappointing, not sustaining or sustainable. Others have considered the suffering and futility in the world and so rejected the notion of a loving God, thus starting their thinking with the very error that was the source of all suffering in the first place.

Materialistic atheism majors on self survival which justifies all kinds of evil. It has been cobbled together with stoicism to produce the confusion of Existentialism. Human society is based on a mixture of these contradictory examples of warped human thinking. One causes friction with the other. They are like throwing a handful of sand into the gear box of life. Why did anyone ever think these renowned 'lovers of wisdom' were wise? **It is ludicrous to take any one of the many experiences in life as the purpose and reason for life.** We live in a stressed world. Overcrowding is not the cause, it merely exposes this problem.

## Out of this world

Philosophy tries to make sense of our human existence but all these ideas do not alleviate the materiality that the human condition ends in decline and ultimate failure. They are accepted not because they are true or sound but because they justify our life style and bad behaviour. The Conquistadors excused their torture of the New World natives and fed them to their dogs because they claimed they were subhuman but they did not torture their dogs who had no gold. All the great wars were seeded by covetousness and ambition but justified with distorted philosophy and religious politics.

A person may risk his life to survive but will sacrifice it to uphold his *raison d'être*. 'Survival of the fittest' justifies loose behaviour in the West which justifies the bound suicide bomber of the east. Whose hidden agenda is ruling your world? You may be attracted by a persuasion aimed at your situation, but that is not reliable; we are too easily exploited or duped by 'buy now' offers. The large print distracts from the small.

These theories on our existence are based on some other person's visualised revelation on life which, although built on reason, is severely limited by his persuasion and perspective which he cannot see beyond, so he draws on his inspiration or he speculates. Wittgenstein, the last philosopher of note, must also be the last philosopher. He declared that understanding is stuck at the level of logic. Ideas or theories beyond the level of logic, that are called scientific or spiritual, are guesses and fantasies so it is futile to expound them logically.

Science is based on inspired logic which deduces truths which are one step beyond the perceived material facts. Mathematics links the two. Maths deals with numbers, not actual items, so it only exists in the mind. Philosophical and metaphysical ideas go one step beyond logic so they are non sensed. To guess or philosophise about things that cannot be logically validated is meaningless, so philosophy is meaningless, yet there must be an answer outside the little box of the inward seeking mortal man or we would not be here in the first place.

Life is therefore illogical unless it is founded on **eternal truths** (not ignorant guesses) that must logically exist beyond man's level of physically sensed or scientific perception. Such information could only come from a non physical or spirit being, hence religious beliefs are based on such contacts. Man receives answers to such questions through inspiration, which leads to a major revelation, then perception. Faith in his 'god' then links this higher knowledge to his limited sensed knowledge and logically, explains his existence. How can we test if these revelations are true? They must come from someone who understands our problems but whose interest is based, not on concern for his own welfare, but only on concern for our welfare, otherwise they will not be unbiased or true. This is our only logical test of these truths.

Man's self centred existence, divorced from this divine revelation is meaningless so the fatalistic ignorance of Agnosticism and the metaphysical guesses of Atheism can only be perceived as illogical. A death dominated cosmos could never initiate life. What must we do to be saved? There is an old saying, 'There are no atheists on a sinking ship' so start shouting HELP *before* it is too late, and see who answers.

## Spiritual awareness

Your body carries out most of its vital, complex functions without your knowledge or control. You cannot even control your hair growth! You are not your body but it is a part of you. Without it you would have no sense feedback and be dead to the world around you. This information from your physical senses is processed by a physical organ called your brain. Now can you consciously exist when this electronic computer ceases to function? If you can, then you not only have animal life but you also have the ability to sense life beyond this physical world.

Have you ever woken up with the peculiar feeling that you are not sure who you are, where you are and what you are doing here? You hover on the edge of some cosmic abyss....., then reassuring information floods in from your senses, the world around reasserts its presence and the demands of life take over. Relieved, you are drawn away from such unsettling thoughts, but just a little hint of something remains; a fear of being conscious but lost and paralysed after physical death. Just a little taste of the phobia of being buried but alive makes you gag.

I think therefore I am aware of more than I see.

### **Man lives in and reacts to his inner thoughts more than his physical situation.**

When I do not sense anything with my senses I still think, therefore I can experience life beyond the realm of my physical senses and sense information. Sensory excesses or deprivation are used to numb, confuse and so suspend the brain's physically sensed perception to induce the experience of a dream world which is a mixture of fact and illusion, where a person experiences life through mental pictures or visions, soundless words and ideas. Are these just generated from the subconscious or, sometimes, are they imposed by extraneous influences beyond the imagery of the mind? If information is received in this state, that could not have been produced by the mind, is this necessarily a spiritual experience? Is an out of body experience half way between this state and the death of a sense based experience? Does physical death lead to the experience of being trapped in this state or the start of a spirit based existence? Is it good or can it be bad? Some dreams are frightening.

These 'spiritual' experiences can take control of our mind and lives and warp our will. Evil is conceived and weighed in the mind, which if acted out in physical reality would have devastating results. **We can own them or reject them so the voices are not ours!** They are not just figments of the mind. Inspiration comes from received revelation or a muse, not just observation. People's reactions vary to the same sensed stimulation such as art or music. They identify, to a greater or lesser degree, with the artist's inspiration more than the physically sensed information. It is a reaction to an abstract stimulus which is not self generated. It can be detrimental to self so it can be planted maliciously. How many have been overpowered through occult experiences, 'recreational' drugs (the original genie in a bottle), extreme compulsions, evil ideas and virtual *unreality*? Put the stopper back in at once! **All extreme, abstract speculations and sensory excesses have a captivating, invasive, spiritual component.**

Opposing faiths result in separation; compromise (modified truth = untruth) results in distrust; tolerance results in mutual respect and friendship. Joint faith results in strength and unity. Joint faith encourages personal sacrifices and love but false beliefs are powered by coercion and fear. With no sustaining purpose or vision to direct decisions, people are easily discouraged and destroyed. In other words, passivity encourages domination and results in conflict and defeat. If your only ideal is to avoid any conflict and to have peace at all costs, then your defeat is guaranteed.

The indoctrinated who believe the propaganda and artificial truth they are bombarded with will lose their freedom of expression. 'Human rights' are used by monomaniac, nihilistic egocentrics to impose their hopeless society on those who ignore God's truth. 'Back to basics' is the cry of a lost society but if no one knows what the basics are anymore? Attitudes that are obviously wrong are extremely difficult to escape from. With unproved maps many will be lost and destroyed.

### Religious zealots

The happiness of a group or a nation depends on the faith that inspires it. This is why some are fanatical about their football club. Their faith gives them purpose, freedom of expression, a reason for living. Big games produce an atmosphere of awe and worship; the turf becomes holy; rituals develop; hymns are sung. It is religious.

Whatever you live for is your reason for living; money, family, work, diet, career, possessions? It will dominate your thinking and motivate your life. It is inspirational and therefore spiritual. It is your god and you are worshipping it. When it fails you fall with it. If you manipulate a people's fears, philosophy for life or 'religion', you can dominate their thinking and lives as seen with the regimented masses of fascist and communist regimes and in our news spin, advertising and promotions.

The Theory of the Evolution of Species is essentially an atheistic religious belief that is camouflaged with but not founded on science. It reduces existence to meaningless self-centred 'Survival or Supremacy of the Superior (race)'. It is totally unscrupulous and tends towards world domination, with a marketing logo of course. Like reincarnation, it is driven by a fear of extinction which is countered by self advancement and material provision. Reincarnation perpetuates man's hopeless life.

Evolution is promoted by BIG money. In a materialistic, consumer driven society money is power and is worshipped as a god. The rich near the top of Darwin's pyramidal food chain make a country prosperous but the egocentric, who act as superior beings, see poorer people as inferior creatures. Their ideologies undermine the power of the law and the democratic control of the people is fragmented. These arrogant supermen, with their bought lawyers, armies, politicians and experts bully and sway governments. These Death fearing 'godlike ones' seek the secrets of life from lying spirits that hate them (Gen. 3 v 1-7, Lk. 4 v 2-4). What fools (Ps. 14, 1 Kg. 22 v 7, 16, 23, Lk. 12 v 19-20)!

## Gobblisation

How much are the failures in public services, like the health service and schools, due to a lack of money or the wrong philosophy of the strategists who impose futile reforms? Are they serving the public or the money makers, or their self ordained, sacred but fundamentally flawed ideologists? Manmade gods are life taking. Their imposed burdens are enforced through crushing legalism and fear. Morally bankrupt, licentious, consumer manipulated societies are apathetic,

The rejection of God's eternal truths and promises is deadly. Self-pleasing people with futile lives seek escapism. It becomes unsatisfying and leads to self-destructive excesses. Stories and films that were first inspiring then about heroes who fought evil now portray decadent people with meaningless lives who kill at will.

The Roman Empire was as an inspiring republic but those who gave their lives to uphold it became disillusioned when it served the rulers instead of the republic. Their 'games' involved the slaughter of animals then people. Our war films gave way to disasters movies then ones with people being eaten by alien monsters.

When greedy, immoral businesses put money before morality and elections are determined by false news and how many millions are spent on drumming up votes until the voter is disenfranchised. Minority pressure groups overrule the will of the majority and MPs fight against their elected party.

### The worship of money as god (mammon)

Money has only notional substance. It is not creative; it depreciates. Real projects can be evaluated in terms of cost but if it becomes paramount it is a killer. Its abuse destroys millions of lives: it is the fuel for most of the iniquity in this world.

Most people earn money in proportion to their needs. Some have more so their needs become extravagant. Too little makes people insecure; too much creates a false security. A few manage or control sums of money way beyond their personal needs and greeds. This gives them the power to control the lives of others through their earthly needs and greeds.

Money can be used for good but it is of no value when dealing with God and death, yet ancient tombs and temples were centred on material gifts and much worship today is money orientated. The rich may try, but they cannot buy themselves out of death because this requires eternal riches. The free gift of a new abundant life indicates that the true God of all life is a loving Father.

The god, whose power is in effecting man's earthly needs, is an earthly god. The god who demands your money and seeks political control is a man made god. The god who controls life through the fear of death or but offers a recycled life is the god of a rubbish pit called Gehenna (page 155). It masks the fact that it has no eternal hope to offer by promoting the unsustainable life style of **live only for now and forget about paying forever**. Free will is promoted as a one way road to depravity (Rom. 1 v 22-32).

## WHO AM I?

### Self appreciation

How can you deal in supernatural power? The God of life must be eternal and have a completely different set of values to those fashioned by temporal life. What would an Almighty God value as precious? Obviously his values would be very different from those related to the personal security, power and honour that men strive for; his values must have infinite and eternal qualities. He deals in gilt-edged incorruptibles; wisdom and truth, faithfulness, sincerity, love, humility, splendour and beauty. He dispenses excitement, love, joy, hope, peace and life without measure, but it is no good finding out about the existence of an all knowing God then discovering that we are incompatible. First we had better examine our needs then see if this Father God has all the answers.

Each person is an individual but world systems require all to conform to some false model or mathematical formula so their needs and behaviour can be predicted and controlled. Some of these imposed models demand that even men and women are treated as the same. A definitive programme was devised to gauge how many people had had mental problems. Surprisingly it found the majority tested positive. In reality all must have had some level of problem. The diagnostics were based on false premises. Predictions based on weighted surveys are big business.

Instead of creating more order, they lead to tension, insecurity and disorder. Peer pressure stinks. Grading and competition are good for the winners but do they write off the losers? We cannot live up to some artificial ideal. We are not all the same. Every individual needs to be loved and accepted. Everyone has problems but also worth and ability that they should be encouraged to develop. Be self aware but not proud.

Perhaps you are self-conscious and judge yourself as not up to par? I know someone who thinks you are precious and who has a place ready for you in heaven. You are unique! So now you can throw away that old security blanket, the horoscopes, charms or the cigarettes. All right, don't panic, perhaps you are not ready yet, but props and addictions restrict personal freedom. You should not need them much longer.

### Life appreciation

From the moment you begin, you are learning. Gradually the developing senses feed in information. Before you are born you register heat, movements, sounds and light. The new mind receives this input but has no idea what to do with it. Fortunately there is very little it needs to do yet.

The new born baby looks and hears in wonder. He senses discomfort, pain, hunger, the unknown and does not like it. He looks at his fingers and learns how to grab with them but it will take him years to learn how to use them skilfully. But self is very aware of self and determined to express self.

## Self development

Self expression is limited at first, mainly to crying. There can be frustration in a baby's yells and movements which need to be soothed. He needs someone who cares. The handicapped child is even more restricted and can be even more frustrated. What love, hope and compassion they can inspire in an otherwise self-centred world. This caring gives immense rewards to both the child and to the parent who nurtures the individual.

Slowly a person matures as he responds to the outer world, but it is inherently a painful process. We need to encourage one another much more than we do. Much information is received by the mind or conscious inner being from exterior sources. This information is gathered by the senses. There are five physical senses; sight, touch, hearing, smell and taste which are received through the eyes, nerve ends, ears, nose and mouth. A person must learn to judge what information is relevant and decide how to react to it.

This awareness is developed through experience and communication, which is another important function that has to be learnt. After two years there is very little knowledge but a lot of self determination. A child needs to be corrected as well as taught. More input and experience must be encouraged by presenting knowledge in an attractive and orderly form.

A child must not only absorb this information but also discover how to apply it. How we live is a result of developed habit or training, so children fashion their life style and thinking on what they are presented with. The resulting behaviour patterns are very hard to change or correct later.

## Compassion for others

When you are young you are very vulnerable and dependent on others. It is then you get hurt the most, and can even be emotionally crippled for life. The help you needed was not always kindly offered. The people you relied on to help you, let you down. You did not realise that they too were struggling with wounds from their past. All you could see were the mistakes of the present. However you would not have got this far without them. Now is the time to forgive them for the hurts.

Now is the time they may need you. As you make mistakes in the same way as they did, you must not condemn them for theirs. You must forgive them before you can forgive yourself or you will be trapped by your own guilt. You must love them or else you also judge yourself as unlovable.

There is a well known verse which goes something like this, "Release us from our trespasses as we release them who trespass against us." Hey, perhaps this is step one in discovering God? No, not quite, there are a few important verses before that one which must be examined before you can make this step successfully. Before you can say sorry for your sins against God and men you must recognise them.

## Trial and error

We have learnt from experience that the world around us is an interrelated system with laws which govern all its functions. Our different senses give a unified report on any one exterior source. For example, an infant soon associates the sound of the liquidizer with the smell of the foods he likes the taste of but seeing it steam, knows it will be hot to touch.

With the benefit of information from personal experiences, from the experiences of others, plus ongoing trial and error, a child gradually learns how to make sound independent decisions, like going to the potty *before* it is too late. He becomes self determining up to a certain level.

I remember once wondering what would happen if I shorted out an old electric motor with a screwdriver. I was very young and I did not know much about electricity, but I had a funny notion that it was not a good idea. Fortunately I had just enough sense to use an insulated screwdriver. About 5 millimetres of the tip evaporated in a blinding flash. I learnt something about electricity that day (and how to rewire a fuse).

## Faith and the learning process

The degree of risk in learning by trial and error must be kept to a manageable level. The more I experience and learn, the more confidently can I judge how to act in any situation, but if I am out of my depth I must trust my safety to others with more experience. Every new piece of information received is considered in relation to what I already know, and sorted accordingly. If I do not have to act on it, it just adds to a belief or theory. If my actions depend on it, I must first judge how accurate it is. Once it has been judged to the best of my ability, I can commit myself to a course of action. The subsequent experience will either confirm or modify my original judgement and my store of knowledge will become more sure.

What a relief if I make, say, a cake, and it is a success. But I become more confident of success if I have learnt from a series of experiences of partial success and failure. Step by step, my understanding of a subject is confirmed and enlarged. Only experience proves to me if my belief or theory is correct and so my original concepts are developed into established facts. Most of what people are told is subjective and what they believe is true, even about themselves is distorted.

I need to be fairly sure that an unproved idea is factual before I can willingly risk putting it into action or convinced before I endorse it. This confident belief is called FAITH. To move without it I must be forced against my will. Just as knowledge without substantiation, and love without giving to another, is valueless, so faith is empirical and analytical rather than dialectic. Blind faith, based on presumption, temptation or theory, should be called at best a strong unsubstantiated or unfounded belief. Faith must be based on assured beliefs. Faith in a person is true faith if he has been proved to be trustworthy. Unselfish acts of love inspire trust or faith.

## Trust

If I have faith in another person's ability and they show concern for me I can willingly trust them and follow them but if I distrust them or have no faith in them, they must force me to follow them. Instinct and experience warns, even an infant, that bitter or foul smelling liquids are not good to drink, despite any attractive colouring. Nevertheless a loving mother can persuade her child that the "medicine" is good despite this basic knowledge. The reluctant child has no faith based on self experience but acts on the faith that his mother always knows best. If the child is offered the same medicine by someone he does not trust then **he will not take it** and he becomes very distressed if attempts are made to force him against his will.

We need our God to also understand and comply with this need and therefore, we can only move in faith towards Him, one step at a time. So first we need proof that He loves us, then establish which direction to take, then take the first step which requires faith.

## Flawed faith

This need, to decide that something is a reliable fact in the mind before it can be experienced as an exterior fact in reality, has suggested to some idealists that the inner persuasion determines the outer experience. In which case, reality is not really real as the mind controls the matter. This confusion is derived from Hinduism. But does the external experience alter or has it consistent properties which force me to recognise it is really there all the time? Mind over matter or blind faith not based on facts is not faith; it is Russian roulette.

Let me clarify this with an example. Whether I accept or reject with my mind that gravity exists, the effects of gravity do not alter in my experience. I can only conclude that gravity exists even if my mind is ignorant of it, hence, the danger of drunkenness or mind expanding drugs. As a result of taking drugs, I may have an unshakeable inner conviction that I can fly, but when I act on the conviction, I discover my faith is false and gravity is real. What about the stories of self levitation? In the cases which are true, another **real**, invisible force is being used to counteract the **real**, invisible force of gravity.

## Inner persuasion determines behaviour

A pilot training in an aircraft simulator is experiencing virtual reality. My flying in a simulator is virtual unreality. If I thought I could fly a real plane I would be mad. My experience of flying would be based on a false or unreal experience. If you start to confuse, a seemingly real experience with reality, you are on the brink of madness.

A person's mind is readily deceived by a false idea or experience that is presented as true. If he starts to accept a lie as true he will be in conflict with the truth and finally overcome by it. All who follow a false ideology will self destruct.

I remember seeing a film, which ended late, with a Keystone Cops sequence. A bit dazed I shot out of the car park and darted down an empty dual carriageway up to a roundabout. Something was wrong. My speedometer read over 60 mph. I forced the wheel over and back and went round it, mainly sideways. Reality set in with a jolt and very quietly I continued home.

A person is particularly vulnerable when they are relaxing, over excited, overcome by some trauma or confused by drink, drugs, sound, lights, fears or oppression. Reading, day dreaming, trances, play acting, ceremony, pictures, films, interactive games, virtual reality; all visualised and absorbing experiences can be very dangerous and are prone to evil. If you do not pull back it will take on a life of its own and an alter ego will take over your submitted will.

The hypnotist cannot make someone do something silly unless they are up for it. If an introduced idea, dream or inspiration is assimilated as true or even as a fantasy it will fill your mind. You will be seduced into wrong doing but it will be your fault. Whatever or whoever you allow to influence and seduce your thinking will take over your life. These imposed wills can only be displaced by submitting to a more powerful will but that could be going from bad to worse!

### Anxiety

If a person is a bit distracted or regularly misjudges and his faith often meets failure in experience, he can become bound by anxiety. All sorts of ridiculous fears can then be imagined. The misjudgements may be due to a flawed fundamental concept of life, for example resulting from being ridiculed for his natural mistakes when young. Sometimes the facts have been assessed correctly, but change by the time the action is carried through. He who hesitates often fails!

He may also be misled. Where others have misinformed or deliberately deceived a person, the person starts to distrust others and barriers go up. He will not easily risk new action or trust himself to new personal relationships. This restricted and lonely state of mind leads to a distorted view of life. We cannot weather this life without regular encouragement, help and comfort Wouldn't it be an enormous advantage if we could call on God for this reassurance and acceptance whenever it was needed?

### When faith fails

Have you ever touched an iron to see if it is hot or an electric cable to see if it alive? You can laugh at stupid behaviour or be annoyed. Where there is already established knowledge that is not applied correctly, you feel foolish. The error is a shock to self confidence and it is comforting to be able to blame some unknown fact for the confusion. Sometimes it really is not your fault. If a person is totally deceived, foolish action can follow. His surprise can be amusing to others but practical jokes are not always funny.

A person is unaware of the risk involved when, for example, he sits on a chair which suddenly collapses. Action based on reliable faith has failed. For a while afterwards he will check a chair before he sits on it. This is why a person is so shocked if his house is burgled, because he believed it to be a safe, secure place but suddenly it was not. Afterwards, despite adding every security measure he can then think of, he may never feel secure at home again.

### Fear and confidence

Fear comes when a threat is perceived but there is no knowledge of how to react. Training can reduce the chances of this happening to a minimum, so a fireman can confidently enter a burning building in which anyone else would not survive. Confidence must be based on tried and tested knowledge, not guess work.

Knowledge empowers the faith that overcomes fear but blind faith or make-believe succumbs to fear and is suicidal. Fear can also result from the failure of knowledge, which until then was considered from experience to be safe.

People with damaged faith tend to be fearful of even non-threatening things and, in extreme cases, just the idea induces panic. The therapy that works is to re-educate them by gently exposing them to the fear so that they can experience the limits of the danger. It works with people who are terrified of flying or spiders, even if they still prefer to avoid the experience. It might not be so easy with snakes or in a situation where there is something to be anxious about.

Sensible caution, apprehension and understanding must control anxiety, before fear takes control and panic robs a person of any hope of saving himself.

### Luck, astrology, free will and fatalism

Some react to repeated disappointments in their experience by becoming fatalistic. They cease to make new steps of faith. They give in to the effects of exterior realities. They have learnt by experience that it is hopeless to resist, so their inner fundamental concepts become tragically flawed.

They are passive and succumb to dictators. Give them a script and without questioning it, or thinking, they will believe it and try to follow it. They become conditioned like an animal. They accept propaganda by default and latch onto repetitive habits, routines, traditions, blind religion and horoscopes, regardless of their veracity. Their lives are static and they sleep walk into oblivion.

When I was a young boy I had a dream. I was standing in the middle of the road outside my house when a lion suddenly attacked me. There was nothing I could do. I was very distressed I could not accept it. Suddenly I realised; it was **my** dream, why not dream up a sword? That was much better. The lion was big but my sword was very sharp. The lion lost all his original confidence, I stuck the sword in him and he ran for his life. I made the choice of defending my life, instead of accepting the inevitable.

You too can resist the 'devil' instead of accepting defeat, and if you get the right sort of sword he will flee from you. The dark forces, that defeat a person's will and can drive him to suicide, are real but their threats are false. They cannot defeat a person against his will; the person defeats himself. But who ultimately must he submit to? Who originally awarded and therefore upholds his free will?

### The Adventurer

The Adventurer and Explorer attempt risky actions and new experiences but reduce the chances of failure to a minimum. This can vary in complexity from a moon shot, to getting up in the morning. All life is fundamentally an adventure whilst death is certainly the greatest but when the stakes are that high, you cannot afford to gamble. I may hope for eternal security but I cannot afford to experience the finality of death without some **real** reassurances. Faith results from conviction not just hope. I need a knowledge of God that I can start experiencing now. I need to have built up some trust in Him before I can **willingly** follow Him into the unknown.

**People support their fantasies by drawing in others.** I need reassurance based on the **experiences** of others, not just on their beliefs. A strong belief alone is only an untested theory, it is too risky. It is the beginning of faith but it needs to be tested and modified as knowledge increases. Faith not confirmed by experience is false. It is not a gamble, it is suicide.

### Gambling with your life

The gambler goes to the other extreme. He revolts against any tedium and enjoys the excitement of attempting actions which are unlikely to succeed but he must be given the 'carrot' of some false hope of success. No one would put money on a three legged horse or into a slot machine that never paid out or did not work.

Personal faith is based on acquired beliefs but not always on sound facts. It is inspirational, of the mind, and has a spiritual, addictive component beyond physics. Failure is depressing but success is elating. Betting a few pounds on the outcome of a race is exciting and not disastrous when you lose, but have you learnt a flawed fundamental principle of existence? If you take the same degree of risk in running across a busy highway, failure is lethal.

Dubious faith generates terrible insecurity yet the insecure dare not question it. They stick to a routine 'order of service' and fear anyone who 'rocks the boat' or starts rowing. False faith is a mythical persuasion and must block free will and be imposed as it delivers no real reassurance or peace. Those who trust in some make-do faith are gambling with their lives.

True faith works in practice and provides the needed security that gives a fault prone man the freedom to reach out to God. The King David who wrote the Psalms, found that the only way he could save himself from the lion and the self-saving men who threatened to destroy him was to trust in God as his saviour,

## Damaged faith

We must get our facts right first, as a mistake will produce a barrier to any future attempts. Rush into believing in some error and you may be put off the idea of God for life. I remember once mentioning my faith in God to a new member of the office. The reaction was bitter and almost violent. "Don't talk to me about God!" he cried. In a split second, I cast a quick question to God, why had he reacted like that? Was it some personal tragedy that had hurt him so much?

I immediately asked him what church he *had* belonged to. He told me about the false religion he had joined. I asked him if it had nearly destroyed him and made him suicidal? He was amazed as that was exactly what had occurred. By the time he realised he had been trapped and deceived, he had been emotionally damaged and therefore totally rejected all ideas of God.

The god of that religion is a deceiver, binder and destroyer who ensnares the unwary and defeats their will. He rules through fear not love. It had driven him to the verge of suicide for a year and he was fortunate to survive. Soon after, he did find God, or God found him, and saved him from fear and death.

Many atheists and agnostics have had a damaging religious experience or upbringing, so they are against the religious idea of God, but anyone who may be in a religion, yet seeks a personal relationship with God, must also go beyond the confines of religion. God prefers the cold to the lukewarm. This is why many atheists are so annoyed with God, because He is continually knocking on their door and pricking their guilty conscience. They despise him till their deadly pride becomes despair and they crash into forgiveness and the peace of being loved.

If you question another person's beliefs it is just a difference of opinion. If you upset his faith, even if you are right and he is wrong, he will take it as a personal affront. His faith is something he has judged as reliable. He needs evidence of something better, not just theories, before he can admit doubt, and risk revising the ideas he has accepted as facts. If he is insecure in his faith he needs to overcome his fear and re-examine it before it is too late. He must not get affronted but face his doubts.

## God help us

Humans are responders rather than gods. They try to function as self sufficient gods but soon discover that they need help in order to survive and succeed. We really need outside resources. We need someone bigger who cares. Our world is not friendly enough. We have to struggle to cope with it. In time, mankind can achieve amazing results, but there are severe limitations, including death. **Survival of the Fittest is not a code for life;** it is powered by the fear of death so it promotes death. It is lawlessness. It is a spiritual trap. It is the curse on this life. It is what I need to be delivered from. It can only generate conflict and can never produce peace. It perpetuates a state of anxiety and fear. It is a commercial bonanza.

## God our Saviour

In order to survive I must understand my natural state and use knowledge and science to rule over it, not be conditioned by fear tactics to worship environment, diet and health in a vain effort to appease death. This has led mankind to seek supernatural help to combat the natural forces that threaten his survival but a god who threatens rather than saves us just adds to our problems. If he is a tyrant who demands we live up to His standards he is a waste of time. We need a God who understands our predicament and what we are like and gives advice on what is true or false; right or wrong.

A vulnerable child has not got a self preserved, self-possessed ego. Each unique individual is unsophisticated without a role model. Our nature is incomplete without a luminary. We need a loving, personal God who can relate to us as individuals, save us from our fears and show us how to survive death by giving us hope for a new life. We need Him NOW. When we are dead will be too late. Perhaps then we could afford to love back. His wisdom would be based on knowledge not on experimental, human conjecture so He is the source of true wisdom. We clearly will not be saved from our predicament if we ignore, modify or reject His advice.

## Growing in faith

Human faith demands that we believe in the possibility of God before it will allow self to seek Him. Like someone reaching out in the dark, starting with one little step of faith, then another, we can find out if this God exists. As one step is confirmed you can safely take the next. Slowly, you build up your faith and knowledge of the truth of God. As your fundamental concepts become unshakeable convictions, you begin to discover the essential meaning of your life. At last you become secure; you are founded on a rock, not the delusory, shifting sand of wishful thinking.

## The one we admire

If a person's basic inner concepts are unshakeable, established faiths, he will succeed against daunting odds. He has an appetite for life and he is not easily defeated. He is resilient. Failures which would defeat the average person do not shatter his inner self-confidence. Lesser mortals look to him as a leader, he can find his way out of seemingly hopeless situations.

The lost follow him. Their will to continue is revived. If he succeeds, their faith in him is confirmed and they are willing to trust him even if the situation is hopeless. He is their best hope of escape. Such men are strong in some situations but flawed in others. Churchill was inspiring in the hopelessness of war but not inspiring enough in the hopelessness of the peace that followed. Men are not the 'Messiahs' we would like them to be.

We treat men as gods when they are very successful. Many very nasty leaders have been worshipped as gods. If we want really able people to serve society instead of their own interests, we need to accept that they are just doing their best and appreciate them for their service. When they prove to be human and not gods, everyone seems surprised and criticises them. The self-promoting who want society to serve them and their vain unproven ideas then jump in. The ones to admire are those who give their lives to supporting others without any acknowledgement and often with only a low income as a reward.

### The fool of psalm 14

Many of the people who have become acclaimed for their new ideas on our existence have had very disturbed lives and upbringings. Brought up in a household of older women and stifled by Lutheran pietism, Friedrich Nietzsche, with the logic of a rebellious little boy, concluded that religion and God were a negative invention of the privileged to suppress subordinates. He was half right; religion often is; God is not. Basically he blamed God for the loss of his loving father.

Instead of applying his own ascetic doctrine that pain is the key to new revelation and using the hurt to break through to the love, joy and peace of God, he deified the hurt and had a wretched life. He preferred Plato's metaphysics to Socrates' pragmatism so he embraced Darwin's metaphysical theory that pointless evolution ruled the Earth so God need not exist.

He concluded that a self-determined, self-sacrificing, merciless, unscrupulous, master race would evolve with the will to overcome all restraint in order to dominate (enslave) the lesser creatures through a meaningless, social state. This man-god concept was not new. It was a mixture of Plato's absurd 'Republic' and Aristotle's master race of people descended from gods and led by a god.

He had a leading influence on the miserable, godless philosophers and psychologists of the twentieth century. The concept was used to validate the cruelty of evil, repressive regimes, which had taken advantage of a crisis in society to forcefully gain power. Marx's social evolution is the murderous tyranny that mankind has always fought against. It is the retrograde result of the breakdown of a morally passive society that reverses all God's laws.

There are many examples, past and present. God-men, like Nimrod, Alexander and Hitler felt free to kill millions of lesser mortals. Every German soldier in WW1 was given a copy of Nietzsche's super-man book. Corporal Adolf Hitler was inspired to implement his evolutionary, social ideal as the Fuhrer of a race of masters enslaving the undeveloped. It was a very religious state with emotionally charged services and Hitler was 'hailed' as its god and saviour.

Nietzsche promoted the very oppression and racial persecution that he hated. He died insane, partially as a result of syphilis but he himself concluded that his, nihilistic, banal, self-propelled super man, unavoidably, would end in ever repeating circles. He started in Psalm 14 and ended in Romans 1 verses 20 to 25.

## WHAT ON EARTH AM I DOING HERE

### Guilt and conscience

What mutt would choose Nietzsche as one who had the answer to a meaningful life? He inspired Sigmund Freud and Hitler who also suffered from the prim matriarch's 'naughty, unclean little boy' syndrome. It is important to realise that Freud's psychoanalysis stemmed from the flawed Theory of Evolution. Freud stated that guilt was a repressed artificial state of mind imposed by our upbringing.

No one wants to admit they were wrong when they think they were right but guilt is the self knowledge that you have done something which **you thought was wrong**. The upbringing may be flawed but branding guilt as artificial has led to the wrong treatment of many people who were mentally disturbed because they were guilty of real or imagined wrongdoing that they could not face up to.

The answer to guilt is to confess it, give it to the 'garbage disposer', and seek forgiveness if possible, not pretend it doesn't matter or doesn't exist. If this failure is not admitted even to self, then you have to 'move the goal posts' and persuade yourself that it was not really wrong. Hidden guilt stinks. When a person makes a habit of failing to judge his errors, his judgement or consciousness of wrong doing becomes severely warped. People with 'seared' consciences are a menace to themselves and others.

If a person has a problem telling the truth is it because, to save himself as a child, he learnt to lie and now cannot admit to the torture he is inflicting on himself? How many killers learnt to be ruthless by torturing insects and killing animals when they were young? Some may no longer be able to control their behaviour but they should not have ignored their conscience when they could have done.

### Fear of God

God knows when a person is being unscrupulous. Many assert they do not believe in God because they want to be self determined and accountable to no-one. If they can get away with it, it is all right! Lying or taking unfair advantage of someone is countered by "that's business." Darwin's human food chain does not annul The Law of Sin and Death; it is powered by it.

Darwin, Nietzsche and Freud's glaring Evolutionary error was that they thought of a man as an animal which has no free will but responds to its routine, natural instincts. It cannot feeling guilty about behaviour that in a man would be the evil violation of another man's free will (Jude 10, 18). Without repentance for wrong doing hell ensues.

Business is competition not fraud. When trust and morality are destroyed, society is destroyed. Immorality allows delinquency, crime, suicide and abuses become rampant. The freedom fought for by God fearing men in the West is being lost and the powerful are abusing their position as is seen in the ongoing corporate, regulatory and religious scandals. The guilty smother the truth with lies and claim they are innocent of breaking any of man's laws (Lk. 16 v 13-15).

Unless the weaker members are protected, society breaks down into anarchy. Oddly it was the ideological anarchist Kropotkin who showed that the extent of mutual aid determines how successfully a species survives. He was essentially pro co-operatives and against central government. Mao and Pol Pot exploited this to create a state of anarchy in order to take over central government.

If there is a disastrous break down of order, survival depends on the re-establishment of order not the rule of anarchy. Even the fittest do not survive anarchy. The law of survival of the fittest is the Law of Death. It should not be confused with the process of natural wastage.

Where people have a healthy belief in God and are concerned about His judgement, right behaviour is greatly encouraged. Darwin, Nietzsche then Freud smashed this moral restraint and unleashed Apollyon. Nietzsche's godless little book about the evolution of a master race helped turn a civilised nation back into a barbaric one. It and encouraged the Second Reich, then the Nazis to violate and murder the weak by the million. His dead god lived in Hell.

The holocaust he lit was extinguished at an enormous cost but the embers were not stamped out. The survivors have picked up the pieces and tried to put them back together again but rejected God's words on which their free society was founded on so it is bound to collapse again.

### Self government

Many decide on their own rules based on ideas shaped by their peculiar upbringing then they are surprised when their self-centred order does not work when imposed on others. Man's rigid legalism stifles love and life. In a democracy, the basic policies have to be defined at a party conference and proceedings accepted by all even though they are devised by a clique. If the party then gets into government the whole nation has to abide by these policies for the sake progress even though they serve party ideals rather than public demands.

### Right and wrong

'Marriages' require a lot of give and take based on a desire to stay together for the common good so decisions need to be accepted by both parties. It is in everyone's interest to produce a written code which establishes an ideal that all should aim for. Bad laws only aggravate the problem. Mankind has fought against imposed regulations for centuries so a common set of laws will not work unless most agree they are fundamentally right and try to follow them. Nothing can be achieved in any area of life without a working agreement. The problem is everyone's perception of right and wrong fluctuates ((Is. 53 v 6, Eph. 4 v 13-16).

Unity is only possible under God's perfect, omniscient laws which are based on love (Lk. 10 v 26-37). His amazing grace forgives all who repent of their sins (Mt. 18 v 4-7, 21-22) but His justice condemns all who do not.

## The law makers

Modern democracy was founded on 'utilitarianism' or the general rule that a decision is governed by what is best for the majority, therefore it is bound not to be right for everyone. The orthodox legalism imposed on Freud was not right as far as he was concerned. The laws were onerous but his guilt was real.

Hitler decided that he was his own god and his Gnostic inclined followers worshipped him. He produced a set of rules that he thought were right based on his repressed upbringing. His visions of requital and grandeur came from the mystical virtual world that he escaped into. They were a terrible curse on his own nation and all who opposed him. He used ruthless power to put them into practice but they were met with enormous resistance. They were based on paranoia, pride, fear, humiliation and resentment, not love, and were obviously terribly wrong.

How can we be sure in time, of what is right and what is wrong, before it is too late? Is there a basic set of laws that governs all relationships that Hitler deliberately ignored and his followers pretended not to see or were they all imbalanced due to their faulty idea of god? Wrong ideas on who is god will always result in wrong laws. No individual can treat others, animals, his environment or this Earth's resources however he likes. Man's mandate in each country on how he should live comes from his gods. Those with hypocritical religion have hypocritical governments. Those with sham, manmade gods have sham, fear driven elections.

## Majority morals

Just because the majority accept a code of conduct does not make it right. New ideologies are usually started by a handful of men. Indeed it is much more likely that, to start with, it will be a minority which is right on any one issue. That is why freedom of speech is essential so that we can hear all the opinions, **especially those that others might want to suppress**. Invariably majority morality is not decided by the majority but is impressed by a minority and accepted by default.

People's thinking is steered by the stories they are spun and the pressures that they are under. Expert paediatrician Dr. Spock over reacted to authoritarian ideas on child care and advocated permissiveness in rearing children which promoted wilful selfishness and so misled a whole generation. Our recent precepts on secondary education were established by a psychologist called Burt who fabricated his research on inherited potential to suit his theories. Hitler's rise from a dreamer, via a warlord, to despot, during a crisis, in what was a republic, was propelled by intimidation and propaganda, not truth. **You can justify anything with lies.**

Imposed ideologies persuade people to passively accept their circumstances or fate and do what they are told. Polls are run to gauge how to adjust this propaganda rather than to respond to public demands. Too many, like sheep, are happy to allow someone else to be responsible for their decisions as long as the grass looks green. They end up getting fleeced or butchered.

## The permissive society

Majority morality can be manipulated to make some wrong act acceptable to others so that others will stop judging you for doing it. Hence the pressure groups think it wrong to execute murderers and encourage gambling, pornography, drug abuse, euthanasia and a whole load of unsafe and unsavoury practices that some people want to indulge in and from which others want to make money.

The license given to one becomes the licentiousness of all. Kill one handicapped child and the life of all children is devalued. Kill one geriatric and all old people become expendable. A lack of interest, moral laxity or the acceptance by the majority cannot make a wrong act right. If one society allows ethnic cleansing by exterminating minority groups in its midst, it does not mean that it is right, only that those who do it will not be judged and punished for it by that society.

If some fundamental law of existence has been broken, eventually, that society will suffer terrible consequences. People reap what they have sown.

## Absolute moral law

If right and wrong are only dependent on an individual's circumstances, then no one can ultimately be justly punished for doing wrong. Therefore there could only be extinction on death, with no eternal reward or punishment for resisting or accepting evil. If whatever a person does can be excused, the choice between good or evil becomes meaningless. The philosopher Hobbs deduced that the self-centred man who changes his morals to suit himself will be full of inner and outer conflicts.

This is worse than the 'red in tooth and claw' law of the jungle which is based on an ecological balance. Within the natural cosmos there is no meliorating, evolving, appreciable life force. The untamed natural world is dominated by death. Even the fittest life has a losing battle for survival against nature. Devolution with accelerating mass extinctions is what we can expect from nature. Man quaintly attempts to slow the process by artificially preserving unsustainable pockets of natural', wilderness as tourist parks! He can overrule all laws; animals cannot.

Experiments show animal behaviour is mainly conditional yet we view it in terms of our own feelings. Animals have very limited responses governed by a simple set of linked programmes but man is capable of great good and evil, not linked to his needs. If human behaviour, or the evolution of society, depended on environmental pressures alone, then, like an animal, man could be controlled by deterrents but not blamed for bad behaviour. He is much more mentally determined; he has free will. He can choose to disregard all laws. His actions may be explained by his circumstances but not motivated or excused by them

Nietzsche's totally immoral man/god goes mad! Self determined mankind should have become totally perverted, then extinct long ago so who is restraining man's natural lawlessness? What higher Law is governing human relationships and behaviour? Which incorruptible judge or god is policing it?

There is no united conscience or absolute ego or world soul so where did man's self willed life come from and to who is he accountable? Self-oriented man, as a creature of his circumstances, cannot produce or obey a set of universal laws. So who can give us a good law for survival and administer it? Only an almighty God could be unselfish and good; only He could be the unbiased judge of all the threatened self survivalists and give them peace and security. Man has survived so far only because a sufficient number have accepted they are accountable to some higher Judge and Law (Gen. 18 v 32). This is about to change (Gen. 6 v 5-13, Mt. 24 v 37, 44-51, Lk. 21 v 8-11, 24-31, Jude).

### Law and order

Where a just standard is maintained there is peace and prosperity. Where justice is denied, fear and evil rule. Order brings stability and consequential benefits to all. Society must try and abide by the essential requirements of the law even though there will be differences of opinion on the details. If there is no degree of flexibility, the rules will cause conflict and they will be a burden instead of a benefit.

Drivers should stick to sensible speeds according to road conditions. The law gives a guide to what is the acceptable maximum speed under normal road conditions. Originally there were no speed limits on motorways and when they were clear they were used to test high performance cars. It may well be perfectly safe to do 200 mph on a motorway, but the driver has no knowledge of when the conditions might suddenly change and make it lethal so a sensible limit is essential.

Those who think that the legal limit is still permissible on a motor-way under severe weather conditions are ignoring why it is really there; to keep roads safe. Despite the law allowing a speed of 30 mph in town, there are many congested situations where it would be criminal to do more than 10 mph but a driver travelling unnecessarily slowly on a main road is a menace and can be prosecuted for obstruction. Most of the near fatal accidents I have witnessed were caused by hesitant drivers, driving at speeds under 20 mph, giving confused messages which resulted in side impacts on drivers, bikers flying through the air and hurrying pedestrians stepping in front of moving traffic.

Those who pride themselves on keeping exactly to speed limits can also be breaking the essence of this law if they are watching their speedometer too much to be driving attentively and considerately. Those who use the letter of the law in an angry, self righteous manner and drive just under the limits, to force others to obey them are not upholding the law but abusing it. Like those who disrupt work by working to rule, they are guilty of deliberate provocation and are dangerous drivers.

You cannot judge yourself as a good driver in isolation from other drivers on the road; good driving must involve a positive attitude to others not a legalistic negative. So speed limits are a sensible guide to judgement and are essential for road safety but the letter of the law is not sufficient in itself to ensure safe driving. Suddenly man's free will makes sense. All rigid laws have severe limitations so man can only benefit from God's guidance by correctly discerning His intentions.

## The spirit of the law

Motorists are annoyed when caught by the 'letter' of the law for an inadvertent speeding offence where no danger was involved but it does make them more speed (but not road) attentive in future. The best mixture is surely the 'spirit' of the law as demonstrated by the traffic policeman who came alongside me when I was doing 77 mph on a 70 mph motorway and with a mild rebuke on his face gestured towards his speedometer. A warning is sufficient for those who inadvertently overstep the prescribed limits.

**The letter of the law is a destroyer of freedom and is death to a free society. The spirit of the law guards the freedom that is its very life.**

Similarly with moral codes, just because no one can fulfil them perfectly, it is not a good reason to abandon them. They are still the ideal to be aimed at and vital to curb bad behaviour. The Law inhibits evil but does not stop it growing, however just the public intolerance of all crime smothers it. When New York cracked down on petty criminals like graffitists, all lawlessness dropped.

If the Law is ineffectual, the indifferent majority is mainly to blame. The ongoing lowering of moral standards to reflect current behaviour obviously produces a lowering of all standards in society and an increase in decadence.

## Casting the first stone

We are all tempted by dishonesty so we may feel hypocritical in condemning criminals, unless the crime is way beyond what we could personally contemplate. The criterion however must be that we do not excuse our own minor criminal tendencies or that threshold will gradually be lowered until we excuse all criminals.

Even if only you know that the cashier has made a mistake and given you too much change, you experience a loss of freedom if you excuse yourself and keep it. It is very tempting to try and justify doing something you know is wrong, because you believe you can get away with it, but if you do so, you become a criminal. If we make a habit of rightly judging our own wrong thoughts, our actions will not need to be judged by others.

## Upholding the law is the guarantee of freedom

Credit card users have to finance the millions that are stolen by illegal users. It would be possible to stop this by including more personal details on the card, but then the card could be used to control the person. The public must be involved in crime prevention and make a stand on moral issues or suffer the consequential loss of freedom. If you see a crime or witness an accident but prefer not to be involved, then do not be surprised if, eventually, it becomes unsafe to step outside the door of your home. Where the freedom and will of an individual is totally defeated by anarchy and evil, in a sense they die.

## Appeasement, war and arbitration

Evil flourishes when good men do nothing. It slyly impels the majority to support bad ideals. Passivity gives reign to terror, not peace. Even the passive resistance of a pacifist is not passive. Upholding law and order demands effort and money but crime and war cost much more. They destroy prosperity and ruin lives. They are pursued by the rapacious who want steal from their unprotected neighbours.

Faced with a determined aggressor or bully there comes a point when appeasement only encourages more hostility. I can allow my principles of existence to be bent for the sake of love and peace, but not broken. Principles that are vital to my existence are important enough to die for. I must uphold them vigorously so others are aware of what I will not accept and stop them going too far. I can offer conciliation or turn the other cheek but if the offer of peace is rejected I must resist.

Where both parties are unable to compromise their beliefs but still wish to reach an acceptable agreement they can agree to accept the judgement of a third party that they both respect and fear. This arbitrator would have to be impartial, absolutely incorruptible, aware of both their arguments and be more perfect in love and wisdom than those he was trying to help.

## Judgement

A judge and jury do not rely on their own opinion of right and wrong but judge a case according to predetermined rules. Otherwise they would be guided by prejudice and let off those they liked and assume the worst of those they did not like. Unless there is some form of pre-existing written code to guide the decision, the court cannot be shown to be just but the 'letter' of the law sometimes damages those it should protect more than the criminals who cunningly manoeuvre around it.

Laws alone do not protect freedom. The humanistic human rights laws promote evil by giving freedoms to wrong doers then criminalize the innocent to oppose them. As occurred with Nazism, the complacent majority is forced to support escalating evil.

The problem is that there are conflicting philosophies in the legal system. Legalism can trap the innocent but liberalism can release the guilty. No wonder our police are so frustrated. Those let off too lightly will do it again.

In too many cases the 'letter' is used to acquit criminals and discourage law upholding citizens. It is more important to uphold justice than let some rigid law annul it. It is the spirit of the law, or what it was designed to achieve that should be improved on by our judges and appeal courts.

The unscrupulous take unfair advantage of the benefits produced by the sacrifices and self restraint of others. There is very little insistence that criminals should actually pay for their crimes or work to reimburse their victims yet the Law insists that those who borrow money do have to repay it *plus* interest. Those in difficulty must not be criminalized but helped. Those who totally disregard the security of society must be outlawed from that society or they will destroy it

## Punishment and deterrents

Society imprisons people who seriously or constantly abuse the legal rights of others. It is an effective cure, only if the offender repents and is helped to reform. Most are sorry when caught, but not all repent. There are always some who pretend but on release continue with crime, often when out on bail or probation.

Laws can only produce the stability that is essential to productivity if they are accepted as right and upheld by society. Ever increasing regulations only shackle those who are law abiding, for the rogues continue to bypass them and are not deterred by the humanistic penalties that allow them more rights than their victims.

Justice must be seen to be done. Controls that bind the freedom in society, but do not adequately punish determined criminals, expose that society to corruption rather than protect it from evil. The law-abiding are betrayed and eventually take to the streets in protest. If protest is treated with indifference or force, the law becomes an oppressor and hardship and poverty reign.

With hopeless cases, prison serves no useful purpose other than to remove them from the benefits of the society they are damaging. If they do not change they must not be allowed out to ruin hundreds of the lives of unprotected people and those who are weaker than they are. The Bible story of Sodom and Gomorra illustrates this on a regional scale. This lawless bunch were captured by their enemies to be sold into slavery but rescued by Abraham with God's help for the sake of innocent Lot. God fined or taxed them 10% then returned their goods. They went on to behave even more corruptly and so they were put away forever. The Law deters bad behaviour but does not prevent it.

## World religion

You can only control a free, productive society with accepted moral codes. Societies rely on such voluntary moral restraint for stability. Governments, especially democratic ones, should allow differing ideologies to function freely so long as the stability and security of government is not threatened. It is only beneficial when it is freely accepted and not imposed. Terms like the Islamic world, Communist states or Christendom refer to political control, not to states with free ideological consensus. An ideology that is controlled by government stifles change and progress.

Rulers generally adopt a uniform religious code that supports their misrule irrespective of its veracity. They control people through their imposed philosophy or religion so alternative beliefs are considered treasonable. Moral restraint is replaced by dissent so such regimes are beset by violence.

Without God's order everyone is self-justified. Only the god-fearing are derided as wrong. Self-love cannot produce a free society. The unity of Babel, Hegel, Marx through to EU has to be fabricated by the fittest. The truth is censored and their politically correct ideas are imprinted on every mind through schooling and the media.

## Survival of the Fittest is the self destructive law of a godless society

The trite comment that 'religion causes wars' is promoted by those who want others to accept their negative, atheistic beliefs. It actually means you should not resist what you think is wrong. Unopposed evil extremists would then rule the world.

Man invents, defines then updates his god to suit his morals. Survival of the ruthless is the religion of money hungry warlords. Hitler and Marx were inspired by atheistic Evolution, not obedience to the true judge of all. It is this godless, political use of a religion or ideology that is used as a tool to enslave or farm people, that has cause so many conflicts. Repression is evil; God's love is liberating.

For world peace, religions should promote their common moral self restraints as much as they can and not be fearful of debate about their fundamental beliefs or else they concede that they are question- able. A society unified by basic beliefs, or a common moral code, would be very secure, free from widespread lawlessness, injustice and so very prosperous. Its government would be free of many costly, time consuming problems and could concentrate on good management.

Some isolated communities have achieved this ideal but they are usually too insular and inflexible. Directly outsiders arrive, with differing cultures and problems, the fixed ideal cannot cope with change and the peace is shattered. Such interaction introduces reality into an artificial situation. Israel had such a theocracy, with no central government or king but it required regular intervention by God to keep it afloat.

Traditional, ritualistic religion is detached from truth and fosters disregard for God's ordinances (Mt. 15 v 8-14). Any fear of God is separated from everyday life so it acquiesces to immorality instead of exposing or restraining it. Supercilious, pretentious, religious beliefs and practices conceal evil hearts and encourage the rejection of God by others. Without a concept of God, all ideas of right and wrong change with every wind of doctrine in order to conceal its evil intent.

Society becomes imprisoned by petty regulations. Everyone is either unable to move for fear of breaking the law or fearful of law breakers, so disrespect for the law increases. More and more laws and regulatory bodies are formed to control the unruly until more time and money is spent on filling in forms than on doing a job. The law becomes expensive and ineffectual. Peace and justice are lost and fear rules. What will be the result if modern law enforcers lose all authority; the collapse of civilisation or a military dictatorship?

Modern thinking started with deliberate attempts to build a society that ignored the idea of dependency on and accountability to a personal God, partly due to man's ignorant ideas of God. Godless societies were formed that became police states of terror, where the ruthless self determined ones fought to the top. With God-fearing people, you can exercise mercy, and they will improve. There is hope. With Godless societies, mercy is a licence for greater evil. There is no hope. Crippling regulations replace honesty and responsibility. The missing ingredient that is destroying even democracies is a knowledge of a loving God. God help us! As warned in Handel's 'Hallelujah' chorus, the God that society has debunked with a more *advanced* philosophy will not be merciful and rescue the human race from its stupidities forever.

## Eternal judgement

Without a good God as the highest judge there is no point in anyone suffering for resisting what he knows is wrong. This absolute judge must exist and be actively upholding his laws and eventually punishing evil, or else death would have succeeded in ruthlessly overcoming the world long ago. Obviously not all evildoers are punished on Earth, nor are those who selflessly resist evil universally blessed, so a **just God must** judge people after this life, defined by time and space, is over.

The only heaven that is worth investing some faith in is not on Earth. Any 'ism' that aims at creating heaven on Earth, blinds worldly men to the reality of death and judgement. It is essentially nefarious, for it could not possibly last or ever work perfectly. It encourages the godless to exploit others to feed their vanity.

People and regimes which promote permissive or submissive ideologies but suppress the idea of a loving God and personal, eternal judgement, are conspiring to subject others to their evil control. As Nietzsche concluded, Godless men must ban His truth in order to hide from His rejection. They promote the god of hate

There is a constant need to judge what is right and what is wrong; to discern between the truth and the lies. The tests and trials of this life are inherent to our learning process; we must walk through them to advance, not fear and be deflected by them and get lost. The truth leads to eternal life; the lies to eternal death.

The love that is central to man's physical and emotional life relies on an incorruptible spiritual component. God is love, He reaches out to the erring person but repentance is blocked by human pride. It cannot admit that self can be mistaken or see the futility of self preservation. If God is deleted, love and life also die. This defiance needs to be shed now or this hate will continue for eternity.

## The Sin of Pride

Pride begets hate and hate begets death. The self-excused, who contend with God's rejection of their self-centred outlook, oppose the rule of love and the free will of others and so embrace the rule of fear. Self-justification is very evil. It justifies man's evil behaviour, denigrates his Saviour and attacks God's goodness. As with Cain, it is this covert evil in men that God exposes and warns against.

The fundamental, great error that so many philosophies have in common is that they refuse to bow to or accept a supreme God. The aggressive atheist rejects the firm yet forgiving rule of love because he supports the rule of self and therefore the god of hate and death. He manifests not that the God the Father of all life does not exist but that he hates and rejects Him.

The self-reliance or self-survival, which is the central doctrine of the meta-physical Theory of Evolution, is rooted in existential, self-centred life and selfish behaviour. The childish Pragmatist sees verity as 'what is best for man as I see it'. He who lives by the law of survival of the fittest or 'Me at all cost' attacks whatever or whoever thwarts 'Me'. Life itself condemns his stance as pointless, hopeless and futile so he lives with guilt and is ruled by fear.

## THE LAW OF LOVE

Only Our Father in Heaven can afford to love all

The only basis for a law that can be considered good and just by all must be based on loving others as you love yourself. Submission to this law would promote self restraint, freedom and love. If it was just legalism it would produce injustice, bondage and hate, so obeying it unwillingly, under pressure, breaks the law of love.

The self-righteous conveniently believe that according to their own laws and gurus they are justified even when they wrong others. They love themselves more than others and in place of God. God and others will not judge them by their laws: they will be judged and convicted under the law of love (Deut. 11 v 13-28, Ps. 2 v 12). Love must be strong. Soft love is the opposite of love; it is self-indulgence.

The law of love must be upheld by the judgement and punishment of offenders but it cannot be legalistic. Like all laws it is an ideal to be aimed for. You cannot compel someone to love you. Only the self-centred demand the love and submission that crushes the free will of others.

Only an eternally secure person with limitless resources could fulfil the law of love and judge what is right and wrong according to this law. Due to our human resources and self-preservation, perfect love is beyond man's natural ability. At first God does not expect us to love but He does require us to trust in His proven love.

Our existence is governed by a set of rules that we recognise as good, but cannot fulfil (Rom. 7 v 21-25) so some time in the past our original nature must have undergone a drastic change. Originally man must have had a natural, sustaining love relationship with this righteous Lord then lost it through not trusting Him.

It can only be restored through faith in His love (Eph. 2 v 1-9). True religion must be based on humbly accepting the love of God (1 Jn. 4 v 19). Attempts at earning God's love are faithless (Gal. 3 v 12-14, 1 Jn. 1 v 8-10).

Freedom depends on the law of love. It is destroyed by the rule of fear

A civilised community must have members who specialise in food production and distribution, education, health, leisure, construction, research, advice, defence, commerce and finance as well as law and order. Love must reach out to all the unsociable 'enemies' of society or they will not support their community or obey its rules. One law hater can damage the lives of hundreds of law abiders.

A vital function of the social services must be preventative. Whatever aptitudes a person happens to be born with should be encouraged and fully utilised and any handicaps minimised otherwise they will shun that community. It must provide help without the 'or else' of fearful political coercion.

If a person is dominated by the will of another, his self expression and ability to love is suppressed, so those deprived of care, personal teaching and correction in their first few formative years are likely to be handicapped in relating to others. Their attempts to be friendly towards others are undeveloped and so they can suffer further rejection and become more isolated. Analysing their problems is introspective, highlights their failure and can do more harm than good.

A successful relationship gives a person the confidence to make renewed efforts in relating to others and life in general. Love makes people less self contained and more extrovert. A dramatic break through can result from the acceptance of a disadvantaged person by infants or animals who are less critical and discriminating. A pet rewards superficial attention with acceptance, while friendship with a wild animal, especially a large one like a dolphin, gives an even greater sense of self-esteem.

Emotional people see this attention as love and invest animals with feelings and spiritual qualities that they do not have. In reality you can only have a caring relationship with an animal. Farmers know that animals respond to human contact and care but they are not humans in disguise. Human senses, aims and life style are not compatible with animals. People who say they love their pet and treats it according to their own thinking are often cruel as far as the animal is concerned.

### Springs in the wilderness

The ultimate experience that would heal the crippling and binding wounds that we have acquired through a painful upbringing, error and conflict with others, would be the unconditional acceptance and approval of self by a person who can supply the unlimited love that we need to sustain our nature (Jn. 8 v 10, 20 v 11-17).

True love must be impartial and cannot have limits, however an individual cannot selflessly and justly judge another's needs or afford to give much from his own limited resources. Only an independent arbitrator with an unlimited supply of life and love could fulfil all man's unending needs. The teaching of that unifying person would help society to understand and avoid some of these problems.

Those who find his sustaining love now will be a source of love to the hurting people around them. Those who reject this love will be ruled by fear and be lost when their self sustaining resources run out. Many proudly believe that they are free to be me but love requires the free surrender of that freedom. I love chocolate is self-love. The self-pleasing are takers so they are a source of death to those around them. Help given conditionally is not based on love but on eligibility.

I am continually amazed that despite the many discouraging pupils, teachers still care about teaching them. Nurses, who could become jaded from helping self-centred, suffering people, are full of compassion for them. This because the Law of Love blesses those who give as well as those who receive. It is not constrained by any other law (Mt. 6 v 12-15, Gal. 5 v 23, 1 Jn. 1 v 9-10) so the self-justified break it (Jn. 3 v 16-20). They hate those who do love (Jn. 3 v 21, 12 v 46-48).

## Free will, voluntary submission and constraint

Love is still born without an act of a giver and a heartfelt response from the receiver (1 Cor. 13 v 1-7). If individuals are to act responsibly, they must be free to exercise their own will, but to maintain this personal freedom there must be order and a measure of personal restraint. For example, you may hate 'washing up' and are perfectly free to neglect it but eventually it will be impossible to do what you want to do in the kitchen. The kitchen must be ordered; a place for food, another for dishes and one for rubbish. Free will without self restraint destroys love, joy and peace.

Common basic rules of social behaviour are an enormous help in avoiding chaos and making a relationship work. A person may think that according to his judgement you have wronged him, even if in your opinion you did nothing wrong. If the relationship (or the job) is important you will have to reach some understanding and seek mutual forgiveness. It is a necessary daily occurrence between individuals and in organisations. If people are forced against their will to submit to a more powerful person or even the majority, resistance and tension build up. There will be no forgiveness so the hurt is not healed and hate is generated.

When people from different cultures marry, their differing codes are a major problem so their commitment to love has to be strong if the relationship is to survive till they have adjusted them. Love considers the well being of another as important as your own. The two demands need to be balanced. This submission to the rights of others and the denying your own, if done freely, is an act of love.

## Love cannot be selfish

Free will allows you to choose; between good and bad; life or death; freedom or slavery. Many abuse the idea of free will by confusing it with doing whatever they please. Their idea of love is selfish. The result is that many relationships do not work and so the idea of marriage has been discredited, yet marriage is essential to personal and communal stability and security.

The need for marriage has not died. It is selfless love in marriage that has died. It needs intensive care to restore it to stability, not just mouth to mouth resuscitation. Love is not a self centred, emotional feeling, it is a decision of will to give of yourself. A man must love his woman in reality not worship her as a fantasy or be subjugated like a child. He must make her feel secure and, then his woman might honour or worship him. His love must make her feel secure. This is like the relationship that God seeks with mankind (Eph. 5 v 21-33).

The godless, who think God is dead, live with the fear of self survival. Giving can exhaust a person's resources, so the fear for survival constricts love so it is debased into legal rights and equality. Love is the converse of self-centredness and is much greater than fear for it overcomes it. A little glimmer of light overcomes the blackest, most negative darkness. Yin is not combined with yang in the Ultimate but destroyed by it and so are the self-determined (Gen. 3 v 2-3, Mt. 13 v 36-43).

## Love cannot be passive

Love without action is sentiment, not love. Love does not demand but provokes a good response, but it is checked and wounded by rejection, therefore to begin with, relationships are cautious. If someone is fortunate enough to meet another who is willing to share their life with them, at first it will be exciting but, unless there is the determination to love one another with a growing commitment it is bound to be unsuccessful. Both parties will be hurt and miserable.

I remember a couple who were both about to go through their second divorces when they suddenly realised that a hypothetical third marriage would not be any more successful. They decided they had to try harder and succeeded. Marriage is to do with leaving your parents and growing up. Facing up to your problems leads to happiness; romanticised make believe ends in despair. The painful problems do not go away with divorce; if they are a part of you that you decide you will not change you will take them with you.

## Divorce

The purpose of a wedding is the making of a solemn oath to support one another, not just to have an extravagant party. Such a joining together or marriage is not easy, but failure is disastrous for the couple, any children they have produced and society in general. A ship has life boats so that if it sinks, you lose everything but can escape drowning. The worst thing you can do is abandon ship in the middle of a storm. Divorce is not an easy option or solution, it is a disaster measure and must be seen as such by a couple at the very beginning of their marriage or they will not want to face their difficult personal problems and make the relationship secure. Those who marry would then respect their marriage more and divorce would be much rarer instead of becoming the norm.

This makes the contract of marriage a very serious idea, not a romantic dream. A wedding is the ceremony plus legal record. Marriage is growing up and taking responsibility for the lives of others. The pair must trust and support one another and make promises on oath before they take on the responsibility of raising children. So often couples do not know what the marriage oaths are or mean before they get married. Those who are desperate to get married just as a goal in life are likely to become desperate to get unmarried.

## Avoid turning a trivial episode into a major drama

If the majority of my family wish to watch some miserable T.V. drama, even though I would prefer to watch the action packed film instead; for the sake of peace I submit. The film was not as important to me as my lovely family. Selfishness, pride and prejudice result in unreasonable demands on the rights of others and inflict pain on those that would otherwise be loving.

## Make love not war

If love does not rule a relationship conflict will. It will fluctuate between being tolerable and intolerable. Shared happiness only exists where love and peace reigned. Is family life not working because there is an in built order that has been lost due to the wars and the rapid changes in life style of the 20th century? Who should make which decision in each area of family life for the common good so that there is no constant friction over trivia? Until this is answered marriages will not work.

Men and women are equal in status. It is not that one is more intelligent or capable than the other, it is just that their physical differences mean that women are better than men in some areas and men are more suited to others. This should be an advantage to both. The difference in physiology should be the basis of a perfect, complementary partnership. Those who turn this advantage into deep conflict prove that their basic ideas on life must be very wrong.

## Our father who is not from heaven

What is the congenital order? Mothers bear babies and are naturally caring. They have many decisions to worry about in caring for the daily needs of the family so worry about overall provision and care should be the responsibility of a loving, self-sacrificing father. The problem is what rules father? He will not be perfect but it is where his heart is that counts. If he is ruled over by mother he will emotionally become one of the children.

If he is selfish, leads without love and self sacrifice, mother will refuse to trust and respect him. He should have learnt his protective role from his father. Men who avoid or run away from their responsibilities tend to be immature, childish and demanding of women. Uncommunicative, violent fathers with submissive women produce weak, abusive sons and hardened daughters. Forewarned is forearmed.

Absent fathers are a major cause of disruption in a community. Single mothers have to cope with all the emotional and financial pressures so they and their children are severely disadvantaged. Either social services function as an abstract father or mother works and becomes the father figure and the child minder becomes the unnatural mum. Orphans and those who attend a boarding school from an early age are also emotional handicapped and consumed by their struggle to reach maturity. With no familiar or family adult role model the boys are trapped in the frustration and insecurity of adolescent so they become dependant on and demanding of women and distant, rebellious and aggressive towards the world.

A disrespected father withdraws from his children. A harassed mother has little time and patience with her attention demanding children. So the girls protect their tender hearts by placating other women and by getting angry and vindictive with men just as mother did. They therefore identify with a manipulative, mother god. The idea of a loving Father God is replaced with an angry self demanding, heartless god. No wonder God is so in favour of love in marriage.

## The hard nut or the soft centre

Married women sometimes have to work to cover essential costs, or expensive extras, but also for fulfilment and self worth although this should come from appreciation within the family. They can successfully combine the caring for children with a full time job if it does not demand too much of their emotional and physical energy. Women who have to make difficult, impersonal or even ruthless decisions at work have to deny their compassionate, caring inclinations and become tough. The female side of their nature has to be denied, and they function in a way that is more natural to men, so they become less reliant on men.

They need to be accepted in the work place on the same level as men and demand equality with men. They cannot at the same time expect or be expected to fulfil the daily caring role of a wife and mother. However not many men want to deny their male role by becoming dependent on a woman for overall provision, taking on the daily caring role and demand equality with women.

Don't talk of love show me.

People with unfulfilled lives prefer to live in a past, present or future dream or romanticised world that must end in tragedy. Love without reality or works is dead. I will now tell a secret that has taken me many difficult years to discover. According to her code of existence my wife is in charge of the kitchen but she used to get very stressed trying to defrost the ice box. I certainly did not have the time to waste trying to shift the glacier that by then was breaking the door hinges, but my patience was tried by her feeble attempts to melt it. I used to get annoyed, brush her aside and steam it out with a boiling kettle. Then one day I realised that whoever rescued her from the defrosting would earn my wife's undying gratitude and receive a multitude of blessings. So when she decided she could not put it off any longer, still reluctantly **but lovingly**, I asked if she would like me to do it?

Flowers can be the wrong sort and outings and presents do not always please but knights who defrost 'dragons' are heroes. In this example is the secret of a happy marriage; rescue damsels in distress instead of distressing them further.

## A marriage of minds

Talk is also essential. Superficial communication is a sign of an uncaring, superficial relationship. A meaningful relationship results from a desire to love, share and understand, not to control another's behaviour or thinking by overriding their will.. Half of communication is patient listening. More than half is dictatorial.

This pairing is part of our human nature. Man has no hope of any stable future outside of this ideal yet how is it ever meant to work? Modern experiments with single sex marriages are a result of the failure of this ideal. They obscure the fact that a true single sex marriage is barren. Let's stand back a bit and try to see it in perspective.

Men and women are two complementary, equal parts of one species but their thinking is not the same. Men, as the long term planners, spend time putting their thoughts together so they think a lot more before doing anything and talk more deliberately. They find escapism relaxing. Women, as the daily planners, put their thoughts into actions so when they are just talking they are relaxing. They do not want to be impeded by great deliberations. They enjoy emotive dramas.

Men want women to think; to pay attention and agree with or understand them. That is the 'honour and obey' bit. Their love is demonstrated by being faithful, dependable and providing security so they are always thinking about work. They want their ladies to demonstrate their love by supporting their plans and encouraging them to better their lives, rather than pull in the opposite direction.

Women want men to talk more openly and be more spontaneous. They want actions, not a hug, to show they are appreciated for all their self-sacrificing, mundane work which is love in action. They want to be cherished.

A wife expects her husband to love her and look after her. If she is stressed by some difficulty he must do **something** to alleviate, if not solve, her problem, not be another problem. If he is also under pressure he cannot excuse himself, complain or pass it on to her. He must grow up quick. Nothing is more important than her well being. He ignores her problems at his peril.

She must listen to and obey his instruction in order to benefit from his protection. If she ridicules and rejects his advice he will be rejected. He will stop talking to her and walk away

The things that women want are not the same as those that men want and if neither of them have worked this out they will end up not wanting one another. Men and women are complementary, they need the support of one another, but they have opposing outlooks that can clash. Right, now how can we make this work?

**Women:** he likes all the things you do that make a house a home but he is encouraged more by an appreciative hug than the new shirt that you spent hours looking for. Behave as if you understand him, listen when he tells you about his dull old thoughts and achievements, it is his life's work; laugh at his jokes, no one else does. Smile at him and he will be happy for hours. He will think you are wonderful!

**Men: say** the right things rather than just think things ("nice hair/dress" or "you look lovely" instead of "now we are late" after she has spent ages getting ready). Surprise her! (buy flowers, little presents, clothing; the watch you bought her last year may be nice but she wants more regular encouragement than that). You may think it is a waste of resources but she thinks it is romantic. Go out to places when you do not want to; when you are tired you want to be at home but she gets tired of home. Scour the pots when she has finally sat down and does not want to get up again. Eating out may not be as good as at home but she has not had to cook it.

If one tries to get the other to conform to one's ideal, one will discover that the other is not the person one imagined they were. The self centred person's mythical idea of life, love and marriage is bound to be a disappointment. Love is exploring the unique features of this mismatch.

## The essence of marriage

Physical attraction to and mental identification with another leads to the pairing of complimentary 'halves'. If it is a true unique pairing it will last till death. However any pairing is never perfectly balanced, even with identical twins. Man wants to be loved yet he has to learn how to love in return. It takes him a lifetime to grasp the basics and if he does not get the chance to apply it in this life, he will in the next (1 Cor. 13). This is the main purpose of this life; to discover what true love is.

There is however a fundamental aberration: a uniperson or unigod can only love self. The human state was never meant to be viewed from a self-centred perspective or function without the help of the triune God. 'Till death do us part' is not just to do with long term commitment but emphasises that marriage is for the **temporal** caring of one another (as with children). It does not fulfil the inner desire; the security of belonging to, or becoming a part of someone eternally. That innate desire for love and spiritual oneness, which, continues after physical death, relates to God, man's life source.

How do you find the Almighty God who loves and live happily ever after if self perfection is not possible? Only those who reject God's love are not forgiven. Those who seek love and spiritual fulfilment from something or someone on Earth find they are bonding with a fantasy and living in unreality. Their lives revolve around, or they are worshipping less than God. It will not be eternal, so it will be an eternal disappointment. Their idea of life and love will remain an unattainable self-centred dream.

## Passion and emotion

Passions stir the body and mind; emotions and spiritual inspirations stir the mind or soul. Passion is the 'car driving itself'; the real roller coaster of life. Without rails to curb it, it ends in destruction; without brakes it runs off the rails so it must not get completely out of control or you will not enjoy it but end in a terrible mess. Life must be based on truth not make believe. Emotion can override reason; so good and bad reactions can end in disaster. Feelings, passions, and emotions are unreliable indicators of truth; two people may have a common experience but because it is personal, it cannot be assumed that they are sharing a joint impression.

The 'stiff upper lip' or guarding your heart is not just self-restraint but the suppression of emotions because others are self-centred and cannot cope or be trusted with your personal feelings. True love must be gauged with truth, not feelings, yet truth without feelings is abstract. Faith without action is dead; love without deeds is meaningless; words without emotion are ineffectual.

The half hearted Stoics were only half right. It is right to be unemotional or stoical in many circumstances as in serving the injured or making tough decisions. It is not right to be a Stoic. This makes you feel superior and allows you to become judgemental and ruthless. Their trivial wisdom plus inner, 'spiritual' restraint makes them appear superior like an implacable, Greek god. Such Pride is self destructive; it cannot forgive self for failure; only humility plus love can.

## Sex and violence

Medical specialists in particular are caught in the middle of this stoic dilemma. Man was not made an immortal, self sustaining god but a God sustained, frail, physical being, so alone he is bound to fail. His pride is bound to destroy him; his repentance is bound to save him. Superhuman stances are inhumane and produce lonely, repressed people who replace pent-up passion and emotion with sex and violence.

The human hormonal, sexual drive produces a very strong emotional and physical desire but relationships based on sexual desire alone are unstable, uncaring and sometimes violent. By itself therefore it can be insatiable and only functions fulfillingly as a component of an intimate, unselfish, secure relationship.

Such intense intimacy should essentially be reserved for relationships where two people are able to love or trust one another to the extent of sharing their bodies and lives. This intimate action is clearly designed to create unity in marriage and any such intimacy with another is accepted as grounds for ending a marriage.

In the beginnings of that allowed intimacy and later, any signs of selfishness or abuse are a measure of the degree of sincerity in the relationship. Where it is purely selfish, gratification or if sexual favours are used to gain advantages, the very nature of this intimacy is corrupted. Such disrespect is unloving and damages even self-respect.

When someone enters into another they possess them and become part of them. This 'one flesh' intimacy will have a binding and sealing effect on their relationship. In essence it is creative. This binding effect is weakened by previous sexual relationships, broken by subsequent relationships and destroyed by promiscuity. It is a very profound bonding that cannot be treated casually. Subsequent rejection leads to very deep problems. There is no such thing as safe, casual sex. Sex is generally regarded as fun yet its misuse is the cause of more suffering world wide than all the other man made afflictions like drug abuse and war.

Love centred sex is pro life and enhances lives. Lonely and self-centred people use physical intimacy to simulate being loved or to stimulate love but unrequited love is joyless and devastating. Sexually abused people develop very low self-worth and become self-abusers and self-destructive. Rejection is at the heart of sexual corruption. Abusers demand acceptance, which only compounds their rejection as in the drive and sexual predation of people like Sartre.

Some anthropologists, like the paedophile Lizot have tried to confuse it but the unavoidable conclusion, based on its biological and physical characteristics, is that sexual intimacy is intrinsically a part of a secure relationship into which children are born and cared for. This implicit fact has been subverted by godless, unloved, self-consumed nihilists who want the world to be made in their deadly image. God given sexuality is made perverted, harmful and burdened by guilt. Self-centred sex corrodes and destroys lives. The intensity of physical abuse, as with other overwhelming experiences, leaves a deep mental mark and even a spiritual obsession where the person is aware of another personality dominating their thoughts.

## Why can't a woman be more like a man?

Gender is elementary not evolutionary. In an effort to prove evolutionary, Freudian theory, that behaviour is conditioned by upbringing, a baby boy who had been accidentally over circumcised was brought up, it was claimed, successfully as a girl. The fact that he always thought of himself as a boy was totally disregarded. As soon as he was free to do so he reverted to a male and eventually married.

This sort of experiment is used to try to justify crossed sexual behaviour as 'natural' so the evidence has to be perverted. We now know that male and female brains have distinct differences. Every cell in a man's body is 'labelled' differently from a woman's. These differences cannot be ignored as irrelevant or just acquired as a result of social evolution and remolded by social changes. Some men should be more compassionate and some women may need to make cold, unemotional decisions but the idea of them having both a feminine and masculine side comes from the yin and yang of superstitious, occult based, nature worship not science.

Metaphysical spirit based assertions are much more devious than they seem. Advanced societies must look at their founding beliefs not the false reports from the study of primitive nature worshippers by perverse anthropologists. The security, upbringing and final inheritance that a child receives from its parents are the key to that advance. It is clear that the adoption of animalistic, pagan self-survival ideology and the religious teaching of it as scientific fact in our schools is gradually destroying any moral restraint in imprudent young people.

Their spiritual inheritance is discarded for a egocentric bowl of primeval soup (Heb. 12 v 16-17, Rom. 9 v 13). Love is swapped for fear. They have turned to the fatalistic, nature fearing mind-set of the countries that have been torn apart by it. Birth rates have collapsed. They have flushed 'the baby out with the bath water.

## Sexuality

Freud believed that the solution to man's problems with life could be discovered by analysing the motivation behind unexplained behaviour; such as subconscious slips, mistakes, disturbed dreams; not grasping that this self centred outlook was the problem. He rejected any idea of God and embraced Darwin's flawed 'Theory of Evolution of Favoured Races' that classed women as scientifically inferior to men.

He related human behaviour to machine like functions of the brain, then tried to analyse them. He fixated on the modified 'evolutionary' presumption that survival through reproduction is the driving force for survival in animals and therefore also in man (a version of the doctrine of reincarnation and Ashtoreth worship). Animals respond to instincts not intellect. In many species reproduction is confined to a seasonal event. Natural animal behaviour is based on functions that are compartmentalised: food collecting/hunting, reproduction/refuge, defence/aggression, rest/play. When the animal is confused or stressed or has been perverted by humans, these functions become unbalanced and they tend not to breed. Instead of seeing that sexual turmoil is related to a disturbed life style, he made it his idol.

His unbalanced emphasis on sex is another example of the fallacy of making one of the many experiences of life the purpose of and reason for life. In order to support this exaggeration he applied it to sexually innocent infants. Even his religiously repressed partner Jung, who was sexually promiscuous with his vulnerable patients, could not agree with his conclusions.

Freud was not seeking for truth, but was trying to rationalise and justify his own sexual confusion. If we want to find release from our inner confusions it must emanate from a person who has a solution to those problems not someone who is helplessly overcome by the problems himself. Society has been wandering around lost in this sex centred maze, ever since. Infertility is now a major problem. We learn from trial and error. Genetic traits that do not work to the good are evil.

### Analysis of the Psyche

Analysing the mental state behind disturbed behaviour can lead to a release from the problems but often it just entrenches them. Where it is used to excuse the problems as 'natural' it does the reverse. Captivated Man has become more confused than a stressed animal. The degrading of mankind from sons of God into perverted animals is Satan's aim (Is. 14 v 12-17, Rom. 1 v 21-32, Heb. 2 v 5-15).

The clear intention of sexual intimacy is to create and maintain a deep, secure male/female partnership into which children are born, cared for and accepted. Conversely those suffering from loneliness, rejection and self-centredness, tend to be frustrated with their sexuality and misuse it. Its effects are so deep that they suffer from disturbing physical and psychological disorders.

We may be understanding with people with unbalanced sexuality, but by accepting this as normal, the emotional pain and rejection at its root is perpetuated. The internal stresses caused by distortions, conflicts and trauma, can lead to ill health, violence, excessive drinking, eating disorders, smoking and drug taking. They also can induce escapism in the form of obsessive sexual fantasy.

This is a deviation from natural sexual behaviour (even in animals), so a fear of exposure and guilt add to the stress. Freud's theory meant that he had to deny the validity of this guilt so he made a jump of logic and stated that the guilt was not natural but imposed by our upbringing. Hence the permissiveness that he promoted has not resulted in a free society but a highly stressed, self-abortive, anomic society with people turning to restrictive cultures to find security and peace.

Man's godless intellectual wisdom, based on self survival is destroying him. Godless man cannot even save himself from himself. The sexually transmitted AIDS pandemic, which is wrecking many of the poorest countries, is totally preventable. It could be wiped out in one generation if promiscuity was discouraged. Yet the emphasis is on unreliable protection and unaffordable mollifying drugs. At one time it was taboo to teach sex in schools, now it is taboo to teach that the abuse of sex is harmful. This incomprehensive teaching does not protect children but exposes them to life long emotional conflicts.

## Sex education

Why is sex education in school not centred on the sanctity of marriage? Is it because no one really believes marriage is very important anymore or because it does not work if people are self centred instead of God centred? When insecure, dysfunctional families become the norm the nation is damned.

The teaching on God and marriage has been confused by theoretical psychologist, bodged by unmarried theologians and trashed by sexually 'liberated' (captivated), self-consuming, regressive, progressives. The most wonderful cry a person can hear is 'Mummy!' or 'Daddy!' Children need to know this. God rent His being in order to hear it!

## Pornography

Pornography is the debasing of the intimacy of sex into a commodity or commercial enterprise. It is used by advertisers, entertainers, writers, criminals and evil people to manipulate and seduce the unwary, the foolish and the young. The abuse of sex seriously distorts a person's outlook on life. Sexual voyeurism is as degrading as watching someone do a pooh.

Where people are presented as just objects for sexual desire, personal rights and security are threatened; sexual harassment escalates and rape is no longer perceived to be a heinous crime. Societies that are tolerant of adultery, promiscuity, pornography and prostitution also become devastated by divorce, insecurity, rebellion and neurosis and eventually fall apart at the seams.

Pornography is not simply a private affair that is all right behind closed doors. It is invasive. Each compulsive perversion does not just seek privacy but demands open public acceptance yet denies the human right of others to censor it.

It revolves around money making and enticement, not liberation. Dominating adverts with scantily clothed women fill hoardings; nude women are used to advertise car tyres and bricks while inanimate objects are described as sexy to make them more desirable! It is excused as harmless but no one seems to differentiate between sex which is essentially good and creative and the abuse of sex which is essentially very damaging, destructive and oppressive. It is man's worship of an idealised or deified woman. The Greeks worshipped her as Aphrodite but visualised her offspring, Eros, the god of fanatical love, as false, malicious, childish and blind. His father was Chaos,

Eroticism is like playing with matches. It can start a fire that, like other addictions, consumes happiness and ends in torment. The desire for sexual fantasies and pornography soon becomes an uncontrollable obsession. The mind becomes sick and every person, comment or object evokes sexual connotations. This leads to rejection and ends in deep depression. Intimacy alone cannot fill the love void in a person's soul, so it tends to become more extreme and the person eventually degenerates into a violent and sadistic, sexual predator. Any hope of

## The censorship of morality

The special expression of love, unity and trust that is implicit in sex, is lost by public exposure. Nudist therefore degrade the intimacy of nakedness. The bond is trashed and divorces escalate. Permissiveness in society and the promotion of devious sexual behaviour across the open media has invaded and seriously warped the minds of the emotionally unstable and inquisitive young. The more serious mental and physical health dangers and the very costly social consequences of casual sex are compounded due to the liberal warning of just 'be careful' to those who are surrendering to their passions!

Governments have a duty to protect society against such damage but reports, coloured by Freud's 'discoveries', have led to the reduction of restrictions. This laxity is reinforced by the excuse that censorship is difficult to enforce and does not prevent the abuses. However those who do not think it is their duty to censor immorality both in the media and through tax allowances are prepared to censor media glamorisation, ban public usage and adverts, display shocking, compulsory warnings and add heavy taxes to curb smoking. It would seem that the majority of politicians are licentious non-smokers?

Society in general is censored in the form of 'political correctness' which at first is subtly enforced. Words like 'fornicator', 'queer', 'bugger', 'sodomite' 'sexual immorality' 'living in sin' and even 'virgin' have become blue while 'eroticism', 'cross-dressing', 'sex change', 'bisexual' and 'homosexual' have come out of the closet. Public standards committees have been created to 'paper over some of the cracks' but they have no moral conviction. This permissiveness and lack of sexual privacy in society has to be opposed through other means, like industrial tribunals, for the license wanted by some results in the intimidation and abuse of others.

## Immorality in the media

The media should be the ears and eyes of the people, not the tool of the producers. Its power to influence people is demonstrated every day and even governments are afraid of offending the handful of men who control popular journalism. A free press should assist society to resist those who deceive and abuse it for their own aims, not be party to it. An opinion or a demonstration for some right by thousands that the media does not support does not get a mention but an orchestrated pressure group with a rent-a-crowd of fifteen can get national coverage, with close up pictures to make it look as if there were thousands. The emphasis is on propaganda and publicity. Terrorists die for it.

Very little important, unbiased, informed news is reported even in entertaining documentaries. Journalist give the excuse that they produce what the people want, in order to sell papers and increased viewing, but when the presentation is biased, exaggerated and twisted more and more, they are leading in and promoting immorality, not following it. They make icons out of self destructive wrong doers and pillory any respectable person caught in a personal failure.

## Grave consequence of self dissection

A man is not self generated or self sufficient. If he is totally self-centred he is a burden to himself and others. If he is ruled by unselfish inclinations, he is capable of a fulfilling, wonderful life yet there must be more to life than just living it well, even if it benefits others. Man's self sustained life is futile so he tends to hide from this reality by pursuing unreality. His life's aims, pastimes, soporific addictions, virtual, trivial world, proud, truth-defying ideologies; are all mind conjured or spiritually framed towers up which man tries to climb to escape from time with its prospect of death.

Man does not know who or why he is. What is it that all those thinkers have missed with their self contradictory solutions? Their vanity rejects that self alone is vain. The unreality of such self deception seals their fate. Why do so many identify with these lost states and adopt these philosophies when they offer no true hope of self survival? What is the truth? We need an overall answer. What would enable us to relax about a life of fear for self-survival and see the flaw in the doctrine of 'survival of the fittest', for even the fittest are not self-sustained and eventually die?

## The living dead

Many of these odd, lonely, tortured thinkers were so diverted by the intensity of sex that they believed it is the driving force for existence when they were really driven by paternal rejection and maternal domination. They were deprived from infancy of the approval, love and attention that their being needed and so their souls were wounded and scarred. Anger and self-determination left them with only counterfeit love.

Self-centredness is like a pit that others approach at their peril. It is lined with loneliness. Freud is described as descending into the underworld with a theory that voided its demons but he merely dug a labyrinth of tunnels to link his pit with others. This withdrawal of self from the hurtful outside world offers asylum but no cure or hope or future. Self justifies self and blames other factors and people for its misery but cannot bear the guilty thought that self has caused others even more misery.

Self must want to be set free enough to risk exposure in order to receive and give forgiveness and love. There is a whole new world out there but only love can tempt the damaged to peer out of their inner, grave-like pits of manic self-defence/survival. Unreal mental states are caused by denying the truth and accepting a chain of lies; impression-depression-oppression-obsession-suppression.

Possession is linked with stupor, drugs and other occult exposure. The deceptive inner voices or inspirations end in Nietzsche's madness. To get free from this self dug pit requires the admittance of how terrible self has made its situation. All the excuses based on blaming others who are no better off must be repented of. Those damaged by rejection need a forgiving heart before they can accept love. Peace, security and confidence come from knowing you are loved. Self-centred extroverts are really insecure introverts who seek approval but you cannot earn love. You receive it by open yourself up by giving in love. Like life itself, it cannot be manufactured, only begotten.

The true driving force of life is not the fear of death: it is love. Popular songs reflect this but also the problems with finding true love. It is fundamental to our nature yet beyond the capacity of our finite nature. Love is an inbuilt desire in man for oneness with other like minded beings and with one in particular. It is not an experience restricted to or necessarily achieved in this life, it is greater than this life.

Men sacrifice this life for the sake of love. It is spiritual and eternal. We would like to think that everyone deep down is good and not too self centred, but generally this is not true. Deep down most want to hide their inner thoughts because they are not always nice. This should worry them enough to seek some answers but as Jesus observed, many through pride reject the truth and so remain utterly self excused and deceived (Jn. 3 v 15-21). Everyone has temporal problems but the lasting problem is excusing the inadequacy of self by blaming others and God. The solution evaporates and a bitter residue remains.

You must believe you are accepted and loved before you can accept help and cleansing. This release is what bonding sessions and group therapy aim for. Those who humble themselves before men are accepted and excused by men so their eternal dilemma is submerged. They aim for confession then the self acceptance of fault-ridden selves. There is no confession of faults, repentance and forgiveness so they remain guilty, angry and bound by guilt.

You must open your heart to receive love but people, animals, experiences, pursuits, money; all will eventually fail and leave you devastated. Who has got enough love to rescue the whole human race? The only one with guaranteed promises is God. The Father's love accepts all who turn to Him for help, regardless of their state. If you call on and trust in God for help your problems will be washed away by His love. Only when you have experienced the love and forgiveness of Jesus can you dare to love others. His love will empower you to transfer from your troubled life into a new God-sustained life. Terrible problems presented to his love will be solved by love and not compounded.

God the Comforter, the source of eternal life

Where is this God of love that our nature demands? If love is to be the basis of the relationship He cannot be impatient and impose His will when we make a mess of our lives or when we offend Him. Once a person chooses to submit to Him and asks Him to be Lord of their life, He would be free to correct them and communicate more openly, but only as Master and servant. God just appearing as a man could never make man compatible with God, so how is a love relationship possible? Can we gain eternal life or is our existence futile?

An almighty, immutable, omniscient, omnipresent, righteous God must have a tangible entity who proceeds from His being who is fully identified with His perfect nature yet can also relate to His finite creations. A second, all encompassing extension of His being who guides each individually is also essential. He knocks on the door of every persons heart (Jn. 14 v 21-26, 16 v 8-15). Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches (Rev. 2 v 7, 11, 17, 29, 3 v 6, 13, 19-22)!

Abraham could not fulfil God's promise so he produced a son from a bond woman. Those who do what they think is good based on their version of God's word (Gen. 3 v 6) Gen. 2 v 17, 3 v 4-5, 1 Sam. 15 v 22-23, 2 Sam. 6 v 6-11, 1 Kg. 13 v 20-24, Mt. 7 v 21-23, Lk. 18 v 9, 24 v 44-49, 1 Jn. 1 v 9-10) will retain their meaningless, self-consuming lives (Ps. 2). The self-justified who play at being good will die (Is. 55 v 6-11, Jn. 3 v 3-6, Rom. 8 v 3-9, 1 Cor. 2,3,4 & 5, 13 v 12). Without God's breath of life man's version of God's will is lifeless (Mt. 12 v 9-18, Gal. 3 v 6-14).

Jesus' human death replaces man's dying life with his eternal life. His sacrifice proves that the Father's love and is beyond question (Heb. 11 v 1,6). Those who accept the Father's just judgement of death on man's god-defying ways will gain His promised Second Adam's eternal life as a love gift (Gen. 3 v 15, Job 19 v 25-29, Rom. 6 v 3-14, 8 v 1-17, 1 Cor. 15 v 42-50, 54-57).

### The adventure of faith

We need to make contact with the approachable person of God in the belief that he will comfort and sustain us personally, give us the rules for a stable society and provide eternal security based on a loving relationship. How? Have we got to ascend to heaven to meet Him which would be impossible without Him or wait till we die but would that be too late? The god you meet in death must be the enemy of the God of life. We must discover more about Him and find Him before we die!

Seeking God must be an adventure rather than a gamble that develops at the rate the person wants to grow. He must promote the truth and provide a source of information and knowledge about eternity to guide a walk of trust or faith developed from experience. He must be perfectly just and righteous and He wants to live with Him yet we are not even unrighteous to one another? He has allowed us free will so He must have a seemingly impossible answer to this seemingly impossible problem.

He is eternally secure so only He can afford to love everyone who wants to love Him. For the sake of that relationship and be our source of love, hope, joy, peace and fulfilment His love does not change His perfect nature: it magnifies it. His love sent His visible person to earth as a sinless man to suffer death in our place (Is. 53, 2 Cor. 5 v 21, Php.2 v 1-11, Col. 1 v 12-23, 1 Pt. 2 v 24-25).

Submission to perfect love results in perfect peace. Jesus fully understands the limitations of self-centred man and has made atonement for all who repent for their sins against God's love. Those who freely submit to this peacemaker and accept that their old godless life is doomed will gain his righteous life as a son of God the Father of all life (Lk. 23 v 39-43). Those who reject his authority will be rejecting a loving relationship with God (Jn. 3 v 16-21). They will also be rejecting His unending provision and so must end in the destitute company of those who hate and feed off the lives of others.