

God has been saying something to us for a very long time. For centuries, his message of freedom has been on display in the stars and planets, throughout history and science. We witness his message in our Bibles, prayers, relationships, telescopes, microscopes, almanacs, and equations. Don't look now, but God is standing right behind, before and beside you in the past, present and future.

The amazing events described in this book remind me that God not only created the Universe, but also sustains it. Max Planck, the Father of Quantum Mechanics said, "All matter originates and exists only by virtue of a force... We must assume behind this force the existence of a conscious and intelligent Mind. This Mind is the matrix of all matter."

Tim Vaughan,
Professor of Information Technology

The April 14th
Anomaly

Sylvia Garland

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*Dedicated to Clark and all men too discouraged to lift
their swords and fight their dragons.*

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Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my parents for enjoying the quest along with me and even adding a few April 14 discoveries of their own. Without them, my life would be *infinitely* less.

About the Author

The author of whom I write is not I. Allow me to surprise you a little bit. Allow me to introduce you to a new perspective on something you've known all your life. There is a God. God is the author and creator of this universe, and he is also the writer/director of our history. That's a new idea to many that demands some reflection. For instance, as we watch movies, we accept that natural laws might be altered inside that film because the filmmaker has written the movie to flow a certain way. We may not like the story or the acting or directing in the movie, but we never doubt that someone has made the movie. It's not a perfect analogy, of course. Movies flow like dreams, but reality is more like a live broadcast where the actors are allowed to adlib. Still – even reality TV programs have writers. There is a creator of the universe, and the powerful play goes on; you're in it, and I'm in it.

Surprisingly, as the author of history, God is the only author who does *not* write books. Have you ever noticed that? He doesn't produce

movies or plays or interactive media either. God writes reality itself: DNA and atoms and molecules. He is the *God Particle* keeping every atomic element of the universe in orbit around its nucleus. God keeps every planet spinning on an axis in orbit around a star. God keeps every star system in motion around a galactic center. Those who write code for computers have a sense of what it means – God has written the universe from a fundamental source code, and his universe runs like clockwork because it *is* a clock. It is the ultimate timepiece. God is good because only someone who's perfectly good could achieve this level of success, perfection, and precision. The definition of badness is imperfection, failure, and chaos. God is good at everything he does, and we're lucky to have him.

God has been in touch with humanity on many occasions. How do I know? I have an anthology called *The Bible* that is full of witness testimony. Forty men over the course of about 1500 years painstakingly recorded actual events drawn from witness accounts. You'll find that some of the same events have been written by other ancient cultures (Sumerian, Egyptian), but the Bible contains the reliable (and unembel-

lished) version of history. The Bible describes the successes and failures of everyone – including heroes. These 40 scribes were not obscure men. They were reliable witnesses, court reporters, and historians whose integrity was well established among their peers. Think of the Bible this way: It is the book of man's witness of the divine. If you test it, you will find it worthy of your trust.

Note:

To be fair, we women were witnesses too; we just weren't scribes. The job of a scribe in ancient times was isolated, repetitive, and meticulous work. Women have always preferred jobs around people, so there's nothing wrong with men doing the tedious job of copying royal decrees longhand in isolation for hours. I'm glad someone had the stamina for it.

The Bible reads like a single story, although most of the writers never came in contact with each other. Some events appear several times to emphasize different details, but the truth itself is unaltered. God even went so far as to sire a son in whom "the Word became flesh" and lived among us. In this way, once again, God wrote the truth

into reality itself and left the writing of books to men. It is in this conviction that I write the following.

I was born on April 14, 1971. I am a videographer, poet, musician, and Sunday school teacher. I have two college degrees and a few awards for my work. I am ambidextrous. My life is full of impossibilities and contradictions. I see myself – and every dedicated Spirit-filled Christian – as a tool in God’s hand like a stencil or a hammer. It’s not a bad thing to be God’s tool on Earth! If you’re smart, you’ll see the power of Yahweh God (and Jesus Christ) through this book and beyond. Please look beyond the hammer; see the carpenter.

Message in a Bottle

You've heard of Abraham Lincoln and the Titanic, haven't you? Did you know that they each met their tragic ends on the same night, 47 years apart? The nights were April 14, 1865, and April 14, 1912. It is a curious coincidence, is it not? I think fewer events in American history have inspired a wish for time travel as much as these. What if you could warn President Lincoln or warn Captain Smith? What if you could get a message to either of them? What would you say?

Try This: Take a moment to formulate a letter to either of these men. Be as persuasive as possible. How would you go about overcoming their distrust of you, a stranger? Forgetting for a moment that both these men were well aware of the dangers and received plenty of credible warnings, what might you have said differently to change the course of history? How much lead-time would you need to establish your credibility?

In *Back to the Future 2*, Doc Brown wrote a handwritten letter to his time-traveling partner, Marty. It was mailed in 1885 and delivered in 1955. Because the letter is in the Doc's own handwriting and speaks in esoteric detail, Marty can trust it. If Doc Brown had been thrown back farther in time – 700 years instead of 70 – his original autographed letter would not have survived the ravages of time. Doc's letter would have disintegrated in a hundred years, even with the best of care. How, then, has ancient scripture survived all this time? The original autographs of the Bible were handwritten in ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, of course. But they were written on vellum or parchment – two materials that disintegrate under ordinary atmospheric conditions. To preserve the message for hundreds of years, they've had to make fresh copies every 50 years or so. In this way, the original information lives on even as the original documents gradually turn to dust. The Bible has the added distinction of having been translated and copied into many other languages, too.

After 3500 years, there are countless copies of the Bible in varying states of decay throughout the world. These many copies of the Bible are

proving to be an advantage rather than a liability. It means there are plenty of copies to which we may compare and debunk the forgeries that come along. This method is the most secure system of record transmission, preservation, and authentication in history. Imagine making multiple hard copies of the same document every fifty years for a thousand years and storing them in libraries all over the world! It's better than blockchain! I doubt Doc Brown could have mustered enough influence to persuade scribes and monks to keep making copies of his letter after he was dead. Not even Moses had that much clout. He needed God's endorsement.

Another obstacle is language itself because languages morph throughout the ages. Citizens of the Roman Empire spoke Latin, but nobody speaks conversational Latin anymore. After 1600 years, Latin has been carried away to other lands and transformed into Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, and so forth. Scholars started translating the Latin Bible into other languages in the 15th century, and in 1551 Robert Stephanus added something to the Bible. Are you shocked? Don't be. He added chapter and verse numbers to help readers find their way. These numbers have

become so helpful that we include them consistently in every translation without a second thought. They are both essential and inconsequential because they don't change the meanings of the words they help us find.

God doesn't waste information. Mathematics is perhaps the most unassailable and straightforward cross-cultural language there is. Observe the movements of the Sun, Moon, and stars. 60 minutes make an hour, 24 hours make a day, 7 days make a week, 12 months make a solar year. Those numbers have meaning, and they reflect the truth. You are a witness to that fact. These numbers are always true as they express literal truths about our physical world. Reality is not "your truth" or "my truth" – it is THE truth.

Try This: For the next thirty days or so, go outside at the same time each night and find the Moon. Take a picture. When the lighted area looks the same as it did on the night you started, count the days. You can personally verify the length of a month.

Witness vs. Spectator

As you read and reflect upon the details in this book, I ask you to stand as a witness more than just a spectator. If you understand that a spectator is just a casual observer who is spoon-fed information, allow me to direct your attention to the added thrill of becoming a witness. What is a witness? A witness is someone who tells you about something you can't see for yourself – like a historical event. There are (in my view) four types of testimony: reliable, unreliable, hearsay, and lies. Every time someone tells us anything, we need to decide what kind of witness they are before wasting our time listening to their story. There's more than one way to be wrong about something, and being wrong isn't the same as being a liar.

- 1 A reliable witness is a person who has a reputation for honesty, clearly saw what happened, and can describe it usefully. (The exceptions would be a court reporter or historian since they write on a witness's

behalf.) You need to interview at least two or three reliable witnesses to have confidence that the story you're hearing is the truth. (Video can be a witness if it provides **complete** coverage.)

- 2 An unreliable witness (such as a child or a stranger) is someone who may lack a reputation for honesty, may lack the vocabulary or mental acuity necessary to describe what they saw, or they didn't see it clearly enough. An unreliable witness is not a liar but not helpful either.
- 3 Hearsay is also not helpful because it is any rendition of events by a non-witness such as a news anchor or reporter who is just repeating what he heard or reading from a prompter. A news reporter's only contribution to the truth comes from asking good questions to draw it out of others. Hearsay is no more helpful than gossip.
- 4 A liar impersonates any of the above three categories. Your mission is to validate the person in front of you, not his/her story. Most liars go unchallenged because they become hostile when questioned, and most people dislike conflict. Just ask a few ques-

tions for clarification – questions that invite them to repeat details. (It's easier to remember the truth than a fabrication, so if their story changes too much, you know you have met a liar.)

Consider how the Ten Commandments were chiseled on stone tablets by the finger of God, given to Moses in private and brought down from Mount Sinai in the presence of thousands of watching Israelites. God made sure that these people witnessed unmistakable evidence of His presence, authorship, and power. There was lightning, thunder, an earthquake, billowing smoke, and Moses' face glowed. God even started to speak to the people, but they were so terrified that they begged God to use Moses as an intermediary instead. There was no disputing it. They were all witnesses, and Moses was the first Bible scribe. On this basis, the Bible began as a trustworthy witness account (starting with Genesis).

People love to learn new things, and that's why the idea of time travel is so appealing. They love accumulating knowledge that empowers their sense of truth and adds to their mental stability. Truth does that. However, one of life's

most terrifying horrors is the discovery that you mistakenly built your reality on a non-truth. Did we evolve from goo, or did God create us with purpose? Are we essentially good people learning to be bad or essentially bad people learning to be good? Is this all there is, or is there life after death? Do I want to live in a world ruled by a loving God or a world controlled by a sinister cabal of dictators? Does everyone wonder these things, or is it just me? The things we believe about our world impact our state of mind, health, and happiness. Lies have the worst consequences – even when you don't realize you're spreading or believing them. I am not asking you to trust me. I bring supporting evidence that any time traveler should be glad to have.

What about angels? Can angels be witnesses? I suppose this seems like an odd question to some people, but I think it will be very relevant in the coming days. In the Bible, there are several accounts of angels making oral announcements to human beings. They are also referred to as "watchers" in a few places. But nowhere in the Bible do we see them called upon to bear witness and give testimony **on Earth**. Even if they could serve as witnesses, angelic entities would need to

have the same credentials and credibility as men or women. Suppose an angel (or a space alien) appeared in your bedroom and told you things or handed you a book that told you something. Here you have the same problem you had when you wrote your letter to Captain Smith or President Lincoln. How can you trust a stranger's story? Is a metaphysical magic show or knowledge of what's going on in the house next door proof of honesty? That only proves they're from the spirit realm, not that they're one of the good guys. Think about this: Two major modern religions trace their origins to a single mysterious angel and a single human author to whom it appeared. The purported revelation from the angel was (in both cases) presented with no corroborating witnesses at all. It was just one angel making claims (oral and written). Even if you were sure the angel was real, how do you confirm his integrity? This angel is setting a trap of hearsay (not to mention heresy).

Want my advice? Anyone whose claims cannot survive a cross-examination against other reliably witnessed sources shouldn't be starting a new religion (especially one whose expansion depends mainly on large families, stress condi-

tioning, and preteen brides). Purveyors of spurious belief systems regularly pressure proselytes to tie up hours of valuable time studying their books and stories without first offering confirmation of the author's credentials as a reliable witness – to say nothing of the higher standards we should have for anyone claiming to be a god. It always boils down to a matter of trustworthiness. Sadly, we have reached a stage in civilization where voices are trusted because they are members of large organizations. This instinctual trust explains why the White Starline's version of the Titanic sinking was "official" for 77 years, but the witness accounts from third-class passengers were "hysterical." As Tevya sang in *Fiddler on the Roof*, "when you're rich they think you really know." Human nature is very trusting of power because, I suppose, we were all children once, and we don't like to do homework.

Secrets in a Wardrobe

C.S. Lewis is a famous scholar and theologian who taught at Oxford. He was born November 29, 1898, and he died on November 22, 1963 (otherwise known as the day of the Kennedy assassination). My father read *The Chronicles of Narnia* to me as a child. Lewis wrote these seven fantasy stories in the 1950s and staged them in a magical 16th-century environment populated by talking animals and mythical creatures. Lewis wove a clear moral thread throughout his books, but there was a puzzle in them too. It is reported that Lewis' friend, J.R.R. Tolkien, was critical of the Narnia stories because they contained such a variety of mythical imagery from sources ordinarily kept separate. The inclusion of Santa Claus was deemed particularly problematic. This baffled readers for decades. For sixty years, many scholars and fans speculated about the various possible meanings of the symbols inside Narnia, but nobody could find the key to unlock and understand them.

Enter: Michael Ward. Mr. Ward studied at Oxford, too. He did his Ph.D. on the writings of C.S. Lewis, and in 2007 he published his dissertation, *Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C.S. Lewis*. In it, he made a compelling case. Lewis, Ward contends, filled each of his books with allusions to the ancient lore of the seven planets. To understand why Santa Claus appeared in the first book, for example, one need only understand the character of planet Jupiter whose themes guide that story. To understand the underlying theme in *The Silver Chair*, we look to the Moon. *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* contains Sun imagery. What a marvelous discovery!

Lewis was a famous apologist and lecturer who tackled tough theological questions in various fictional environments because some abstract ideas are better explained in concrete terms. Fantasy stories provide an environment for both. Many things in our world – as with Narnia – appear random, out of place, and inappropriate for the story we think we are reading, but once we learn the key, it makes sense. The keys to Narnia lie in 16th-century cosmology: Jupiter, Mars, Sun, Moon, Mercury,

Venus, Saturn. Was there a similar key in God's universe?

Those who deny the very existence of a creator God have closed this book already. They want no other worldview than the one they learned as a child. Refusing the truth is just as bad as embracing a lie. Proverbs 25:2 reads, "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter." Daniel 12:4 reads, "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book even to the end of time; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Can there be any doubt that we have reached the age of increased knowledge? The knowledge library of the internet has overwhelmed us with information – both worthy and spurious. I'm happy to say that as of this moment, the historical events I describe in this book are searchable in any online encyclopedia, and they are probably already inside your head, depending on where you received your education.

Is God's authorship as evident throughout history, cosmology, geography, geology, and biology as was Lewis' secret theme inside his Narnia books? This was the question I asked God in 2011. We live in an era when clever minds

quickly connect pieces of otherwise disconnected information at breakneck speeds. We have conspiracy theories about our conspiracy theories that all sound as plausible as our reality. What is real anymore? Is this gold or fool's gold? Is God an actual person who interacts with humanity, or is he just a philosophical pursuit for academic minds?

On the Trail of Discovery

This discovery was rare, as rare as a solar eclipse. When people witness a solar eclipse, they must be standing in just the right place on Earth and at just the right time to experience the breathtaking spectacle of total night and a 360° sunrise. Our life experiences are like that. You have seen some unique things in your lifetime, no doubt. Finding people with whom you can share those unique experiences – especially those life-defining experiences – is often challenging. The more rare, beautiful, or horrible an event has been for us, the less often we speak of it because describing something like that to people who can't even imagine it is too much work after a while. Maturity matters. Will you understand this? We shall see.

I need to give you a little synopsis of my life because it DOES factor into the anomaly. I apologize in advance if any of this seems self-serving or if it makes you uncomfortable, but there are people in the world who may need to

hear this story. My father was born on January 30, 1942, and my mother was born 8 days later. They were married in 1963, and I was born 8 years later. My mother's doctor accurately predicted the date of my birth. I suppose everybody loves their birthdays, but few people have the added distinction of having been born on a date that marks so many historical events. There are no historic births that day (to my knowledge), and I stumbled across just two actors who share the birthday. (Robert Carlyle from Disney's *Once Upon a Time*, and Peter Capaldi of *Doctor Who*). As for historic events, I have already mentioned the Lincoln assassination and the sinking of the Titanic, but there are more. It wasn't until 2011, when I read *The Narnia Code*, that I began to see them en masse like puzzle pieces falling from above.

Everybody is born a fool, but we all have a choice: stay a fool who's driven by instinct or pursue something higher, like empirical truth. Your character is made of a million tiny decisions that proceed from deep inside you; your circumstance is the stage on which you exercise those choices. There may be obstacles in your circumstances, but your character is in you, not your

circumstance. I had a safe, stable childhood, and God started drawing me into a relationship with Him at the age of 5. At the age of 14, I prayerfully determined to one day become a part of Hollywood's creative industry in the hope of showing them God's love. My opportunities began much sooner than expected – about 100 years sooner (in a way). After obtaining my degree in film production, I moved to Burbank in 1996 and eventually met a seemingly ordinary man with a memorable birth date (11/16/66) and a personal secret. He was the personification of Hollywood. Don't ask me how, but I always seemed to know where he was (geographically) on this Earth. In the 1970s, I knew he was in San Jose; in the late 1980s, I knew he was at Cal Poly San Louis Obispo; after that, he spent some time in Germany. When I was at Loyola Marymount in late 1993, I prayed for him to "come find me in LA" because I knew in my spirit he had not yet moved to town. He came to Burbank just in time for the Northridge earthquake. I finished classes in Burbank in 1995, and God continued to move us in the same orbit.

First, I was at a school at Barham Blvd. & Forest Lawn Drive while he had a job at Dreamworks

Animation located directly across the street. He lived on one side of W. Toluca Lake Avenue, and I moved to an identical apartment on the other in 1996. I got a job at Walt Disney Imagineering just as Dreamworks broke ground on their new studio across the street. We were separated only by a road for those four years, but that's not where we met. We met at Lake Avenue Church in 1997. After my Disney job ended in 2001, I began a wedding video business. After he left Dreamworks, he sold Vespas in Newport Beach across from the harbor. I coincidentally booked several wedding gigs on yachts in Newport harbor during that time. He later got a job in Santa Monica, and in 2014 I briefly attended a church across the street from his office there. Other coincidences between us were just as curious as these, but they don't sound like much in the retelling. The last place we saw each other was at the cross-street of Rose and Warner, where the address was 4140 Warner Boulevard. Perhaps you have experienced something similar? Perhaps not. I may never know the entire reason on this side of heaven, but there's always a reason for things like this. During those critical years from 1998 – 2014, we were like the Sun and the Moon,

occupying the same circle of space like two worlds in reflection. In Roman mythology, the Sun is male (Apollo), and the Moon is the female counterpart (Artemis), a fitting picture of us.

We dated off and on for seven years, and I prayed for him in a way that can only be described as “warfare prayer.” In this book, I will refer to him as Clark because my favorite TV show, *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman*, tended to help me classify some of my confusion at the time. Like Clark, he was mild-mannered and protecting a secret. Unlike Clark, this secret was a super weakness, not a superpower (although the episode involving red kryptonite comes close). The Spirit of God eventually showed me that Clark had a lifelong addiction to pornography. The Bible describes it in Proverbs 6:27 as taking fire into the lap. As he stoked this fire, I was getting burned. He had grown up in the Christian culture and even read Frank Peretti’s book, *This Present Darkness*, but Christianity was just a social club for him. The darkness around him was to me like Nebuchadnezzar’s furnace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow before King Nebuchadnezzar’s golden idol, so the king had them

executed (thrown into his furnace). The Angel of God joined them in the midst of that fire, and they were miraculously saved. I, too, felt the protection and the presence of God in my anxiety-riddled circumstance as I wept and prayed for Clark's freedom.

Clark felt no adverse effects from his addiction because he bowed before the idol, and it owned him. I suppose the only pains he felt came in those moments when he seriously tried to resist temptation because only then would his masters brutalize his spirit to drive him back into submission. I was rarely able to persuade others to pray for him because they enjoyed giving advice more than they enjoyed praying. Prayer is deemed a passive activity in most Christian circles, but I tell you, it isn't. Prayer is a spiritual wrestling match, and certain demonic problems require teams of prayer warriors. Sadly, Clark only had me. He broached the subject of marriage with me once, but in the end, how could I compete with the world's promises of pleasure, money, and prestige? I had talent but no worldly power in my dowry. He genuinely did not want a virtuous wife, a prayer warrior, or a spirit-filled Christian by his side. He wanted a woman who could

grease the wheels of any social scene, a self-absorbed woman with an over-sexualized lifestyle originating in childhood. He found her. Of course, I always knew he would leave, but that's not the point. I knew that God had something more impactful to say in this relationship between us. Ours is a fairy tale unlike any I'd ever witnessed at a wedding. The most dramatic fairy tales don't have magic beans; they have dragons and knights who put up a fight. You see, the story doesn't end victoriously until someone slays the dragon. When the dragon kills a man (gay or straight), she does it by slow-acting poison laced into his junk food media diet.

In 2006 I moved to a condo not far away but returned in 2009 feeling like I'd aged 40 years because my condo building had a demon-possessed resident (I even have a recording of her screams). 2009 is when my life descended into a pit of fiery trials that gave me post-traumatic stress. My new roommate turned out to be a dangerous hoarder and squatter, the very embodiment of a ravenous wolf. I successfully evicted her only after first moving to an apartment across town. Over the next six years, I focused on ministering in my Burbank communi-

ty, where I met many sheep and wolves. Some wolves prey upon the kindness of sheep, and some wolves rise in the ranks of church leadership. I have seen power-obsessed leaders bulldoze many beautiful people, and it doesn't take much power to create a monster; all you need is an ulterior motive. When I reached a point where I felt the most depleted and untethered, God began this new chapter of discovery in my life.

When I was young, I fanaticized about receiving my birthstone as a ring on my birthday; that is to say, an engagement ring. It was a dream I clung to and a source of disappointment every April. I finally gave it up to God on 4/14/07 while filming a friend's wedding at a beautiful venue in Malibu. I realized that as a wedding videographer, I'd enjoyed more weddings in seven years than most people see in a lifetime. My life had been immersed in wedding joy as I filmed and edited weddings week after week and year after year. My life was overflowing with romance, and I finally gave myself permission to enjoy it. I would let God write my life story in his own way. Then along came *The Narnia Code*, and I pondered the question: What has God hidden inside the

pages of history for us to find? That's when my birth date began to appear everywhere. The sightings occurred weekly, and it started to freak me out. I noticed that the context in which I saw them often correlated to eternity, death, and time itself. Do you see your birth date repeated thematically in your life story? Can I be the only one?

Here are a few examples I noticed between 2011 and 2017: I woke up at 4:14 AM on 7 different occasions. News reports of deadly tragedies involving explosions or airplane crashes usually had survivor or victim counts of 14, 7, 4, or 1. Star Trek TNG and Voyager (of which I was a fan) utilized 14s, particularly in storylines involving time travel. (For example, Code 14 caused the transporter to destroy an artifact wanted by time travelers. A time torpedo had a time variance of 1.47 microseconds.) When I got a new phone number upon moving back to Burbank, the operator assigning it to me shared my birthday and gave me 818-848-14XX. I filmed a funeral at the San Fernando Mission (street number 11160 street) on 12/12/12 for a cost of \$222, and the music they picked had a runtime of 4:14.

A baby was born that day to an LAPD officer,

but the child died 44 days later. They hired me to film that funeral service, and near this boy's grave was another headstone sprinkled artistically with white flower petals for a child who had died on 4/14/11. When I stopped at the Smart & Final store (#471) on my way home from that funeral, my purchase was \$14.14, and the check-out time was 4:14 PM. I filmed a funeral viewing on 4/14/13, followed by the funeral mass & graveside service on 4/15/13. (That was the day of the Boston Marathon bombing, at which two bombs detonated 14 seconds apart and 17 people lost limbs.) A week later, I filmed a funeral for a man who had died on 4/14/13. One of my students at church in 2014 shared my birthday. I got a job at The Burbank Channel that year, and when a coworker and I saw that we were scheduled to work together on 4/14/14, I mentioned that it was my birthday. This remark spooked him a little because it was his birthday too. My employee ID number at the City of Burbank is 14814. I regularly uploaded videos to Vimeo for many years, and one of my uploaded videos in 2014 was video number 247414716. One of my customer ID numbers is 1471.

Is this your birthday too? Do you have any

experience like this? It's freaky, right? Freaky weird coincidences aren't helpful. We have enough chaos in this world without adding this to the mix. I needed evidence that this was something special, not just freaky. If God had written something into my life – something that would make a book about it worth reading – I needed to find these numbers throughout my life story. The Eccleston season of *Doctor Who* features this idea of a message scattered throughout a person's timeline ("Bad Wolf" in their case). If this idea made it into a script for a popular show, it can't be very original. That is to say, the best scripts include story elements with a broad appeal about experiences that many people have had. A show (or a book) wouldn't be popular if the main themes were esoteric. So I looked at my life, and I looked in plain sight.

In 1989 I worked as a background actor for the film *Back to the Future 3*. The audition was on my 18th birthday. The film took place in 1885, and I spent six weeks on set and dressed in a 100-year-old Victorian costume. It was the nearest thing to actual time travel that a person can experience, and it gave me a compressed perception of history. *Back to the Future 3* continues to be to me

and has remained a vital part of pop culture. The film series contains some conspicuous numbers: Eights are used repeatedly (8:00 AM, 8:00 PM, 88MPH), and the lightning strike at the clock tower is at 10:04 PM in all three films. An 8 turned sideways becomes a Mobius strip which symbolizes infinity (a circle does too). Infinity is an appropriate symbol for a time travel story, whether they planned it that way or not. We can interpret 10:04 as a 14 connected by a Mobius strip – not unlike my Burbank ID number. (Burbank is where the opening shot of *Back to the Future* was filmed.)

In college, I worked for four years as a roller-skating carhop at the Modesto A&W Drive-in. It was a great job, I remember it fondly, and the property is located at 1404 G Street at the corner of 14th and G Streets. Furthermore, I appeared as a 50s carhop in a TV commercial there on my 20th birthday. The address of this time-warped restaurant always made me feel that the love of my life would have a name beginning with the letter G, and there is some evidence that this became true. Also, the letter G and the number 14 are meaningful symbols in Freemasonry.

I spent my final year of college at George Fox

University – founded in 1891 by the Quakers (see April 14, 1775, below). GFU has an organic address of 414 Meridian Street in Newberg, Oregon. Loyola Marymount University, where I'd spent my junior year, had created its own address (1 LMU Drive), but GFU had not. It's a purely God-ordained coincidence! Let me explain why this fascinates me: not only is 414 a way of stating my birth date, but the street name Meridian is a reference to time & space. It is the Latin word meaning midday. Modern cultures in the world divide the hours of the day into AM and PM. Ante Meridian means "before midday," and Post Meridian means "after midday." Furthermore, the Prime Meridian (a geographical feature) was established in 1884 and is the invisible line that runs vertically around the globe passing through Greenwich, England and the poles. The world uses Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) or Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to calculate local times around the globe. For example, Los Angeles is -9 GMT. Global map coordinates are also based upon the Prime Meridian. Prime Meridian is zero degrees longitude while the Equator is zero degrees latitude. So you see? The address of George Fox University has a lot to say.

- A childhood friend of mine shares both my birthday and part of my name. We happened to bump into each other at the Modesto Target store on our birthday in 2001. That was quite a rare event since I was only in town for a few days over Easter weekend. Additionally, Target stores used a pricing scheme that included \$4.14 for quite a while.
- I worked at Walt Disney Imagineering for nearly five years, and my project team was located inside 1400 Grand Central (the MAPO building), while the main office was at 1401 Flower Street. Dreamworks is at 1000 Flower Street.
- My address on Toluca Lake Avenue was 4134 1/2, and the phone number contained my birthdate.
- These convinced me that God wrote 14s and 414s into my life deliberately. But wait! There's more! He wrote it into the natural world, too. We see various iterations of 41471 in math, myth, astronomy, and chemistry. Here are a few points of curiosity concerning weights and measures:

- Did you know: the number of minutes in a day is 1440? Also, 14oz = 414ml. (16 oz = 1 pound) Did you know that in 2009 the U.S. Congress designated March 14 as Pi Day? Pi is the number used to enable us to find the area of a perfect circle. It is an irrational infinite number (meaning that it goes on forever with no patterns). Memory competitions use Pi quite a lot, and my entire birthday bookends the first 40 decimals. (3.1415926535 8979323846 2643383279 5028841971) When we add together the first 144 decimals of Pi, the result is 666. The irony is not lost on me that this is part of Clark's birth date (11/16/66) and that the idea of "coming full circle" was a theme we both recognized in our relationship.

Astronomy & Mythology

Egyptology figures prominently in the April 14th anomaly, and the more I meditate on the data, the more Egypt I find in it. Egypt figures prominently in the Bible, too (mentioned 646 times). My number 14 and Clark's numbers 111 and 666 meet up in the Egyptian myth associated with the constellation of Orion. (The film *Stargate* touches on this). According to the ancient story, the departed soul of Osiris resides in the three stars of Orion's belt, and his power is transferable to his successors through a ritual ceremony. This belief is rooted in the tale of how his sister/wife Isis bore his son Horus by unconventional means. That is to say, Osiris was murdered by his jealous brother, Set, who cut up his body into 14 pieces and scattered them across Egypt. Isis later found 13 of the pieces and put the body back together. The missing 14th piece was his male part, so Isis fashioned a new one out of gold. Utilizing magic, she conceived a son with the corpse and bestowed on her son the power of his father at his

coronation. According to Tom Horn's research in his documentary, *Belly of the Beast*, this 14th piece of Osiris is further represented in the Egyptian obelisk in Vatican City. Not to be outdone, Americans built the tallest one in the world: the Washington Monument. The Washington Monument, dedicated in 1885 (does that sound familiar?), measures 666 inches at the base and 6666 inches in height. I will share more about this when I address the events of 1445BC.

In other Astronomy, we find that the Moon is in perigee (supermoon) at least every 14 months or 414 days. Supermoons are an extra-large full moon that is about 14% closer than usual. There is some variation, but this seems to be the average. A lunar day (one orbit on its axis) takes 14 Earth days. The Sun is 400x farther away and 400x larger than the Moon. This precision is what makes solar eclipses possible on Earth (and nowhere else). God has used eclipses and major earthquakes to get men's attention and signify turning points and judgment events throughout history. The book of Jonah depicts an unlikely mission trip to Ninevah by Jonah, the reluctant prophet. It turns out that his warning came on the heels of a solar eclipse which had frightened the

populace into paying heed to his message to repent.

Chemistry gives us two good examples. Silicon dioxide glass dust covers the surface of the Moon. This dust makes the Moon especially well suited to its job as the Earth's nightlight. Silicon is the 14th element in the periodic table because it contains 14 protons per atom. If the Moon had a number instead of a name, 14 would be it! The other example from chemistry is the carbon-14 dating method. This is one favorite means of deducing the length of time that an organic object has been decomposing in the ground. Carbon-14 turns into nitrogen-14 at a measurable rate.

Here's one final hilarious bit of trivia that doesn't fit anywhere: The Fortean Society (named for a man called Fort) is a 20th-century international society dedicated to studying strange and paranormal phenomena.

I doubt this is an exhaustive list; nevertheless, I am exhausted by it. In 2011 the April 14th anomaly seemed a little strange; in 2014, it felt freaky, and by 2017 it was prophetic. I suppose one day it will be just another history.

Time Traveler's Dossier

Let's imagine performing a time travel experiment. We need to narrow the parameters to track this anomaly so let's suppose you had a time machine that enabled you to travel in time but not space. Realizing that the Earth is orbiting the Sun at 67,000 miles per hour, you could only safely travel back or forward in time if you set your destination year but left the day or time alone. If you selected a different destination day from the one you're starting on, the Earth would not be there when you landed, and you'd materialize in outer space. If you selected a different hour of the day, you'd land someplace else on the surface of the globe. Right? (This is what makes time travel impossible.) Since you can only pick one day, what day would it be? Well, if you want to witness some of the more pivotal events in history, I think you should choose April 14 and stick around for a week. If you only have a few hours available, then go at sunset. Following are some notes that would prepare you for your trip.

Depending on how many movies you've seen, you may not need to look anything up to confirm that what I am about to share is true. Of course, I am focusing on details that strike me as relevant to the anomaly. If you land in the middle of a battle, you're on your own.

We begin with Moses. I am not alone in the opinion that the most monumental series of miracles recorded in Jewish history are those surrounding the first Passover. Oh, didn't I tell you? April 14 corresponds to Passover on the Jewish calendar. According to the *MacArthur Bible Commentary*, this historic event happened on Aviv 14, 1445 BC. While other scholars might dispute the year, nobody disputes the month and day because it is recorded very specifically in the Bible. Aviv and Nisan are the two alternate names of the first spring month on the Jewish calendar, and this corresponds to April on the Roman calendar. In ancient times, Jewish months were measured by the Moon's phases, so the middle of the month always had a bright full moon for holiday travel.

Our creator God called Abraham out of Ur and established a new nation through his family line. According to the Book of Enoch, all of the

other nations (family groups) on Earth are under the jurisdiction of about 70 angelic authorities (gods) who rebelled against God. I mention this because, well, we're not alone. There are also Watchers above us who exist in the eternal realm and participate in God's administration of the universe. Michael Heiser's book *The Unseen Realm* persuasively expounds on this subject. Suffice it to say, the spirit world is a very busy place, and as a time traveler, you would be noticed right away since the only way to travel in time is to go through the eternal realm. Things going on in that unseen realm often spill over into our time-space continuum, and without the Bible as our guide (and other ancient historical records that add context), we cannot know friend from foe. Strange things are happening, and the Bible addresses the essential issues that enable us to cope, fight, and win the spiritual battles we encounter in this world. I will never apologize for hammering that message loudly and often.

Aviv 14, 1445 BC – Egypt and Passover

Egypt was the dominant civilization in ancient times and features prominently in the Bible both at the beginning and the end. They were prolific builders and explorers for many centuries, and, as a result, Egyptian ruins remain among the busiest tourist destinations on Earth. Abundant evidence exists in places like New Zealand, Hawaii, and the Americas, demonstrating that Egyptian explorers reached and settled those distant shores long before the Vikings sailed. There is a long, storied history of Egyptian exploits, but the one that matters most is the one involving Yahweh God and the nation of Israel. For all of their incredible achievements over the centuries, nothing can top their stunning defeat in the Red Sea after suffering ten destructive plagues. The book of Exodus tells the story in detail. Exodus 12 provides the record of God's command to the Israelites about how and when to celebrate Passover. It is also worth noting that in ancient

times, the year began in Autumn. At the time of the first Passover, God started a new epoch of human history and signified this change by commanding that the year should now begin in Spring. (The British Empire continued this tradition until 1752 when they changed it to January).

For many reasons, the night of Aviv 14 was a nexus because it marked the last in a series of 10 catastrophic plagues that God inflicted on Egypt. On a human level, these plagues ravaged the nation because Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave. On an angelic level, God was humiliating the gods of Egypt. Each of the ten plagues was an attack on a particular Egyptian deity, and behind those deities were demon gods who manipulated the natural world in a specific way. Here are the plagues and at least one of the gods connected to it: Nile river becomes blood (Hapi), frogs (Heqet), lice (Nut, Hathor), flies (Isis, Shu), dead livestock (Apis), boils on the skin (Sekhmet), hail storms (Geb), locusts consume all crops (Serapis), darkness only in Egypt with light where the Israelites lived (Ra/Re), and death of all firstborn (Horus). None of the lists I found online correlated an Egyptian god with Pass-

over's death of the firstborn. I find this incredible because I think Horus is such an obvious choice. How can it be anyone other than Horus? How could the final and most devastatingly personal plague target anything other than the power behind Pharaoh's dynastic succession? The Angel of death cut off the power of the firstborn in every single Egyptian household, not just Pharaoh's. The power and influence of Osiris were at an end. Egypt's gods had been humiliated, subdued, and defeated. Two days later (Exodus 14), the entire Egyptian army was drowned in the Red Sea, leaving Egypt vulnerable to the next invader. The Dreamworks animated movie, *Prince of Egypt* (1998), presents a reasonably accurate portrayal of the highlights. This movie was Dreamworks' first feature, and Clark was one of many who worked on the film.

Additional details about Passover are worth mentioning here. It is the first of four major holidays recorded in Leviticus 23 that God specifically established. All four holidays have a literal prophetic interpretation to be fulfilled by the Messiah at a future date. Three holidays have already been fulfilled as prophecies. Only the feast of Tabernacles remains unfulfilled. It is

scheduled annually on the 15th day of the 7th month (October 15). As with Passover, there is a full moon in the sky for this feast. It is an eight-day feast with specific animal sacrifices on each day. There is symbolic meaning in every aspect of these holidays, but we will not fully understand them until after their fulfillment. The first three holidays remained enigmas until after Jesus went up in the clouds. Below is the schedule of the feast of Tabernacles with its prescribed sacrifices. There is a countdown in bulls while the others are number series. God does everything for a reason.

Feast Day#	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bulls	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	1
Rams	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Lambs	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	7
Goats	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

(see Leviticus 23, Deuteronomy 16, and Numbers 29:7-40) At the risk of going too far into left field, it's interesting to note that these animals are all included on the Babylonian zodiac: Taurus (Bull), Aries (Ram & lamb), and Capricorn (Goat). The four holidays seem to correspond meaningfully to their positions on the calendar as well.

Passover, First Fruits & Unleavened Bread are in Aries, Pentecost is in Leo (lion), and Trumpets, Atonement, and Tabernacles are in Libra (justice scales).

Aviv 14, 1405 BC – Conquest of Jericho

On Aviv 10, the Israelites crossed the Jordan River very much the same way they had crossed the Red Sea forty years earlier – miraculously. This date signified the end of their wilderness interlude, and they celebrated Passover on the 14th while also circumcising the entire male population. The commander of the angelic army who had come to fight with them (invisibly) spoke with Joshua and gave him instructions on exactly how they would conquer Jericho. It was a battle plan that no human general would ever have suggested! With the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant and 7 priests blowing rams horns, they marched around the city once a day for six days. Then on the 7th day, they marched around the city 7 times accompanied by the whole army. At the end of the 7th lap, everyone shouted and blasted every horn as loudly as possible. This (presumably) caused the walls to crumble. Ancient Jericho was excavated several

times in the 20th century, and the evidence confirms pertinent details of the Bible's record. It really happened.

Aviv 14, 473 BC – Purim

I am again using the year from the MacArthur Bible Commentary. This history of Purim shines like a star because it chronicles Esther's heroism in the Jew's darkest hour (up to that point, anyway). It perfectly fits this anomaly because the pivotal drama occurs on Aviv 14 (Purim is celebrated annually on Adar 14-15.)

By this time in history, the people of Israel had split into two kingdoms, and the northern ten tribes had been carried off to other lands as captives of war, never to return. Esther and her family were descendants of the southern tribe of Judah, known as Jews, who were carried away as captives of war to Babylon, later conquered by Persia. That's how she ended up being born in Susa. The villain of this tale is a man named Haman. He was a ranking magistrate who descended from Agag the Amalekite, a savage tribe first encountered by the Israelites hundreds of years earlier (1 Samuel 15). Esther's cousin

Mordecai knew Haman's character and refused to bow down to him when he paraded around in public. Haman despised him for it and took revenge on all Jews for Mordacai's insults. On Aviv 13 in the 12th year of Xerxes' reign, using a mixture of lies and the misinterpretation of facts, Haman persuaded the King that the Jews were a threat to the empire. King Xerxes authorized him to schedule a genocide precisely 12 months later. AIn essence, the edict instructed the police to look the other way on Adar 13 should any citizen choose to kill & loot Jews that day. (This was the Nazi party's modus operandi in the 1930s as well). Neither the King nor Haman knew that queen Esther was Jewish, of course.

When Mordecai read the edict, he appealed to Queen Esther to speak up for her people in this most famous verse in the book: 4:14. These words just happened to be spoken to her on Aviv 14. "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have attained royalty **for such a time as this?**" In response, Queen Esther called for three days of fasting among local Jews as she prepared her

strategy. Since the Jews were living in exile in a hostile foreign land, Passover would have been a very subdued celebration if anyone was celebrating it at all. On the third day, she risked her life by appearing before the King without invitation. The King welcomed her, and she proceeded to invite the King and Haman to a private feast. Her strategy came in stages. On the second day of her feast, she begged for herself and her people to be spared from Haman's maniacal edict – thereby revealing that the order included a threat on her life as well. Haman was executed immediately, but this irrevocable edict had already gone out, so the King authorized her (with Mordacai's help) to reverse the effects by adding another decree – one giving the Jews equal authority to defend themselves and loot any attacker. With 12 months to prepare, the fighting took place on Adar 13, and the Jews were victorious.

For those paying attention to current events, this tactic is now underway in western countries. In many instances already, police are told to “stand down” in the face of violence against/by certain groups.

Aviv 14, 30 A.D. –
The Crucifixion of Christ

The crucifixion of Jesus is the most important date in human history. It really is. Our modern calendar comes from an early calculation of the birth of Jesus. In the year 525, a monk named Dionysius Exiguus figured out when Jesus was born based on historical records of his time. Anno Domini (meaning “year of our Lord” in Latin) gradually came into everyday use. The B.C. (Before Christ) came along in the 19th century when archeologists needed to use older dates. In *Back to the Future*, Doc Brown even mentions zero as being the year of Christ’s birth when setting the time circuits of the Delorian. (This goes to show how widespread the usage was.) B.C.E. and C.E. came along in the 21st century to replace B.C., and A.D. Scholars may disagree, but Michael Heiser believes Jesus was probably born on September 11, 4 B.C. based on clues in scripture and clues in astronomy. That’s good enough for me.

The ministry and crucifixion of Jesus fulfill many subtle (and overt) predictions throughout the Jewish scriptures. God's curse prophecy upon Satan in Genesis 3:14-15 was the first. "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her Seed; It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel." Let me take a moment to explain a unique aspect of the Genesis curse. As you recall, in 1445 B.C. God extracted the nation of Israel from Egypt after a series of plagues, the last of which served several purposes. The death of the firstborn demonstrated God's power over and above Egypt's Horus mythical power while at the same time foreshadowing the future suffering of Jesus Christ about 1474 years later.

The Egyptian myth about the strange birth of Horus is vaguely similar to the virgin birth of Jesus, but that is where the similarities end. When God cursed Satan in the garden so long ago, the curse contained a single clue about the cause of his future downfall: he would be defeated by a descendent of the woman and not of the man. The Egyptian myth (and others like it) was Satan's attempt at making the virgin-born Messiah sound like a borrowed idea. Several mother-child myths

exist in various ancient cult religions. Even the Roman emperor Constantine perpetuated the myth when he blended all of Rome's religions under one new banner: Catholic Christianity. Most of the featured characteristics of Catholic tradition, such as the veneration of saints and the veneration of mother & child, were an amalgamation of the cult traditions floating around at the time. The gospel in the Bible is the real deal. While Satan's mythological stories are convoluted with bizarre details about sex magic, the actual conception of Jesus was so simple that it was almost a footnote. The most striking difference between God's history and Satan's forgeries is that whenever God enters history, the record is elegant, powerful, and clean, but Satan's lies tend to be a pile of complicated misdirection. As an angelic being, Satan cannot create anything himself – especially offspring. Only God can make something out of nothing (*ex nihilo*) while the rest of us have to use what's available. Seeds and eggs are little miracle gifts of God. Every plant on Earth grows from seed when planted in this gigantic egg we call a planet. You need to have a seed and an egg to reproduce something. Satan can only reproduce by medical hackery

because there are no female angels. If an angelic being were to create physical offspring, he would need to meddle in some seriously mad science to cross the species boundary.

The crucifixion was accompanied by a full moon, a 3-hour darkness from noon until 3 PM, and a severe earthquake. Whenever God makes adjustments to the cosmic clock, it's time to pay attention. In Joshua 10:12-14, God caused the sun and the moon to stand still during a battle, and in 2 Kings 20:8-11, God caused the shadow on a sundial to move in the reverse direction by 10 degrees. Let's follow this little rabbit trail for a moment and explore these other two fascinating events.

Joshua 10 tells us the history of when the Israelites defeated five particular kings in a single day. These were Amorites who lived in Jerusalem and the surrounding fortress cities. This battle was a showstopper because it was their first battle to lay claim over Jerusalem. The Israelites came to the aid of a new ally and are counted as victors of the battle but – true to form – God inflicted most of the slaughter by sending a hailstorm that pelted the enemy armies. As the battle raged, Joshua commanded the sun and moon to stand

still. Joshua 10:14 reads, “And there was no day like that before it after it, that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man; for the Lord fought for Israel.” It was a stunning victory. God would have had to stop the Earth’s spin, I think. Wouldn’t you love to know how he did that? The name Jesus is a form of the name Joshua, too.

In 2 Kings 20, we read about the divine healing of King Hezekiah. He was deathly sick due to a boil, but his tearful prayer won him God’s favor and a promise of recovery with an added 15 years of life. As a sign to confirm it, the shadow on his father’s sundial moved back 10 degrees. Curiously, God suggested the sign by offering to adjust the shadow ten degrees in either direction – whichever the King chose. Believing reverse to be the more difficult direction, he picked that. And God did it. Albert Einstein developed a theory called General Relativity that offers a possible explanation on how light can be bent.

April 14, 70 A.D. – The Destruction of Jerusalem

The Romans adopted a new calendar in the first century and named the days and months after Greco-Roman deities. While not a very accurate reference source, Wikipedia put me onto Jewish history by reporting that the siege began on April 14, 70 C.E. Other sources place the actual destruction of the city on August 6, 70 A.D. Forty years earlier, Jesus Christ prophesied about the temple's destruction when he stated, "The day is coming when no stone will be left upon another." (Recorded by Matthew, Mark, and Luke). Jesus went into considerable detail about the day of Jerusalem's destruction. This warning saved the Christians living there who fled the city before the siege began. The Arch of Titus records this Roman victory. According to Josephus, the Romans did not wish to destroy the city, but a fire broke out and burned so hot that the gold overlays in the temple melted into the stonework. They overturned the structural stones to retrieve the gold, just as Jesus said they would be.

1410 –

The Prague Astronomical Clock

The fall of the Roman Empire wasn't so much a fall as a transition into obscurity beginning around 400 AD. In the opinion of those I respect, Catholic Christianity can take a bow for that. It became a religious government designed to accommodate everyone's traditions and provide a veneer of unity. The veneration of Isis and Horus from the Egyptians became Mary and Jesus. The Greek pantheon became patron saints with Christian names. Every pagan religion believed in purgatory, so when it was absorbed as an official Catholic doctrine, people didn't have to change their beliefs to assimilate into the church. It was a rebrand, a paint job, and the emperor's new clothes. Unfortunately, it led to centuries of spiritual and intellectual stagnation in which conformity, superstition, and ritual replaced free enterprise and creative thought.

In 400 A.D., Latin was the language of the Roman Empire, but after 1000 years, other

languages had replaced it, and few people understood Latin anymore. In 1380 A.D., a bold monk by the name of John Wycliffe successfully translated the entire Bible into the English of his day. This new translation (and others) led to an intellectual awakening. The Bible's unwavering hard-hitting truths became more accessible to both clergy and students, and this knowledge began to melt the ice of superstitious ignorance. The Prague Astronomical Clock is a brilliant example of mechanical engineering. It is an impressive symbol of the beginning of an epoch and remains the oldest clock of its kind. This remarkable clock measures time in minutes, hours, days, months, and seasons by including the movements of celestial bodies. (If you want a wristwatch that does something similar, be prepared to pay tens of thousands of dollars for it.)

While we're on the subject of time, 1433 contained a unique pair of eclipses: A solar and a lunar eclipse appeared 15 days apart. There was a lunar tetrad in 1493 (four total lunar eclipses in the same two-year stretch) corresponding with Christopher Columbus' brief visit to America. As a matter of fact, in 1504, Captain Columbus

(armed with an almanac) used a lunar eclipse to persuade a local tribe that God wanted them to support his crew while they were stranded on Jamaica for half a year. An unwitting audience is essential for a successful con!

April 14, 1775 –
The Abolition Society of North America

America's first successful colonies were founded by Protestant Christians of various stripes who wished to build peaceful communities based on Biblical precepts. More importantly, they wanted to live beyond the reach and control of the Catholic religious system. A group of Protestant Huguenots from France was the first to establish a successful colony, but it didn't last long because Spanish Catholics hunted them down and butchered them. Years later, Puritans, Methodists, and Quakers arrived. They were successful because they were peaceful and had not come to conquer native tribes. Peace, kindness, and fair dealing were among the Christian ethics that made America a success worthy of God's blessing. Many founding fathers were descendants of the Huguenots, Puritans, and Methodists whose commitment to the Bible had been tested in the fires of brutal European persecution. By 1775 thirteen distinct colonial districts had been

created via land grants to English nobility.

The Catholic/Pagan Portuguese, English, French and Spanish traders introduced the questionably sourced African slaves to the colonies, but the predominantly Protestant Americans did not want slavery in the long term. In fact, the slave trade was a significant reason for the rebellion against England. To cement this conviction, a group of Philadelphia Quakers (led by Anthony Benezet) formally established the Abolition Society of North America. The date was Friday, April 14, as well as Aviv 14 (Passover). George Fox had founded the Society of Friends in 1654, and they suffered particular persecution at the hands of the Church of England because their interpretation of scripture was so aberrant. (They wrote a letter to King Charles on 11/16/1660 begging for mercy but received none.) They were derisively labeled “Quakers” because they quaking as they prayed or while listened for the Spirit. I suppose this was a very early form of Pentecostalism, in its way. Chief among their beliefs was the conviction that all men and women are equal and no person deserves more respect than the next. In a society of royalty, nobility, and slavery, you may imagine the waves

they made! They were also pacifists. George Fox University's address (414 Meridian Street) is a perfectly divine coincidence harkening back to the courageous history of the Quaker's commitment to equality for **every** American. The next day, John Hancock's Massachusetts Provincial Congress declared a day of prayer, fasting, and humiliation to "ward off the impending judgments." Three days later, Paul Revere (son of a Huguenot) made his famous midnight ride from Boston to Lexington, and the Revolutionary War began.

According to recently discovered historical autographs now held by Glenn Beck, the Declaration of Independence originally contained wording that included slavery among the grievances articulated in the document. However, the declaration required **unanimous consent** for ratification. Georgia and North Carolina (2 out of 13!) would not agree to abolish slavery as a condition of the new republic. It was a costly compromise.

1814 – America's Darkest Day

The war of 1812 is America's forgotten war, mainly because there was no definitive winner. However, on Saint Bartholomew's Day, 8/24/14, a British invasion force landed and marched on Washington D.C. in numbers too great to be repelled. President Madison decided to abandon the city and wait them out. First Lady, Dolley Madison, was one of the last to leave as she rescued many valuable artifacts from the White House. It was considered (at the time) to be America's darkest day. It may or may not be a coincidence that Saint Bartholomew's Day was the anniversary of the Huguenot massacre of 1572 in Paris, France. The British troops set fire to most government buildings (including the Capitol and White House), but something extraordinary happened the following day. As new fires were being set, a hurricane (and possibly a tornado) suddenly struck. Rain and wind tore through the town, ripping houses off their foundations and

soldiers off their horses. The storm lasted about two hours (two to four PM), extinguished the fires, and drove the British out. The British attacked Baltimore on 9/14/14 but were repelled at Fort McHenry. This battle inspired The Star-Spangled Banner, America's national anthem. We may forget the war but let's never forget God's divine protection and the testimony in our song.

April 4, 1841 –

President William Henry Harrison dies in office

He was born in 1773, the last president to have been born a British subject. His father had been Benjamin Harrison, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and his grandson (also named Benjamin Harrison) became President 14 presidents later. Presidential inaugurations were on March 4 in those days. Harrison was 68 years old when elected, and to prove his strength on inauguration day, he refused to wear his coat, gloves, or hat while speaking in 47-degree weather. Harrison's inauguration speech was the longest on record (2 hours). He caught a little cold, but that's not what killed him. Sadly, the sanitation system in 1841 Washington D.C. was terrible. Sewage and stormwater were released into the river not far from where the city drew its drinking water, and typhoid, smallpox, and malaria were killing people at a steady pace. Three weeks into his presidency, he developed pneumonia and died on 4/4/41. He was the first

U.S. president to die in office and the first to lie in state inside the Capitol rotunda. Coincidentally, Benjamin Harrison (his grandson) appointed a board of engineers to finally solve the problem of Washington's deadly sewer system.

April 14, 1865 – The Lincoln Assassination

What more can I say about American's most famous president? I am not a Civil War history expert, but my time as an Imagineer exposed me to Walt Disney's fascination with Lincoln, which is a good start. Disneyland's Hall of Presidents is a permanent exhibit in the park, and Lincoln is its most prominent figure. The Civil War officially started when Confederate forces fired upon Fort Sumter, South Carolina, on three consecutive days – April 12-14, 1861. Even though we can rightly say it began on April 14, I am not providing a separate chapter on the Civil War. The Union relinquished the fort to Jefferson Davis on the 14th, and Lincoln made a public declaration of war on April 15. Almost exactly 4 years later, on the day of Lincoln's assassination, Union forces finally returned to reoccupy Fort Sumter. Also, on the day of his death, Lincoln signed an order to establish the Secret Service. Their job at the time was to investigate counterfeit currency – a big

problem in the reconstruction years. The Secret Service didn't become the protector of presidents until after the assassination of President McKinley. In the 19th century, presidents liked to mingle with the people and maintain a social connection with them. There was no political class, and the idea of making a career of politics was frowned upon due to the distasteful association with England's aristocracy that had made American independence so necessary. Americans wanted no king, no nobility, and no peasantry.

The assassination of President Lincoln took place just five days after the official end of the Civil War. It was Good Friday on the Christian calendar. Loyola Marymount University (my other alma matter) is Jesuit. This detail is relevant because the Pope supported the South during the war and had sent secret letters of support to the Confederacy to help persuade Catholics in the Union army to desert their regiments – which they did. Witness evidence shows that Jesuits advised the conspirators, selected the date, and arranged their escape routes. The conspirators' trial was held in secret mainly because they were all Catholic, and America was in no condition for a religious war. Murdering Lincoln (and attempt-

ing to kill at least two others) on the anniversary of Christ's crucifixion would seem to be no accident.

The Civil War finally ended legal slavery in America. These newly freed men, women, and children had new choices to make. Just like the Israelites who battled giants before they could claim their promised land, America's former slaves would not begin to truly possess their American citizenship until well into the next century upon the death of another president.

April 14, 1894 – Birth of the Movie Industry

On this day, Thomas Edison's Kinetoscope parlor opened for business in New York City. These Peep Show Parlors showed very brief silent films as viewers looked through an eyepiece. He opened more parlors near train stations and similar transit hubs to give waiting passengers some cheap amusement. Across the pond in France, the Lumiere brothers improved on the idea in 1895 and started showing movies on a big screen for large audiences. After that, the peep show fad faded away. The silent movie industry uniquely served to cross language barriers as nothing had before. Most films had few or no title cards. Nothing to read meant that illiterate villagers in rural areas of Europe or South America could enjoy a Hollywood-made movie. The ability to communicate other ideas to a worldwide audience – such as news of the day or government messages – was now possible.

It was an extraordinary time to be alive and a

lucrative business. There was hardly any overhead in running a movie theater, and you could open them in any ghetto neighborhood, charge pennies and still turn a profit. The movies didn't even need to be very good because the novelty of watching pictures move was interesting enough at first. The American Dream of rags to riches was never more alive and well than during the years of the silent films. Women were very successful in the silent movie business because they could hold writing and directing positions while remaining essentially invisible to the public and to their male competitors. Anonymity provides great freedom when you want your work to be judged on its own merits. A good 90% of the movie industry is comprised of jobs that are invisible to the public, but they're essential to the success of a film. The public sees actors, directors, writers, producers, and maybe camera operators, but I tell you that your movie will be a mess without a good script supervisor and a competent 2nd Assistant Director.

Monopoly isn't just a board game; it is the secret goal of every competitive soul in the world. On some level, everyone wants to have it all without having to share. Nobody escapes the

pitfalls of greed; not even Thomas Edison, who, after inventing the light bulb, the phonograph, perforated movie film, and the first movie camera, sought to claim a piece of everyone's film production profits because he had invented the tools they used. Essentially, he had invented the wheel of the industry, and he wanted royalties from everyone. The court decided against him, and he wasn't happy, but what could he expect? It would be like Johnny Appleseed trying to claim royalties on the apple pies made from all the trees he planted across America. A similar battle raged 100 years later when Steve Jobs and Bill Gates began developing the home computer windows interface.

The movie industry is a type of Babylon and functions like a power factory utilizing every form of creativity in the process. Masses of people could now be unwittingly influenced, persuaded, or deceived by what they saw on screen. Radio came along in the 1920s, television in the 1950s, the internet in the 1990s, and social media in the 2000s. Instant worldwide communication is now the norm, and it all started with a peep show. Revelation 11:9 makes a prediction that is only possible with mass video transmission. We are there.

April 14, 1906 –
The Azusa Street Revival Earthquake

This is a fascinating piece of Wild West history. San Francisco became a famous and sometimes notorious boomtown during the gold rush of the 1850s, and 50 years later, it continued to play host to thieves, gamblers, murderers, sex traffickers, and corrupt politicians. Los Angeles was a smaller city but not far behind. On the other hand, California had no slavery, and women could vote and own property. These facts made California the land of promise and opportunity for anyone. (Let me hasten to say that if you're planning a time-traveling trip in California to witness this event, be very careful to avoid San Francisco! You'll thank me later.)

This story begins with a moderately educated minister who started a new church on Azusa Street in downtown Los Angeles on April 14. It was unique because the pastor was black, and the congregants were from all races and social strata. Members prayed earnestly to manifest those same

spiritual gifts commonplace in the early church; gifts like tongues, healing, and prophecy. Evidence suggests that God was pleased with their prayers because members began to speak in strange languages and share prophetic warnings after a day or two. On April 17, a newspaper reporter showed up to observe the spectacle and write about this strange new/old phenomenon. He concluded his article by quoting someone's prophetic warning of the city's "imminent destruction" if citizens did not repent. He wrote the article in a light-hearted manner, but everything changed when it was published. The article was published on the morning of April 18, 1906 – the morning of the Great San Francisco earthquake. The quake was felt all over California, and it leveled the city of San Francisco. An aftershock (5.1 magnitude) in the Santa Monica bay shook Los Angeles on April 19. In Los Angeles, residents easily connected the earthquake to the prophecy, and many flocked to these meetings on Azusa Street. This revival lasted for several years and marked the beginning of the Pentecostal movement, and changed the Christian religious landscape ever after.

Those who honestly follow this perspective of

Christianity look to 1 Corinthians 12-14 for guidance. Sadly, the world is filled with charlatans who claim to have the powers of the Holy Spirit, and they bait people into giving them their money on the promise of earthly reward or power. A person with unusual power has the unfortunate tendency of turning his friends and loved ones into the worst versions of themselves. Ask any Hollywood actor whose show was a hit. Popularity is not itself a superpower, but people sure treat it that way. Celebrity can become a genuine test of friendship and loyalty. I have witnessed it as a Hollywood-connected videographer because filmmaking represents a power that many people crave. There's a reason why famous people have to live behind gates and disguise themselves in public. This misunderstanding of power also explains the way bullies operate: they feel powerless, and they try to extract it from anyone who appears to have the abilities they lack – as if they could. The Holy Spirit's gifts cannot be bought or earned like trade crafts, and you don't get to keep them in your pocket like starlight – scripture clearly describes them as gifts of the spirit, not gifts of the mind. According to scripture, these amazing gifts exist “for the

common good” of the body of Christian believers and not to benefit or reward the individual or the world at large. A person must stop and consider whether they are likely to use such a gift for their own self-aggrandizement or as a secret blessing to others.

April 14, 1912 –
The Titanic Disaster

The Titanic is a ship of dreams, nightmares, and regrets. It symbolizes several things, but I think it is mainly a beacon of pride that led to a fall. It was the captain's final voyage before retirement, but it was the ship's maiden voyage. It carried some of the world's wealthiest passengers at the time and had the best 3rd class accommodations that included electric lighting. Even if the ship had been empty when it sank, it would still have been a monumental tragedy. According to public records, when asked to increase the number of lifeboats on the Titanic, the Vice-President of the White Star Line replied, "There is no danger that Titanic will sink. The boat is unsinkable, and nothing but inconvenience will be suffered by the passengers." This attitude was common among all.

They received several reliable warnings from the nearby ship, Californian, about the dangerous icebergs in the area. The crew of the Californian

regarded the danger to be so urgent that they stopped for the night rather than risk a collision in the dark. However, the crew of the Titanic was so over-confident that the radio operators rudely dismissed the warnings as the captain increased the ship's speed to arrive early. The iceberg collision occurred at 11:40 PM on April 14, and the ship split in half, sinking in two pieces about 2 hours later. Most of the passengers who died succumbed by freezing, not drowning.

14 years earlier, a book entitled "Futility or The Wreck of the Titan" was published. This fictional book told a story that was eerily similar to specific details of the actual Titanic tragedy. When I was 14 years old (1985), the two-part wreckage of the Titanic was discovered on the ocean floor. Only then did officials finally accept the original testimony of survivors who had claimed that the ship "exploded" and broke in half as it sank. This is why we see different versions of the ship in movies before and after 1985. There are many movies and shows depicting or referencing this event from various points of view. Here are some of them.

- Titanic (1953, 1998)
- A Night to Remember (1958)
- Raise the Titanic (1980)
- Titanic 2 (2010)
- Doctor Who: Voyage of the Damned (2007)
- Saving the Titanic (2012)
- The Legend of Titanic (1999)
- The Search of the Titanic (2004)
- Titanic: The Aftermath (2012)
- The Unsinkable Molly Brown (1964)
- Titanic: Blood & Steel (2012)
- Downton Abbey: Pilot Episode (2010)

Proverbs 16:18 “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” The Titanic was not lost because of one iceberg; it was lost due to a litany of compromises. Even the hull was weakened by fire in advance of the tragedy. Likewise, a person’s soul is not lost all at once; it is bartered away in a lifetime of tiny trades. Word to the wise: listen to the Californian!

1914 – “The Great War”

The 20th century was a dramatic century that began with a notable earthquake and a shocking tragedy at sea, but it didn't stop there. The Great War – as it was called at the time – was triggered by an assassination in Sarajevo that acted like a finger tipping over a row of dominos. As each country was drawn into the quarrel, their allies were obligated to take sides and help. First, Austria-Hungary declared war against Serbia. By the time America reluctantly declaring war against Germany in 1917, all of Europe, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the Ottoman Empire were involved. Such a widespread theater of war was unprecedented. The famous “Christmas Truce,” when different battlefields along the front spontaneously celebrated Christmas together and left off fighting for a day, was in 1914. This has been dramatized in film and can be found online.

Officially, the war lasted 4 years and 100 days. Fighting was formally halted on 11/11/18 at

11:00 AM. This was doubtlessly chosen based on Masonic numerology since President Woodrow Wilson and many men in power were Freemasons. Wilson wrote his "14 points" that were the basis of peace negotiations at Versailles. He presented them to Congress on 1/11/18. The Treaty of Versailles ended the fighting, but passive-aggressive hostilities persisted in the form of economic oppression. It was like a forest fire that continued to smolder in the undergrowth, and a worldwide economic depression was not far behind.

At first, America profited from the post-war arrangement because no battles had touched our soil. One of the most significant strategic advantages of being in America is that it is surrounded by two vast oceans protecting it like a castle mote. The European movie industry was crippled by the war, making America's Hollywood rise like a monopoly. However, President Wilson signed the Federal Reserve Act in 1913, paving the way for the printing of currency at will. Up until that time, gold and silver had been our money, and the only way to get more was to dig it up in a mine. Currency was a way to make money more portable as long as you were sure

there was gold or silver in the bank equal to the paper versions. Just as the vaults in Gringotts bank were filled with items of real value – not paper – American banks used to be that way too. A paper dollar was supposed to be worth a gold dollar, but during World War 1, that changed. The banks stopped letting people withdraw any gold, and they started printing extra dollars to spend on the war. After the war was over, they never went back to using gold and silver the way they used to. Bad financial decisions have a way of catching up with us as they did in 1929.

April 14, 1935 – Black Sunday Dust Storm

The Great Depression was a financial collapse that affected everyone in the western world. When people use their money on empty things like gambling or vices, it takes money out of the economy and puts it on a hamster wheel that goes nowhere. Money is supposed to circulate like rainwater and encourage everything to grow. The years between the Civil War and World War 1 were when money did precisely that, and we experienced the greatest era of creative innovation and freedom. The Great War and the new federal control of our monetary system changed people's attitudes about life. People were making piles of money through risky stock market trades and wastefully spending it on unhealthy things. When we spend wastefully, we might as well be burning it in a bonfire because it ultimately serves to weaken society and make people miserable. Sadly, the roaring twenties were like a social and economic bonfire. From 1913 to 1921, we had a

President who was perhaps the most racist man ever to occupy the office. He instituted segregation in the federal workforce and promoted the movie *Birth of a Nation*, screening it at the White House in 1915. All of this sets the stage for the tragedy to follow.

The Dust Bowl was a consequence of failing to look before leaping. However good their intentions may have been, Franklin Roosevelt's administration didn't study the situation before proceeding because there's a good reason why sod covered the plains. This New Deal initiative mortgaged virgin farmland across Oklahoma to poverty-stricken farmers from across the country. They tilled large swaths of sod land and planted wheat that yielded bumper crops of grain for a few years, but then there was a drought. This area of the country is part of what's known as Tornado Alley. As strong winds blew through the area, they picked up the dry dust in massive clouds. Large animals stood their ground only to be suffocated and buried in a matter of minutes. Families suffered, children died, and farms failed. Destitute families couldn't pay their mortgages and were forced to flee to California and elsewhere. People thought it was the end of the

world. Based on observations from these dust events, scientists have surmised that ancient Mastodons found frozen in Siberia likely died from sudden storms like these.

The storm on April 14, 1935, was the worst ever seen. People witnessed a wall of dust two miles high rolling southward through the plains, blacking out the sun on an otherwise perfect Sunday afternoon. It ultimately blew dust all the way to Washington D.C., where FDR was said to have observed, "That's Oklahoma on my desk."

April 14, 1939 –
The Grapes of Wrath

This John Steinbeck novel detailed the economic hardships suffered by one family as they were forced to leave their dust ravaged farm in the Oklahoma area. The book was made into a movie starring Henry Fonda, and it focused on the economic aspect of this tragedy. You may notice that District 12 in the movie *The Hunger Games* was modeled after the dust bowl survivors' attitudes and clothing. The opening scenes in the movie *Interstellar* attempt to show the nature of the dust storms themselves. The book's title, *The Grapes of Wrath*, comes from Revelation 14:14-20.

Revelation 14:14-20 (KJV)

“And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the

cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs."

April 14, 1970 –
The Apollo 13 Near Disaster

As mentioned earlier, Apollo is the sun god from Greek and Roman mythology, and the moon (Artemis) is his female counterpart. Egyptians call him Ra or Re. Freemason numerologists have invented something called The Magic Square of Apollo that they seem to think has mystical power. The Square of Apollo is a grid containing every number from 1 to 36 laid out in such a way that each row totals 111 in any direction. The total sum of these numbers is 666. This Square of Apollo is Clark's birth date in total. Apollo must have tremendous spiritual power and authority within his realm. Revelation 9:11 identifies Apollyon as the angelic King of the creatures that come out of the bottomless pit to torture humanity – specifically those who do not belong to Christ. The fact that the Apostle John mentions Apollyon at all should be enough to convince us that he is an actual entity of some kind but that he is not without boundaries. Yahweh God is greater.

The National Air and Space Administration (NASA) doesn't always choose names out of Roman mythology, but they have used Apollo and Artemis to identify the only two crewed expeditions to the moon. The Apollo missions that visited the moon were numbered 11 thru 17. According to the mission timetable, an oxygen tank exploded on April 14 during the Apollo 13 mission. Liftoff was on the 11th, the explosion was on the 14th, and safe return was on the 17th. Commander Lovell's famous quotation "Houston, we've had a problem" is one of the two most famous lines uttered in space by an astronaut. It follows just behind "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" by Neil Armstrong during the Apollo 11 mission. The story was dramatized comprehensively in Ron Howard's feature film *Apollo 13*.

Matthew 24:31 refers to the space program in that it assumes that there will be people in the heavens (sky) in the days following the tribulation. "...they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." When we read passages that refer to circumstances in the future, they tend not to make sense to us until that future begins to unfold. Now that our

civilization more closely fits the Bible's description of the future, will people finally believe the rest of it?

1971 – Apollo 14

Apollo 14 didn't make a splash in history the way Apollo 11 or 13 did, but in 2019, a moon rock retrieved on this mission was finally analyzed and deemed to contain earth minerals. That was mildly interesting. We know that the moon is covered in silicon glass dust because all of the missions that touched down on the moon brought back rock and soil samples that are still being analyzed. Edgar Mitchell was an Apollo 14 astronaut who later caused a stir by revealing his belief in UFOs and ESP. He wasn't the only believer. He went on to conduct parapsychology research with various clandestine government agencies. (Yes, really.) It's basically psychic espionage by teams of people who have been trained to work together on specific problems or targets. Just look it up on the web using the keyword "remote viewing." We live in such a weird world.

1971 –
The Pentagon Papers

Compiled in April and released in May, this was part of a detailed report about the Johnson administration's war effort in and around Viet Nam. This publication served to expose certain lies that Johnson had told Congress and the American people regarding military actions in non-combatant countries. Johnson was no longer president by this time, but it revealed his character and the deadly lengths to which he would go to achieve his political ambitions. In my opinion, Johnson was the second most racist president to occupy the White House after Wilson. Ever the self-aggrandizing pragmatist, he actively stalled the civil rights voting reform bill in 1957 and urged Kennedy to go slowly on his promised civil rights bill in 1963. Later, almost from the moment of Kennedy's death, Johnson suddenly championed the bill now that he could use it for political theater and stamp his name on it. Johnson neutered the bill of its voting rights protections

and used the process to persuade Black America that Democrats were their new heroes. There is profound systemic racism within the Democratic party and progressivism because they presume to interfere in the personal affairs of Black America by robbing men of their God-given role as leaders and providers for their families. When the government steps into the role of priest/pastor/husband/provider and pays mothers to remain unmarried, poor, and dependent on a disembodied governmental agency for daily bread – this ruins the lives of men and families. The only thing worse than a meddler is a meddler with an army. Subtle systemic racism is a blight on society. Proverbs 14:1 “Every wise woman buildeth her house, but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.”

1971 –
Remember the Titans

The 2000 movie, *Remember the Titans* was based on the 1971 winning football season at T.C. Williams High School in Virginia. T.C. Williams was a racially integrated school (had been since 1965), and it was barely a footnote in history until filmmakers embellished and mythologized it for dramatic purposes. Like so many movies drawn from actual events, the reality was more mundane. The team held their 40th reunion on April 14, 2012, at Gettysburg College. It was this reunion event that drew my attention. “Titans” appear several times in the April 14th timeline: Egyptian and Greek gods of old are called Titans, Titus sacked Jerusalem, and the Titanic sank in the Atlantic. We should heed the movie’s title as a warning, don’t you agree?

April 14, 1999 – Sydney Hailstorm Disaster

Sydney's modern history began in 1788 when Britain started to use it as a penal colony. The convicts provided free labor for local construction efforts as free colonists settled into this new land throughout the 19th century. Sydney is located on the east coast of Australia, where occasional tempestuous weather is known to arise. The 20th century saw an increase in record-breaking storms. The first severe hailstorm occurred on 1/1/47 in Sydney with 3.1" hailstones. The next severe storms were in 1991, 1999, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015, and most recently on 1/20/20. The worst of them was on 4/14/99 with 3.5" diameter hailstones. What made this storm unique was that it defied expectation. According to Wikipedia, "The event was also surprising as neither the time of year, time of day, nor the general meteorological conditions in the region were seen as conducive for extreme storm cell formation."

God controls the weather (no matter what you

may have read about DARPA), and remarkable weather events should always give us pause. The Bible records very specific hailstorms that were used to discipline different communities of people (Exodus 9, Joshua 10:11 and Ezekiel 13:13, Ezekiel 38:22, Haggai 2:17) and also to demonstrate his power (Job 38:22, Psalm 147:17, Isaiah 30:30) and Jesus revealed to John that there would be a future judgment by hail that would decimate a third of humanity (Revelation 8:7, 11:19 and 16:21). A small hailstone propelled by hurricane-force winds might as well be a bullet. A 6" hailstone might as well be a cannonball. God has never needed mechanized weapons to achieve his ends. As a matter of observation, all of our mechanized weapons mimic natural forces: bullets, bombs, or laser beams; God did it first, biggest, and best.

April 14, 2003 –
Human Genome Project

Some books are better left on the shelf, and some codes are better left uncracked. On this day, Pandora's box was opened. The code of human DNA has now been cataloged for future reference. It was 14 years in the making. The ability to hack the source code of humanity has lead to both good and bad results. We use DNA markers to identify evidence at the scene of a crime, but we also use DNA to manipulate living things. It's because of the genome map that many vaccines function the way they do. This knowledge continues to change and alter society in significant ways. Biologists with too much funding and imagination strive to create the next version of humanity, ostensibly to cure disease, but it's nothing more than a beast strain. I think we may safely call this the ultimate code break in history.

April 14, 2014 –
A busy, Busy, BUSY day

Sometimes future events are easy to predict because they are written in the stars. That is to say, the cosmic clock. In 2013, God had my attention, and it was a simple matter for me to look ahead on the calendar to see what was scheduled for my next birth date. When I looked, I was flabbergasted. Gob-stopped. Stunned. Not only was this the 14th year of the new millennia, but it was Passover – a perfect match. Aviv 14 and April 14 landing on the same day is incredibly rare, only seven times in 300 years: 1775, 1794, 1813, 1976, 1995, 2014, and 2060. But that wasn't the only thing the calendar told me about 4/14/14.

April 14, 2014 – Blood Moon on Passover in America

Whenever four total lunar eclipses occur in the same two-year stretch, they've come to be called *A Blood Moon Tetrad*. Because some Jewish holidays are scheduled at full moons, blood moons on Jewish holidays can happen, and whenever they have happened, we pay attention. Tetrads that land on holidays often coincide with major events in human civilization. Here they are: 162-163, 795-796, 842-843, 860-861, 1493-1494, 1949-1950, 1967-1968. The lunar eclipse that Columbus used as part of a tetrad. Israel's War of Independence was in 1949, and their Six Days War that recaptured Jerusalem was in 1967. The tetrad of 2014-2015 contained two total solar eclipses as well. The first blood moon was on 4/14/14. You will find most records use Greenwich Mean Time as if to imply that the eclipse happened in England, but the eclipse occurred over America, where the date was April 14 at the time. The second blood moon was October 8, 2014

(Sukkot), the solar eclipse was March 20, 2015, the third blood moon was April 4, 2015 (Passover), the second solar eclipse was September 13, 2015 (Feast of Trumpets), and final blood moon was September 28, 2015 (Sukkot).

April 14, 2014 –
Nigeria, #BringBackOurGirls

In Nigeria, the Muslim terror group, Boko Haram, detonated two bombs at a bus station, killing 88 and injuring 200. It was reminiscent of a double bombing in April 2012 when they destroyed two separate offices of Thisday, a Nigerian newspaper. Nigeria occupies the territory bounded by 4 & 14 degrees longitude and 4 & 14 degrees latitude. Do you see there is something special about Nigeria in God's cosmic timetable? I've sensed it all my life (more on that later).

Boko Haram continued its terror campaign into the night by snatching nearly 300 girls from a Christian boarding school in northern Nigeria. Nigeria was a British colony from the year 1800 until 1960, which means they adopted the English boarding school educational system. Also, English has become the primary language spoken by most Nigerians. As much as people complain about colonial history, there's always a silver lining because English enables everyone to

communicate with the rest of the world easily. The hashtag #BringBackOurGirls was soon circulated in the media with broad Hollywood celebrity attention.

April 14, 2017 –
Spying on the Trump Campaign

CNN reports that British and other spy agencies had been “sharing” information obtained on American citizens through electronic surveillance with the Obama administration in 2016. Specifically, information gathered on Donald Trump’s election efforts. It was a completely illegal and immoral thing to do – using the international spy apparatus to cheat in an election. Spying on and recording one’s political opponents was what President Nixon resigned for (and he was very unsuccessful at it). Here, the Obama/Biden administration succeeded because every digital phone in America and abroad is wired up as a massive trove of accessible data. Any government insider can access the data if they can create a legal excuse for doing so. How did Britain gain access? Nobody was asking. The DOJ and FBI brass, whose mission was to investigate and prosecute government crime, were unwilling to move on it. This news article was part of the

“Russia Collusion” hoax that was relentlessly infused into the public psyche for three years as a nightly media barrage of doom-filled rhetoric. The American media failed in its duty to hold power accountable with honest exposure. Why is the media so spineless? The Bible summarizes the answer.

Romans 1:28-32

“And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”

I think I am safe in saying that Donald Trump had more domestic enemies than any other president in history, but because of his popularity with the people (many of them gun owners), he avoided the fate of Lincoln and Kennedy.

August 21, 2017 –
The Great American Solar Eclipse “Tetrad”

I’m calling it a tetrad because solar eclipses are rarer than lunar ones. These are four solar eclipses within a 7-year stretch that are observable in the Americas. Three of them crossed the United States and Mexico with their shadows, ultimately forming a triangle around the dust bowl. Make of it what you will. This first eclipse traversed America from the Pacific Northwest down to the mid-Atlantic near Africa. From that spot, several major devastating hurricanes soon arose in ten-day intervals, one right after the other. Harvey hammered Houston on 9/1/17, Irma punched Puerto Rico and nearby islands on 9/10/17, and then Maria flattened Puerto Rico and nearby islands again on 9/20/17.

Additionally, 2017 saw record-breaking weather events in the form of tornados, hail storms, extreme cold spells, statewide flooding throughout the Midwest, heatwaves, and devastating wildfires across all parts of North America.

Too many fires burned up too many square miles to list! The next American eclipse was 12/14/2020 in South America. Dramatic political unrest shook the United States at that time, and a rare arctic chill brought subzero temperatures to the Midwest and most of Texas, February 9-19 of 2021. The third (annular) eclipse is 10/14/23, and the last total eclipse is on 4/8/24. If history is any indicator, I do expect more natural and political upheaval to follow each eclipse. When Jonah went to warn Nineveh to repent of their wicked ways or face destruction, they had just witnessed two solar eclipses within the same generation. To them, a solar eclipse was already a bad omen, and Jonah's arrival sealed it. Americans (even evangelical ones) don't regard omens, signs, or even God because Americans are naturalistic secularists who believe everything is an impersonal tool of accidental functionality. Sure, there might be a God – even an almighty God – but he is generally thought to act on the universe, not through it. At least the Chinese believe that summer snow in Shanghai is a terrible omen – God sent snow there in the summer of 2020 – a message even the most obtuse goose-stepping communist could not ignore. We've witnessed a solar eclipse tetrad in

the Americas. Do you honestly believe we have nothing for which to repent?

2017 brings this time travel dossier to a close. I have come full circle, do you see it? 4-14-17 is 4-14-71. I have also reached my own 50-year Jubilee (4-14-21), and it's time to publish. As fun as time travel sounds on paper and in movies, it isn't a real thing, and besides, I wouldn't recommend the trip unless the driver of your time machine was God himself.

Riddles of the Ages

God communicates in riddles and symbols, as scripture illustrates. He's even done it right inside scripture itself using a very boring genealogy in Genesis 5. Have you heard about that one? The ancestors' names turn out to form a sentence when you know what the words mean. I think it's pretty brilliant. See the notes at the end of the book for the link if you want to read details about that topic. April 14 is no ordinary day! Did you notice any themes? Do you think God could be sending us a message in this timeline? I think I see at least one possibility, but I will save those remarks for the end.

Speaking as an American to Americans, I can understand your reticence in allowing God the freedom to speak to us in more ways than one. There is an example in scripture that would illustrate my point (Isaiah 7:10-13), but I think I'll use an example from *The Incredibles* instead. In one scene, Helen (Elastigirl) and her two kids are in an airplane that's taking fire. She knows her

daughter has a superpower that can protect them and yells for her to use it. Violet replies, "But you told us never to use our powers!" Helen yells back in frustration, "I know that's what I said. Listen to what I'm saying NOW." If you've seen the movie, then you remember how that turned out. The point I'm making is that Helen (like God) did not violate her character by asking Violet to do the thing that was previously forbidden under different circumstances. Most laws are situational and not intended to be applied equally across space and time. Even the law of gravity has limitations. God does not want us to relate to him through omens, tea leaves, chanting, and superstitions because he gave us the Bible. We can know God by reading from his Bible. Warnings, however, are very situational. In the days when a civilization has turned away from the truth and followed after the imaginations of their lusts and doctrines of demons; that is when we begin to see omens and signs that speak warnings of judgment. It's as if God is broadcasting a warning on all frequencies because it's *that* important.

Scripture by the Number

There is one more place we find 4/14/71, and that is in the Bible. As mentioned earlier, the Bible's chapter and verse numbers were added by Robert Stephanus in 1551AD. There was not much rhyme or reason to it – not on the human level at least. I discovered quite a few wonderful passages that we can easily remember because the addresses have my birth date in them. Some of these passages are bona fide riddles, but most have a plain, relevant and informative meaning for our days. It's a very handy list for people who have never studied the Bible before. I think you will see that the themes we saw in history are echoed in some of these scriptures. All quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible because it's in the public domain. You should definitely go read them in another translation when you're finished here because Renaissance English is hard for most people.

- **Genesis 1:14 “And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to**

separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years... Taking this ancient document at face value, we understand that God created our environment of time and space in 6 literal days as only God can. Here on this 4th day, he created the mechanism of the clock. The rotation of our planet and the orbits of celestial bodies around the sun (or atomic elements around a nucleus) are the only means we have of measuring time. The Prague Astronomical Clock reflects this truth. Time itself appears in cycles, circles, and countdowns, and the Earth is in the middle of it all. Total solar eclipses can only happen on Earth (Look it up! It's true.) That's a good thing since Earth is the only place there are eyes to see it.

- **Genesis 3:14-15 "And the Lord God said unto the serpent, "Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly thou shalt go and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."** This curse

was Satan's only clue on how he would be deposed in the future. We tend to forget that human history is not the only history being told on this timeline. The heavenly hosts of angelic beings have a parallel story in multi-dimensional space that is happening simultaneously. The pre-flood world was incredibly different than what we experience today, and the poetic language of the book of Genesis seems to hint at this. For all the advanced intelligence and other-worldly knowledge that he has, Satan cannot know the far future without reading the Bible. Satan (plagiarist and deceiver that he is) spreads half-truths about the things he knows about in an obsessive effort to ruin God's reputation and make human lives as miserable as possible. He wants people to believe he can defeat God when, like the Titanic, his fate was sealed on 4/14, and his future demise is a mathematical certainty.

- **Genesis 6:13-14** "And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the Earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the Earth. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt

pitch it within and without with pitch.”

Verse 13 sets up the reason, while verse 14 gives the first instruction that kicks off the global flood account. The whole Earth was later flooded by water from above and beneath, wiping out most land animals and many sea creatures. Interestingly, many ancient structures survived the flood. A casual virtual tour of Machu Pichu or Sacsayhuaman or Easter Island, or the pyramids in Giza, will reveal clear evidence of both water damage and fire damage. The submarine cities of Dwarka off the coast of India or Yonaguni Jima off the coast of Japan may be pre-flood. The fossil record shouts of worldwide catastrophic flooding as herds of giant animals were overtaken by mudflows and rapidly buried. On a personal note, the movie *Evan Almighty* prominently featured verse 6:14. I worked on this film as a flood survivor.

- **Genesis 8:14 “In the second month on the 27th day of the month, the earth was dry.”** Ancient calendars probably marked the new year on the Autumn Solstice, making the flood catastrophe’s official end in late November. The flood judgment is encapsulated by 14s: 6:14 – 8:14.

- **Genesis 9:14-15** “And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.” God provides the sign of the rainbow and explains the meaning with abundant clarity. The rainbow is God’s sign and God’s symbol of his promise; It is not a symbol of pride but a promise.
- **Genesis 11:4** “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.” This passage records man’s first full-scale open rebellion against God. Nimrod (who built several cities, including Nineveh) led this effort, and it was a titanic moment of self-aggrandizement. Evidence suggests demonic agents inspired these men – per usual. Genesis 6:4 explains the source of the world’s amplified problems. Yes, we are sinners with self-destructive tendencies, but there is an outside force giving us awful ideas, too.

- **Genesis 11:14** “When Shelah had lived thirty years, he became the father of Eber.” Eber is the progenitor of the Hebrews and, ultimately, all Jewish people. His descendants became known by his name because he lived 464 years and outlived the next five generations of his own family. It’s easy to understand how ancestor worship began at this time.
- **Genesis 14** is a seemingly obscure story about how Abraham went to war against five kings who had kidnapped his nephew’s family. It seems that the communities of the Siddim Valley (Dead Sea) had been subjects of Kedorlaomar for 13 years, and they rebelled in the 14th year. After several battles, Kedorlaomar plundered their cities and kidnapped Lot, Abram’s nephew. Kedorlaomer was allied with four kings best understood to represent communities of giants (at least as tall as basketball players). Abram chased after them as far as Dan (Mount Hermon area) and succeeded in ambushing them with only 318 fighters of his own. It was a truly remarkable conquest. Verse 18 is where we meet Melchizedek, the priest of God Most High from Salem (Jerusalem), who honored

Abram's success with bread and wine. It is the eternal priesthood of Melchizedek that Jesus is later identified with (Psalm 110:4, Hebrews 5:6, 5:10, 6:20, and Hebrews 7). The Christian commemorative practice of communion likewise uses only bread and wine. Odd Bible stories crammed with curious details like these tend to belie additional predictive meanings, I find. Future Israeli battles would fit the pattern of this victory. The battle of Joshua's long day in Joshua 10 qualifies because Israel fought five armies. The Arab-Israeli War of 1949 qualifies because Israel fought about ten armies. The Six-Day War qualifies because Israel fought four armies. Whenever tiny Israel defeats multiple kings (armies) to reclaim promised land, it's Genesis 14 all over again.

- **Genesis 41:14-32** is where we read of Pharaoh's baffling dream about the 14 cows and 14 ears of grain. Joseph interprets the dream by explaining that it predicts what will happen over the next 14 years: 7 years of abundance followed by 7 years of famine. The story of Israel's sojourn in Egypt begins here as a remarkable blessing for everyone concerned. Throughout the 7 years of famine, all of the

Egyptians sold everything they had to Pharaoh – even their land and themselves – in exchange for the food that Joseph had stored on Pharaoh's behalf. Legally, this was slavery, but it wasn't oppressive because the deal was simply a 1/5 income tax after that. The Israelites had the same deal until Joseph's generation died out and a new king came to power. This new king didn't take the time to read history, and in his paranoia, he decided to set up slave masters over the Israelites to force them into hard labor. Hard labor is what we think of when we think of slavery. Therefore, while it's technically accurate to say that all of Egypt was enslaved to Pharaoh, only the Israelites were oppressed.

- **Exodus 14** contains the story of events leading up to and surrounding the Israelite's crossing of the Red Sea after the first Passover. At God's instruction through Moses, the Israelites made their way to the edge of the Red Sea by following a well-worn path to the worship site of Ba'al Zephon. God had them face the mount and camp there overnight. Yahweh God was using the people to make a visual statement against the Egyptian gods once

again. **14:4** “**And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he shall follow after them and I will be honored upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord.**” There are many fascinating layers of meaning in this story. Verse **14:14** is a favorite promise. “**The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.**” God’s punishment of Egypt was spectacular as the Israelites passed through the Red Sea on dry ground, but the army that followed them was drowned in the same spot. When God fights for his people, his people are witnesses more than they are warriors.

- **Numbers 14** is another episode of divine punishment, but this time, God punished the Israelites. These were the very same people who had witnessed and experienced the events of the exodus. Ten of the twelve spies who had toured the land of Canaan in chapter 13 came back and gave a gloomy report, while the other two gave an optimistic account. This gloom spread to the listening crowds, and like a mob, they tried to return to Egypt! Ironically, Abraham had once defeated five armies of their forefathers with only 318 men, yet here

his descendants, with many thousands of fighting men, were too afraid to try it. They truly earned God's wrath in this chapter. The ground opened up at their feet and swallowed the ten faithless men. This story shows us that witnesses are held to a higher standard than non-witnesses. If you have witnessed God's power in your life by miracle or provision, then you will suffer a greater curse if you deny it.

- **2 Chronicles 7:14** is commonly quoted by Christians who desire national revival. **"if my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."** This is God offering a deal. If the people do their part of the bargain, then God will do his part. Unfortunately, nations rarely humble themselves and turn from their wicked ways. They ask for blessings, complain about their problems, or use psychological labels to talk in circles; anything to avoid owning and regretting their sin or the sins of their forefathers who set them on this path of misery.

- **Judges 14:14** Samson is probably the least conventional judge in Israel's history. He operated during the centuries before Israel had a king. This passage contains Samson's riddle at his wedding reception. It was a riddle with an expensive wager attached. **"And he said unto them, 'Out of the eater came something to eat. Out of the strong came something sweet.' And they could not in three days expound the riddle."** His bride's relatives threatened to kill her if she didn't spy out the answer to the riddle for them, which she did. They answered, "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?" This passage is a fitting piece of the April 14th Anomaly because God regularly speaks to people in riddles (Numbers 12:8, Proverbs 1:6, Daniel 5:12), and most prophecies are presented as riddles. This riddle appears in scripture for a good reason; it speaks of the riddle of the Messiah's first visit. Let me explain. Graves have "mouths," and they "swallow" the living. Death is the strongest, most absolute power that only God can defeat. Therefore, "out of the eater" (death) "came something to eat" (Jesus, the bread of life). "Out of the strong" (the grave) "came

something sweet” (victory). For three days, nobody understood what God’s purpose was in crucifying his son. (1 Corinthians 15:54b-55, John 6:35) This, I believe, is the real answer to that riddle and the purpose for its inclusion in scripture.

- **Esther 4:14** is the most famous verse in the whole story of Esther. The last line is commonly quoted alone. “...and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” This passage applies to us all whenever we find ourselves in a position of influence where we need to act heroically. You’d be surprised how much power an ordinarily powerless person has when the time and place are just right.
- **Job 14:1** This is a verse that Mr. Rooney quotes to Sloan Peterson in *Ferris Beuller’s Day Off*. “Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble.”
- **Psalm 14:1** “The fool hath said in his heart, ‘there is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.” Here we have the April Fool’s Day verse. Let’s say that one is for the men.

Here's the one for women. **Proverbs 14:1** "Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands."

- **Isaiah 7:14** "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." God commanded king Ahaz to ask him for a sign of any kind, but the King responded to the prophet the way Violet replied to Helen. Exasperated, God through Isaiah gave him a sign anyway. This prophecy predicted events in his immediate future but also Israel's distant future. Only Jesus Christ could be "Immanuel" (God with us), and only Jesus was born of a virgin.
- **Isaiah 14:14** "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will make myself like the Most High." This is the boast of the antichrist in the last days. Other scriptures tell us that Satan himself will energize this king of Babylon. Most scholars see the Catholic Church as Babylon, but I also see the tech industry filling that role. Babylon means worldwide multilingual communication and not just cult worship.

The internet is itself a kingdom that brings everyone on Earth under singular control, don't you agree?

- **Daniel 4:14–17** Nebuchadnezzar was the first great king of Babylon, but his pride got the better of him after the Lord gave him a prophetic dream about a gold/silver/bronze/iron/clay statue. This chapter, however, contains a different sort of dream. It showed him his punishment for his pride. God is perfectly just in his penalties; he does not treat everyone equally because each person and situation is not equal to the next. If you recall, God's punishment of Pharaoh included the annihilation of his army, but this punishment of Nebuchadnezzar was for the king alone. God cursed him with madness, and he became **like a beast** and ate grass for seven years. At the end of seven years, he repented his pride and openly acknowledged that Jehovah God is the highest. Nebuchadnezzar's humiliation sets the pattern for Babylon The Great (Daniel 7, Revelation 14) when it falls during the seven-year tribulation. The antichrist is characterized as a beast that entices people to take his mark of worshipful allegiance.

- **Joel 3:14-16** This passage tells of a future event in the “valley of decision.” It is written in poetic language, suggesting a dual supernatural and natural meaning. The sun and moon’s darkening is first mentioned in Isaiah, and we read about the sun and moon being darkened here, too. (see: Isaiah 13:10, Isaiah 24:23, Ezekiel 32:7, Joel 2:10, Joel 2:31, Matthew 24:29, Acts 2:20, Revelation 6:12)
- **Ezekiel 14:14** In this chapter, God explains to Israel how idols of the heart are just as bad as idols on the hearth and that men will be judged and punished for cherishing them. **“even though these three men, Noah, Daniel and Job were in its midst, by their own righteousness they could only save themselves.”** This is a clear warning that Abraham’s deal with God (regarding the city of Sodom) didn’t apply anywhere else. God had famously promised to spare the city if ten righteous persons could be found in it. When only four were found, the city was destroyed. God is warning them that next time, no deals will be considered.

- **Zechariah 14** This chapter predicts a future earthquake that will accompany the arrival of the Messiah in Jerusalem. The feast of booths (Sukkot) will be a required pilgrimage for every nation after that.
- **Malachi 4:1** “For behold the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.” Here is another tribulation judgment warning.
- **Matthew 1:17** This remarkable verse was assigned to me at random during a women’s Bible study session in Burbank. “**So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.**” This is the very first piece of information given to us about the Christ. We may ask ourselves what message was intended by such a detail: Fourteen generations, three times in succession. If Matthew thought it was worth including, then

we should pay attention. Jesus is of royal Jewish lineage traceable through King David, and among his genealogy are three or four gentile mothers (Tamar, Rahab, Bathsheba, and Ruth). Calculating the generations by groups of 14 and mentioning four mothers was done deliberately (Matthew skipped some names to make it fit). But why?

- **Matthew 24:14** “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached to the whole world as a testimony to all nations and then the end will come.”
- **Mark 4:14** “The sower sows the word.” The Word is the good news of salvation available to everyone because of what Jesus accomplished on Aviv 14-16 in 33AD. Death reversed like a prison cell door ripped off its hinges. The sower doesn’t force anyone to receive the Word because your heart is like soil that is ready or not.
- **John 1:14** “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father;) full of grace and truth.” This is the 4th book of the New Testament and the 14th verse.

Jesus is the Word of God incarnate, the living breathing testimony of good news for the world.

- **John 3:14-15** “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.” Jesus predicted the manner of his death, but the minds of his disciples couldn’t understanding what he meant until after events came to pass. This is often the case with revelations from Jesus; we don’t understand things at first, but we do understand them at last. Serpent iconography is ancient, and God used it in the desert. You can read these related passages: Numbers 21:4-9 and 2 Kings 18:1-4.
- **John 4:14** “but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” In this scene, Jesus openly identifies himself as The Messiah. He also explains that his “food and drink” is to do the will of the Father. This is a remarkable state-

ment because spiritual food does strengthen our mortal bodies. When we fulfill our purpose in life, we thrive. If we stop, we wilt and become sick. For this reason, retirement isn't always a good idea.

- **John 14** This is the 4th book of the New Testament and the 14th chapter. It's a chapter well worth memorizing and is commonly read at funerals. It is filled with essential advice and encouragement about heaven. This passage is part of our Lord's final address to his apostles shortly before going out to face arrest, trial, and crucifixion. **14:14 "If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it."** What an incredible promise!
- **James 4:14 "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."** This verse was used to kick-off a sermon by Peter Marshall in the movie *A Man Called Peter*. In the film, he delivers this sermon at a chapel service at Annapolis on December 7, 1941. In case you're not American or Japanese, that is the day Imperial Japan attacked Pearl Harbor to

declare war. The naval cadets at Annapolis that day would soon face death daily in the Pacific arm of World War 2.

- **1 Timothy 4:1** “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, give heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;” This passage certainly speaks to our time. People don’t realize that the small concessions they have made in their Christian conduct to make room for the philosophies of atheistic psychology have led them far away from the path of righteousness, health, and sanity over time.
- **1 John 4:14** “We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.” Remember that. John was a witness to the acts of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You are reading a valid witness account.
- **Revelation 7:4** “And I heard the number of those who were sealed, 144,000 sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel” There are 12 tribes of Israel but 14 tribal names available because Joseph’s two sons (Manasseh and Ephriam) are counted as half-tribes, and Joseph’s name is ordinarily not used. Curiously,

Joseph makes this list, displacing Ephraim and Dan in the process. Judah, Ruben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin are mentioned here. Rest assured that there is a reason for this list being the way it is. It is not a mistake.

- **Revelation 14** This passage covers several important topics. The redeemed 144,000 are detailed more completely and given new songs to sing. Next, Babylon falls, a warning is given against taking the mark of the beast, tribulation martyrdoms begin, the Earth is harvested, and the grapes are trampled in the winepress of God's wrath. As you recall, from April 14, 1939, these are the grapes of wrath. The events of Revelation 14 take place in heaven, but (just as the moon reflects the sun) what happens in heaven will express itself on Earth.

Apollo, the Beast, and the Antichrist

This book wouldn't be complete without a few surprising passages derived from Clark's birth date (11/16/66), which is also the Square of Apollo. He is irrevocably connected to me, just as our numbers are connected. Leave it to God to find a way to use another man like Samson despite himself! God will get the glory because he's just that good! I noticed that even the date of his father's death fits the Apollo pattern (1/11/11). In this, I am a strangely modern type of Elisabeth Elliot or Gertrude Chambers – each of whom was widowed very early in life. Yet, their husbands' ministries lived on because the women thought the world should know. Yes, my story is strangely modern because I was never married, yet I feel like a widow anyway. (Psalm 78:63) Pornography makes zombies of them all: hollow, instinctual, and enslaved. Leave it to God to use even a man like that!

- **Psalm 111** is a beautiful psalm of praise to God for his works down through history. His-

tory matters! A truthful view of history keeps us sane, and we must never stop telling the whole truth. Don't let them tell lies! We did not come from lower life forms – we were created in the image of God!

- **Revelation 11** explains the two witnesses who use supernatural disasters to punctuate their message of judgment for the world. The world will reject and kill them with such blind rage that they will celebrate the murder like Christmas and exchange gifts with friends and family.
- **Revelation 13:18** is where the number of the beast's name is identified as 666. This is the last verse in chapter 13 before 14 begins (where the 144,000 are discussed).
- **Revelation 16:16** is the only verse in the Bible that contains the word *Armageddon*. Perhaps you've heard this word before? Maybe you've seen the Bruce Willis movie? The last book in C.S. Lewis' Narnia series is called *The Last Battle*, which means Armageddon (the location of the last battle).
- **Isaiah 66** contains the prophecy that was

fulfilled in 1949. It also predicts a great many judgments for hypocrites and rebels.

- **Romans 6:6** “For we know that our old self was crucified with him (Christ) so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin...” This is the sixth book of the New Testament, sixth chapter, and sixth verse. This verse summarizes the message for every man like Clark who tries to claim Christianity while at the same time refusing to crucify his lusts or yield his will to the loving care of Christ. (Galatians 2:20, 5:24) Such men are proud prisoners to their passions in a cell locked from the inside. The prospect of coming clean out into the light is a horror to them. Romans 6:6 also explains the underlying message of the April 14th Anomaly – that Jesus Christ bore the full punishment for the sins of humanity so that every human has the opportunity to walk in freedom from their former slavery to sin. (The cross of Christ’s salvation does not extend to demons or to those who take the beast’s mark because doing so will be a rejection of their own humanity.) Freedom is only available on God’s terms, and anyone who tries to reserve

control will never be free. C.S. Lewis wrote a fantasy book entitled *The Great Divorce* in which a handful of residents from hell are given a one-day pass to visit Heaven. All but one of them eventually choose to return to hell because they lack substance and don't have enough physical integrity to withstand the intensity of Heaven. It is a remarkable illustration of what I think must be the spiritual reality. Who is the one character who chooses to stay in Heaven on God's terms? Can you guess his vice? He was a sex addict.

The Numerology Criticism

In the year 1666, a man named Sabbatai Zevi declared himself to be the Messiah. He led a Kabbalist religious sect, was obsessed with the meanings of numbers, and taught followers that indulging in unrestrained sexual perversion would create utopia (spoiler: it doesn't). He was captured by Muslims and forced to convert to Islam ("convert or die" is the usual demand). There are people like Zevi in the world today who believe and practice what he advocated (and worse). The Bible teaches that God holds sovereign power over the universe (Psalm 103:19), but it also teaches that (thematically) history runs in circles of many sizes (Ecclesiastes 1). If you want to break a particularly destructive repeating cycle of family history or tribal history or national history, look to 2 Chronicles 7:14, which tells **you** to repent and pray. Witnessing God's code sprinkled throughout history should inspire your amazement, wonder, respect, and awe. Please don't take this off the rails. Numbers, letters,

symbols, and images can all hold messages if you know who wrote them. This book is a historical and eschatological survey, not an obsession and not a lucky rabbit's foot.

God wants us to rely upon our own ability to witness what he does. He loves to show us all kinds of evidence. For example, when John the Baptist was in jail, and he sent his disciples to ask Jesus for confirmation that he was the Messiah, Jesus replied by calling their attention to the miracles they could see with their own eyes. He did not say, "Yup, that's me!" Jesus wants us to engage with the evidence ourselves as much as possible. We don't need space aliens or spirit guides, or gurus diverting our attention away from God's revealed truth. God tells us to ask HIM for wisdom. He has provided the best resources already. The Bible truly is the book of man's witness of the divine.

James 1:5-8 (KJV)

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For

let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”

Some Things You Can't Unsee

If this is a message, then it must have a meaning. If God created a world without meaning, then how could you be reading this book? You read because you crave meaning and purpose, and God doesn't disappoint. Our challenges lay in discovering the correct meaning of these things. Whenever we interpret the Bible, we always begin by finding out what a passage meant to the people to whom it was originally written. That's the best place to start. If you start by analyzing how it makes you feel, then you've already jumped the tracks, and your train is headed for Clayton Ravine. In the case of the Anomaly, we begin with me. I know that sounds incredibly self-centered, but we won't be here long, I promise. My life contains certain clues which have already been laid out for you: time, 14 & G, Babylon, Apollo, death & judgment. Let's pretend there's only one message in the Anomaly and that a common-sense approach can discover it.

The big non-esoteric message is this: God

wants the human race to be free of sin's miserable bondage. There are two main types of bondage in this life: the bondage of tyranny (which is bad) vs. the bondage of love (which is good). The rhythm of the Anomaly is the concept of Christian salvation (the choice of love). Freedom can lead to salvation for those who realize they're slaves to a tyrant. But what if your master is only marginally tyrannical? Harriet Tubman once observed that she could have rescued many more people along the Underground Railroad if she could have persuaded them that they were enslaved. Does that surprise you? It's the same throughout history. If someone has never known the freedom of self-determination and their master grants them a few privileges and comforts, they will think to themselves, "this is as good as it gets." That kind of enslaved person isn't miserable enough to accept a life-changing offer. Yet, they are slaves. Let me give you a little clarifier on what slavery is and what slavery isn't because it's relevant.

We tend to think of slavery as hard labor, raggedy clothes, basic accommodations, concubinage, and a total lack of autonomy, don't we? That may be what it sometimes looks like,

but that's not what it is. Slavery down through the ages always arose as an economic solution. In ancient times – including Roman times – becoming a slave was how you stayed alive when you couldn't support yourself. If you couldn't read or perform complex tasks, you could still pick produce in the fields. Attaching yourself to a wealthy family that was willing to provide you with life's essentials in exchange for daily service has been a viable alternative to starvation the world over. A contract was always involved. We still use contracts today, but terms are not nearly as desperate as they might have been before the industrial revolution. Modern athletes whose contracts cover their housing, transportation, health/dental, personal behavior, training regimen, and so forth do not think of themselves as anybody's servant, but if they fail to fulfill that ten-million-dollar contract, what can happen? Debt. Court. In our digitally interconnected world, a judge doesn't need to turn you into a physical laborer or lash you with a whip to force you to fulfill your contract and pay up; he can freeze your accounts, crash your credit score and repossess your assets. You can't live the life you've been accustomed to, and your friends will

probably leave you, but at least you're not in chains. Life is comparatively soft in the modern world, wouldn't you agree?

According to scripture, slave contracts in ancient Israel were always temporary, and if you and your family had to work off a debt, you knew it would end in fifty years or less because the Jubilee was coming. In Israel's theocratic economy, there was an economic reset every 50 years called The Year of Jubilee when everyone's property was returned and all debts canceled. How wonderful it would be to know that parents' financial mistakes could not be enforced upon the grandchildren. How wonderful it would be to know that your house and land would always come back to you! The anticipation of Jubilee would also make people less inclined to lend money to fools.

When the Egyptian Pharaoh had the dream about the 14 cows and 14 stalks of grain, Joseph interpreted that dream, gained Pharaoh's trust, and set up an economic system that was advantageous for all. He ended up enslaving the entire country, but the people didn't see that as a problem. Every Egyptian had sold himself and his land to Pharaoh in exchange for a 20% income

tax. Think of it: according to Genesis 47:20-26, the Egyptians considered a 20% income tax to be **slavery**. God hates tyranny, and a 20% tax isn't tyrannical. The tyranny arrived when a new Pharaoh came to power. He forced Israelites to perform hard labor under brutal conditions and commanded midwives to kill every newborn Israelite boy in the Nile River.

Throughout history, God has been in the business of freeing worthy slaves from tyrannical masters, but freedom – even for a worthy person – is not enough. Jesus said that when a demon is driven out of a man, the man experiences a time of clarity and cleanliness. However, if the man has not granted the Holy Spirit managerial authority, the demon can return with seven of his friends to make the man seven times more miserable than before. God knows that freedom alone is not our salvation. Think of a department store that goes out of business and leaves behind an empty building. Who moves in? Unless a new responsible tenant moves in, you will get animals, broken windows, and drug dealers. Freedom is just a time of transition, a time of choosing.

Now we arrive at the point: Nigeria is the focal point of The April 14th Anomaly. What

contribution has Nigeria made to this history? Slavery. The truth is that tribal Africans have traded slaves for centuries, and it's still going on. Members of rival tribes used to kidnap each other and sell their captives to Islamic and colonial slave traders. The colonial slave market gradually dried up in the 19th century, but the Muslims are still trading and stealing. Islam endorses the enslavement of infidels (non-Muslims) because Mohammed had a lot of slaves. On 4/14/14, Boko Haram thugs kidnapped the 276 Chibok Christian schoolgirls and turned them into sex slaves. According to bringbackourgirls.com, 57 have escaped, 107 were released, and 112 remain in captivity. This is tyrannical. Here is the hard question: Are Africans learning to walk the walk of repentance? If you are Nigerian, have you ever repented for your ancestors' slave-dealing sins or forgiven anyone whose people have participated in the trade? There is a profound blood debt that Africans owe to their neighbors for exporting this misery to the world. Everyone must take some responsibility to heal this wound, but none more than Nigerians. Self-righteous people never repent, and angry people never forgive. The devil holds a contract on your soul that you have

signed with your self-righteous anger. The devil owns you until you ask Jesus Christ to pay your debt and pay the debts of all who are indebted to you. Only then can you be released from the devil's legal chain on you. Only then can you experience a true Jubilee.

Daniel was captured in war, castrated, and educated in Babylon, but he never forgot his childhood lessons. He expressed his love for Yahweh God in daily private worship and prayer. Near the end of his life, Daniel prayed for his people in a unique way. Daniel was not at fault for the sins of his fathers that had precipitated his exile, and yet **he prayed as if he was**. His was a prayer of repentance on their behalf because he knew it was time to own up and renounce those sins. This prayer is an excellent model of humility for Nigeria, Africa, and the world. It's a long prayer. Choose your favorite translation and adjust the words to fit your people.

Daniel 9:3-19 (KJV)

"And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great

and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou has driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee. O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; Neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws, which he set

before us by his servants the prophets. Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him. And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole Heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth. Therefore hath the Lord watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the Lord our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice. And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly. O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I

beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us. Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. O my God, incline Thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name."

Almighty God wants to free the world from the tyrannical enslavement of our many addictions to sin (greed, lust, dishonor, etc.). The nature of modern slavery is spiritual and mental. Modern slavers use the chains of addiction to diminish everyone's desire for freedom. In former

generations, parents could foresee the consequences of their children's bad habits and quickly correct them before those habits grew into addictions. Since the invention of television, the causes of our many addictions are harder to trace because the media screen is just a window. Not only is it impossible to monitor what a viewer sees through that window, but the view changes every few minutes. You've been exposed to dozens of bad ideas in a single sitting, and parents cannot possibly catalog them all in time to anticipate and forestall all the consequences. Media addiction has become so widespread that it is now a social expectation. Many people buy televisions (or media subscriptions) before they buy refrigerators or pay their utility bills. People take drugs to manage these vague consequences when what they need to do is shut the window. Addiction makes it very hard to shut that voyeuristic window.

Jesus often told people to sell all they had and give it to the poor to have treasures in Heaven. (Matthew 19:21) Jesus was not teaching about poverty or caring for the poor in this passage; Jesus was teaching listeners about the need to divest themselves of worldly distractions. Only a

simple lifestyle allows room for relationships. Our time is eaten up by the minutes and hours we spend attending to the many complicated glitches and obstacles brought about by a tech-centered life. Given a choice, would you spend an hour on hold with technical support or an hour having tea with a fascinating friend? Modern media demands are no different from the demands of a slave master if your time is not your own. You can have an unbreakable one-on-one relationship with Jesus. He always has the time for you as an individual. God's love was made accessible through the real blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. No other blood is needed – real or imagined – because he was God in the flesh (an eternal being whose actions apply to all of space and time). Although the offer of salvation is available to everyone, God doesn't treat you like everyone. He treats you like you. Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30) If you can read the Bible, you have all the technology you need for a

purposeful life and loving relationships. There are people in your immediate orbit that you ignore because you're allowing the *free stuff* to distract you from the real world. Can the message be any clearer? Slavery is still a big problem in the world, and God wants his people to be free from tyranny and bonded to him in love. For some, this will be the year of Jubilee, but for others, judgment.

Planet Narnia and Planet Earth

We are swimming in a reality that glistens with God's power and love. Our planet is enveloped in divine light for those with the eyes to see it. If God can show me his hand in a thousand personal ways using something as simple as my birth date – then he can do something similar for you too. What kind of God would he be if he could only speak through human politicians or authorized religious leaders? It was the well-established religious leaders and politicians who crucified him!

Joel 2:28-32 (KJV)

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire,

and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call."

God is capable of loving and empowering you right where and when you need it. When you meet someone like God who can hold you up like that, don't ever let go. Corrie Ten Boom survived Nazi prisons and a concentration camp when she was in her 50s and she went on to speak all over the world about humility, God's love, and the healing power of forgiveness. She was fond of saying, "No pit is so deep that God's love is not deeper still." As a watchmaker, the story of her experience is timeless and fits beautifully into my book. Besides, she died on her birthday, April 15. I tell you this because the power of God's love empowers us to do impossible things like forgiving our captors and abusers. When we are energized by the Holy Spirit and believe the

witnesses in the Bible, these many external horrors shrink in size. Jesus paid it all. I loved a man whose obsessions and deceptions should have had a far worse effect on me, but the Spirit of God raised me high above it. I saw everything as if through the long lens of time, and I knew God had a plan in time. Clark was one of the best tools God ever used on me, and I'm glad he's in my story. You, too, can be so much more than a survivor; you can be a conqueror amid your difficulties as you walk with Jesus, who resurrects you. Never indulge in thoughts of self-pity. Self-pity is a check you write that only the devil can cash. Jesus said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

Ezekiel 33:11 (KJV)

"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

Now go! Pray on your knees with fasting and singing! Go to battle in your heart and mind. Be like the Quakers of old who respected all people, forgave their persecutors and bowed only before Yahweh God. God's love makes every good thing possible and the story isn't over until the dragon is vanquished. The trumpet has sounded, and you have been warned (Ezekiel 33). Will this be your year of Jubilee?

Appendix 1

Bullying: The Ultimate Power Trip

Bullying can happen in any relationship. By parents, children, siblings, husbands, or wives. By neighbors, coworkers, bosses, or landlords. Even strangers can bully you by snatching control of a situation by surprise.

How do you know if you're being bullied?

Bullying differs from harassment and assault in that the harassment (or the physical aggression of assault) can result from a single incident or a small number of incidents – which everybody recognizes –. In contrast, bullying tends to be an accumulation of many minor incidents over a long period. Each incident tends to be trivial, and on its own and out of context, does not constitute an offense or grounds for disciplinary action.

What is bullying?

1. Constant nit-picking, fault-finding, and criti-

cism of a trivial nature. The triviality, regularity, and frequency betray bullying; often, there is a grain of truth (but only a grain) in the criticism to fool you into believing the criticism has validity. It does not, and often, the criticism is based on distortion, misrepresentation, or fabrication.

2. Combined with the criticism is a constant refusal to acknowledge you and your contributions and achievements or recognize your existence and value.
3. Persistent attempts to undermine you and your position, status, worth, value, and potential.
4. Where you are in a group (e.g., at work), being singled out and treated differently; for instance, everyone else can get away with murder, but the moment you put a foot wrong – however trivial – action is taken against you.
5. Being isolated or separated from colleagues, excluded from what's going on, marginalized, overruled, ignored, sidelined, frozen out.
6. Being belittled, demeaned, and patronized, especially in front of others.

7. Being humiliated, shouted at, and threatened, often in front of others.
8. Being overloaded with work or having all your work taken away and replaced with menial tasks.
9. Finding that your work – and the credit for it – is stolen and plagiarized.
10. Having your responsibility increased but your authority taken away.
11. Having vacation leave, sick leave, and – especially – compassion leave refused.
12. Being denied training necessary for you to fulfill your duties.
13. Having unrealistic goals set, which change as you approach them.
14. Finding that everything you say and do is twisted, distorted, and misrepresented.
15. Being subjected to disciplinary procedures with verbal or written warnings imposed for trivial or fabricated reasons and without proper investigation.
16. Being coerced into leaving through no fault of your own.

How do I recognize a bully?

Most bullying is traceable to one person, male or female – bullying is not a gender or race issue – it's a power issue. Bullies are often clever people, but you can be too.

Does this describe anyone in your life?

1. Jekyll & Hyde nature – vicious and vindictive in private but innocent and charming in front of witnesses; no one can (or wants to) believe this individual has a vindictive nature – only the current target sees both sides.
2. Is a convincing, compulsive liar and, when called to account, will make up anything spontaneously to fit their needs at that moment.
3. Uses lots of charm and is always plausible and convincing when peers, superiors, or others are present; the motive of the charm is deception, and its purpose is to compensate for lack of empathy.
4. Relies on mimicry to convince others that they are a “normal” human being, but their words, writing, and deeds are hollow, superficial, and glib.

5. Displays a great deal of certainty and self-assuredness to mask their insecurity.
6. Excessively controlling.
7. Excels at deception.
8. Exhibits unusual, inappropriate attitudes to sexual matters or sexual behavior; underneath the charming exterior, there are often suspicions or intimations of sexual harassment, sex discrimination, or sexual abuse (sometimes racial prejudice).
9. Displays a compulsive need to criticize while simultaneously refusing to acknowledge, value, and praise others.
10. When called upon to share or address the concerns of others, responds with impatience, irritability, and aggression.
11. Often has an overwhelming, unhealthy, and narcissistic need to portray themselves as a wonderful, kind, caring, and compassionate person, in contrast to their behavior and treatment of others; the bully is oblivious to the discrepancy between how they like to be seen (and believe they are seen), and how they are actually seen.
12. Has an overbearing belief in leadership

qualities but cannot distinguish between leadership (maturity, decisiveness, assertiveness, trust, and integrity) and bullying (immaturity, impulsiveness, aggression, distrust, and deceitfulness).

13. When called to account, immediately and aggressively denies everything, then counter-attacks with distorted or fabricated criticisms and allegations; if this is insufficient, quickly feigns victimhood, often by bursting into tears (the purpose is to avoid answering the question and thus evade accountability by manipulating others through the use of guilt).
14. Is also aggressive, devious, manipulative, spiteful, vengeful, doesn't listen, can't sustain a mature adult conversation, lacks a conscience, shows no remorse, is drawn to power, emotionally cold and flat, humorless, joyless, ungrateful, dysfunctional, disruptive, divisive, rigid and inflexible, selfish, insincere, insecure, immature.

What can being bullied do to my health?

1. Constant high levels of stress and anxiety.

2. Frequent illnesses such as viral infections (esp. flu and glandular fever, colds, coughs, chest, ear, nose, and throat infections). Stress plays havoc with your immune system.
3. Aches and pains in the joints and muscles with no obvious cause; back pain with no obvious cause that doesn't respond to treatment.
4. Headaches and migraines.
5. Tiredness, exhaustion, constant fatigue.
6. Sleeplessness, nightmares, waking early, waking up more tired than when you went to bed.
7. Flashbacks and replays, obsessiveness, can't get the bullying out of your mind.
8. Irritable bowel syndrome.
9. Skin problems such as eczema, psoriasis, athlete's foot, ulcers, shingles, urticaria.
10. Poor concentration, forgetfulness, especially with trivial day-to-day things.
11. Hypervigilance (feels like but is not paranoia), being constantly on edge.
12. Sweating, trembling, shaking, palpitations, panic attacks.
13. Tearfulness, bursting into tears regularly, and over trivial things,

14. uncharacteristic irritability, and angry outbursts.
15. Hypersensitivity, fragility, isolation, withdrawal, reactive depression, a feeling of hopelessness, futility, lethargy, anger. shattered self-confidence

Bullying in Religious Environments

Bullies are like wolves in sheep's (or shepherd's) clothing. They do not understand God's power, and they operate under the illusion that power is finite, worldly, and transferable. All religions have people working in them, so in this way, no religious institution is safe from the constant encroachment of sin or wolves. What makes bullying in church unique is that it is usually disguised as a so-called spiritual "gift of humiliation," that you give to someone. Of course, humility is a virtue in humans and should be cultivated in one's character, as James 4:10 and Micah 6:8 instruct, but it's not a virtue when given. Teachers can show their students to a mirror, but there is no place for a caricature or public ridicule.

James 4:10

“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.”

Micah 6:8

“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

Think of it this way: Sheep come to be fed by the shepherd in a safe pasture, but wolves come to feed on sheep in a safe pasture. An additional wrinkle is that most churches prefer to hire from within their own ranks, making them more willing to overlook the immaturity or habitual sin of a political insider. Leadership is power, and power is often intoxicating. Saint Paul warns against this in 2 Timothy 3:5-7.

Defending yourself on the inside

Everyone is born with power. Here is a list of some of the powers every man, woman, and child may possess on any given day.

Money

Beauty

Position

Authority/Duty

Social connections

Self-respect/Purity/Integrity

Information/Knowledge

Abilities/skills

Strength/health

Good Reputation/Public Standing

Wolves have particular tastes, and they only bully people whose powers they crave. I have seen small children bullied by their teachers or parents because, I think, children have the power of innocence that the adult craves. Some people are just insensitive, but wolves are a unique breed because they are highly motivated to act like a sincerely religious disciple by following the letter (but not the spirit) of the law. I have been bullied in churches by men. I have been bullied in singles groups by women. Self-doubt and thoughts of escape-by-any-means (including suicide) are not uncommon when you're being bullied by someone who is, in all other respects, untouchable. I usually find that religious men who bully women view them through the lens of sex addiction.

A Counterattack Plan: Things You Can Do

- Build a “Glory Days” display at home. This displays your diplomas, trophies, kid’s drawings, birthday cards & happy memories. Remember who you are and whose you are and that you are valued. This knowledge and belief are your secret weapon!
- Require the bully to communicate with you in writing as much as possible. Bullies hate a paper trail and are generally paranoid about how written comments could be used against them.
- Keep your nose clean (literally and figuratively). You don’t want to enable her to accuse you of anything genuinely unethical.
- Avoid anger, and yet, don’t pity her either. Showing pity for her may feel like you’re taking the moral high ground, but you would be enabling her to escape responsibility for her actions. Everyone who aspires to leadership has to be able to take some heat. If you can see the writing on the wall, then take responsibility for yourself, drop everything, and get out.
- Be mindful of your health! Wash your hands, get extra sleep, use sunscreen, take vitamins & disinfect your keyboard regularly.

- Watch for your opportunity to escape. If you are a Christian, rely on God alone to provide your escape and support when you choose to move on.
- Churches become cultish when bullies gain the pulpit and presume authority over your very soul. The Holy Spirit of God indwells every believer, so there's no question of who has direct authority over your soul – and it isn't a pastor, priest, teacher, counselor, or parent. It doesn't matter if he "means well"; if his behavior is making you sick, then you're better off in a different environment.
- Don't try to defend yourself to others because this will only draw fire. You may find like-minded fellow travelers, and you might not. Just be careful who you confide in because everyone is a potential "agent" (if I may borrow a concept from *The Matrix*).

Appendix 2

Dragon Fighting: For Women

This information is written for women. It is direct. It is a reality that women try with all their might to ignore because it is so excruciatingly painful. But sometimes, the only way out of a problem is through it. Girls are not born with the knowledge of how boys think. I find that boys are more observant of human nature than girls are, and unless a mother sits down and explains things to her daughter, she will develop an incomplete picture of what's going on in her relationships with men. This section may fill some gaps in your social education, ladies.

If you know a man, then help him with understanding, mercy, and patience. 1 Corinthians 13:7 reads, "Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things." Is this you?

Towards a Better Understanding
Healthy love is like enjoying a normal crackling

fire or glowing embers in your home fireplace. Lust is when you think throwing in the furniture will make it “even better.” It’s that “even better” mentality that gets us all into trouble. We live in a society where the media preaches to us constantly about how we can have it all “even better” for a low, low price. When was the last time you heard some woman brag about the “even better” deal she got? The merry-go-round of pleasure always brings you back to the same place you started an hour older and not a bit smarter.

Pornography is a sadistic teacher. Boys are born with the inclination to use everything as a toy or a tool. Girls are born with the inclination to turn everything into a relatable personality. Boys have to learn to treat weaker people with respect, while girls need to learn not to attach superstitious meaning to everything. Men and women are made in the image of God, and we are a team.

Pornography appeals to the child within. It persuades a man to continue his naive boyhood belief that everything and everyone is a tool or a toy for his manipulation. “Why go against nature?” says the pornographer. However, we are NOT animals limited by basic instincts. Humanity is capable of complex communication and a

genius intellect. Pornography lies to men about what women need, while soap operas and romance novels lie to women about what men need.

Pornography drains his soul and makes him feel empty. Every time he views an obscene image, it takes a piece of his soul. The immediate pleasure is intense, but emptiness is the only feeling that lasts. Being emotionally close to an addict is like living at the edge of a black hole that constantly pulls at you. The proverb reads, "Death and destruction are never satisfied and neither are the eyes of man." He'll eat up the attention you give him and then turn on you because it wasn't enough, as he'd hoped it would be. It doesn't matter what you look like or how pure your love is; nothing can fill a bottomless pit.

Pornography activates the idolatry of self. Human beings are all born with a strong sense of self-love, but exposure to pornography or other types of abuse will do tremendous damage to young minds. The man who craves what he sees in his reflection is an idolater. The purpose of pornography is to divert a man's attention away from seeking secure, loyal relationships. Pornog-

raphy is just another drug.

Getting Close to an addict brings her grief, loss, emptiness, loneliness, desperation, frustration at being inexplicably pulled close and then pushed away, a sense of emotional abandonment, a sense of worthlessness, a sense of oppression, self-doubt, and a variety of torturing fears. All these can be made worse by her girlish ideals and secret lusts. Alternatively, she may be blissfully unaware in her self-centered fog of career ambition until crisis strikes, and she needs him to step up and be strong for her. When that happens, he won't have the emotional maturity to carry her because she's been carrying him all this time.

The silent 1920 version of *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* is a sad tale of a scientist who dared to feed his darkest passions and become a lustful man by night while remaining mostly sane by day. This double inner life is typical of the pornography addict who grew up in a moral household. He is at war with himself, and he will lose no matter what he does. His Doctor Jekyll wants to be good, noble, and worthy of a righteous woman, but his Mr. Hyde is a wolf with an endless appetite.

Counterattack!

Women are the perfect companions for men, and they can help in unique and amazing ways. I believe men need and want complete relationships (spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual). A real relationship between man & wife is always more rewarding than a paper, video, or male one. Only a man & wife can become one flesh and make a baby! Only a woman can complete a man, and a man needs to find a trustworthy woman who will not expose him to ridicule. Trustworthy women are incredibly rare.

Hold Love Lightly

You can make a big difference through your silent actions, but it depends upon where your heart is. Don't let your need for affection turn into a lust for approval. Remember that you are not defined by whether or not a man loves you. God loves you, and that is enough – man's love is just the frosting.

Many men will not respond well or appropriately. Many have developed bullying tactics, and they'll act like they're not listening to you when they, in fact, are. Some are so in love with themselves that they'd honestly rather sleep alone. Just

don't give up. Even if you have to leave, don't give up praying for him and keep your heart open to opportunities to encourage him.

The Antidote is found in the Bible. 2 Timothy 1:7 states, "God did not give us a spirit of fear but one of power, love and self-discipline." This medicine is only available to men who ask for God's help on God's terms. That means confess, repent and renounce everything associated with that sinful lifestyle. Courage is the simplest way to describe what he must now do. In practical terms, he needs to begin looking for areas in his life where the cowardice of a wilted spirit has guided his actions and then do the opposite next time. Suppose he is afraid of social occasions where he might be exposed to embarrassment – like dancing, public speaking, or trying a new sport. If he wouldn't do those things as a coward, then as a hero, he needs to take lessons. Has he ever ridden and controlled a horse? Go for a trail ride! Horseback riding can turn a city slicker into a confident western hero as the horse's natural power must be controlled by force. Our emotions are just like that horse; if you don't reign them in, they will trample you. These courageous acts might seem to have nothing to do with pornogra-

phy, but I tell you, addiction feeds on cowardice. Replace your cowardice with courage, and the addiction can be washed away.

More Courageous Acts

- Read *At the Altar of Sexual Idolatry* by Steve Gallagher
- Watch only PG media that was made for adults in the 20th century
- Shut all virtual windows or switch to a text-only browser.
- Start a tactile hobby (build or rebuild something)
- Go to a church where they study the Bible verse-by-verse.
- Defragment your brain by reading the Bible one chapter at a time. Do this by reading the same chapter every day for a month, then move on to the next one.

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