



**BEWARE
OF
HERESIES**

BY KONG DUEN YEE

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**Extract From A Life To Testify
The Full Gospel Of Jesus Christ**

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Beware of Heresies I

Catholicism, Mormons, Seventh-Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses

To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

(Isa. 8:20)

The Lord Jesus said, You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

(John 5:39)

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

(Matt. 7:15)

The Bible is the word of God. It has infinite authority. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but the word of God abides forever. All men should accept God's law and statutes as the basis of their faith. Whoever believes and preaches according to the Bible shall gain eternal life. But whoever does not believe, and deliberately distorts the word of God, shall perish. The most important life decision a person must make is between eternal life and eternal death. What will ultimately happen to them depends on whether their faith is founded on the biblical truth.

The devil is the enemy of man. He only has one purpose: To destroy God's plan of salvation for mankind. As the greatest liar of all, he convinces man to disbelieve the word of God. He wants to lure their souls to the lake of fire with him. The devil is a crafty, evil spirit, and the way he deceives men is extremely cunning. If he were to tell people directly not to believe in Jesus, many would see his trick and reject him. For people generally care for their own souls and want to

know the true God and be saved. But the devil disguises himself as an angel of light, spreading his doctrines like a net. He uses false prophets and teachers to pervert the word of God with heretical teachings that sound true. Many are unknowingly ensnared by them. And in the end, they will perish. The Lord Jesus told us that such false prophets (those who preach devilish doctrines) come in sheep's clothing (appear to be good), but are actually ravenous wolves (but seek to devour men's souls). How true that is! They appear to be angels who preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, but they are actually messengers of the devil who spread his soul-killing doctrines.

Roman Catholicism, The Mormons (the Latter-day Saints), Seventh-Day Adventism and the Jehovah's Witnesses (the Watchtower) are heretical groups that preach doctrines of the devil. For centuries, their erroneous teachings have destroyed countless precious souls. Although they appear to preach Jesus from the Bible, they have deviated from scriptural truths completely. They even oppose the salvation of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Bible. Many who thirst for the salvation of God are deceived by them because they lack biblical knowledge. They think they are saved by just believing in a religion. Actually they have no part in God's salvation.

The blood of Jesus Christ is the rock on which men's faith should be built. Apart from the precious blood of Christ, no doctrine, person or thing is qualified to forgive sins.

“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

“...the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name [other than the name of Jesus] under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

The heretical sects do not base their salvation on God's word. They build people's faith on sandy ground—absurd doctrines that can't save men. How dangerous and disastrous their theories are! Followers of such heresies usually think they are on the right path. It is not until they come to the end of their life-journey that they realize

death awaits them. And then it will be too late. “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Prov. 14:12).

After being saved by the Lord's precious blood, I learned the greatness of God's salvation, and the preciousness of human souls. Millions of sinners seek the Savior, but only find false prophets. In the end, they die in ignorance. I am always anxious for them, and pray earnestly that the Lord may lead them back to the path of the cross—the way which truly saves men and gives them eternal life. For this purpose, God wants me to expose the wicked schemes of the devil by pointing out the harmful doctrines spread by the heretical sects. May those who are deceived reject their evil doctrines and turn to the living God promptly. And may others be on guard against them.

Roman Catholicism

It is wrong to think that Roman Catholicism existed before Christianity. The true church began with Jesus Christ more than 1900 years ago. Despite suffering continual persecutions at the hands of Roman Catholics, the church was preserved by the power of the Holy Spirit. No dominion has ever succeeded in destroying her unfeigned faith.

The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us to God by His blood out of every tribe, tongue, people and nation (see Rev. 5:9). After His resurrection and ascension, He gave the Holy Spirit to His disciples. The Holy Spirit gave them power to preach the gospel (the word of life) far and near, and to establish the church—the body of Christ. The church is not a material building but a spiritual construction composed of those who “are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints” (1 Cor. 1:2). These people who were sanctified and called to be saints were first called Christians (meaning *of Christ*) in Antioch. “And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11:26). There were no Roman Catholics yet, only Christians. In fact, the terms *catholicism* and *catholic* are not found in

the Bible at all. There is only one church—the church of Christ Jesus. The Rock of the church is Christ Himself (see 1 Cor. 10:4). Christians of the early church were heavily persecuted and tortured for bearing witness to the risen Christ. At around 60 A.D., apostles Peter and Paul died martyrs in Rome. But by then, Christianity was already prevalent in the Roman Empire.

Much later, at about 300 A.D., the Roman emperor, Constantine, used the church to consolidate his political power. He joined the church and encouraged his army and the common people to do the same. He gave those who joined the church high political positions and rewards. As a result, many officials, who had no intention of believing in the Lord, joined the church blindly for selfish gains. Constantine then declared himself the head of state, and brought about the unification of church and state. Under these circumstances, the church began to lose her pure and simple faith, and started to accept worldly customs and traditions. And Roman Catholicism soon developed.

In the 6th century, Gregory I became the head of the Roman Catholic Church and was named *Pope*. With papal authority, he intervened in politics. His power was even greater than the emperor's: he could freely set and remove kings. He also introduced strict dogma to church adherents—the beginning of heresy (unscriptural teaching).

From the 6th to the 16th century, the church was under the dark dominion of Roman Catholicism. Christians who held to the faith in the salvation of the Lord Jesus, and resisted the oppressive tyranny and false doctrines of Catholicism, were ruthlessly persecuted and killed. When these persecutions reached their climax, God raised up Martin Luther to bring about the *Reformation*. Many responded well to the movement. Several believers turned from heresy to the light of the truth (the Bible). Martin Luther restored the most basic belief of the early church—justification by faith. But many who are not familiar with church history believe the Catholics' version of the story: That Martin Luther was a renegade who led people away from the Catholic Church to a new religion. Because this story is handed down

from one generation to the next, many have been deceived. It is another scheme of the devil to confuse men and lead them astray.

The main deviations of Roman Catholicism are as follows:

The Pope as the Head

The head of the church is Jesus Christ. The Bible says, “And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all” (Eph. 1:22–23). “...into Him who is the head—Christ” (Eph. 4:15). But the Catholic Church claims that the pope is the head of the church. The pope accepts homage from Catholics and abuses his authority. Catholics even say that Peter was the first pope, but the Bible certainly has no such record. The Bible tells us that when Peter went to preach in the house of Cornelius, Cornelius fell down at his feet and worshiped him. “But Peter lifted him up, saying, ‘Stand up; I myself am also a man’” (Acts 10:25–26). Evidently, Peter dared not exalt himself and accept the homage of men. And he surely did not expect to be exalted as the first pope by Roman Catholicism. In his epistles to the church, he addressed himself as “Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ” (2 Pet. 1:1). Peter dared not usurp the position of the Lord Jesus Christ. Only the devil Satan would do such a rebellious thing. Satan was formerly the archangel with beauty and honor. However, when he attempted to usurp God’s position, he was demoted to become the spirit of wickedness (see Isa. 14:12–15; Ezek. 28:12–17).

In the Catholic Church, the pope has taken the place of Christ as the head. This is a manifestation of satanic arrogance. One who belongs to the Lord would never dare do this. Some Catholics even have the audacity to claim that the pope is Christ in the flesh, and that he is infallible. What a ridiculous belief! Other than the Lord Jesus, who else is perfect? Even Peter, whom they regard as the first pope, once “played the hypocrite” even though he had been filled with the Holy Spirit (see Gal. 2:11–13). What more to say about the Catholic popes who have been notorious for their greed and sinfulness throughout the ages? How can they even compare with the

holy Lord? All popes are only sinners. They certainly do not deserve men's worship, nor do they possess the authority to forgive sins. Only "He [Christ] is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence" (Col. 1:18). We must know for certain that Christ, alone, is the head of the church.

Catholics Are Not Encouraged to Read the Bible

The Roman Catholic Church does not encourage Catholics to read the Bible. Instead, Catholics are given the *Catechism* to read. Since Catholics do not base their faith on the word of God (the Bible), a majority of them do not know the truth. The Catholic Catechism is fabricated by man, full of ridiculous doctrines which deviate completely from the Lord's holy truth.

The Lord said, "The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life...search the Scriptures..." (John 6:63; 5:39). If Christians read the Bible constantly, they will gain a better understanding of the wonderful Savior. But the Catholic Church says that only the pope and priests can understand the Bible, not ordinary believers. This is a great lie! The Catholic Church's motive is to stop people from discovering their fallacies. If Catholics were to study God's word humbly and pray sincerely to the Lord, "O Lord, open my understanding, that I might comprehend the Scriptures" (Luke 24:45), the Holy Spirit would certainly guide them into the truth. The Lord would surely deliver them out of darkness into the light.

Confession to the Pope and Priests

The Catholic Church claims that the pope and priests have the power to forgive sins. Its members are required to make confession before the priests at least once a year and offer money to be rid of their sins. But the Bible says, "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Mark 2:7). "...without shedding of blood there is no remission" (Heb. 9:22). The Lord's blood was shed for us. So only He has the power to forgive sins. To the paralytic, the Lord said, "Son, your sins are forgiven you" (Mark 2:5). And to the woman who sinned, He said,

“Your sins are forgiven” (Luke 7:48). Who are the pope and priests? They are mere sinners! How can they forgive sins when their own sins have not been forgiven? A person must repent and confess his sins to the Lord Jesus to receive forgiveness and true peace. There is no other way.

Mary as Mediator

Almost the entire Catechism teaches people to pray to Mary with rosaries. Catholics honor Mary by calling her “Holy Mother.” They exalt her above Jesus Christ. They think that Mary, being the mother of Jesus, can instruct Him to forgive sins. This is complete falsehood! They do not realize that the Lord Jesus never regarded human relationships more important than spiritual ones.

Once, when the Lord Jesus was told that His mother and brothers were looking for Him, He replied, “Who is My mother and who are My brothers?...For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother” (Matt. 12:48–50). On another occasion, a certain woman raised her voice and said to the Lord Jesus, “Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!” But He said, “More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!” (Luke 11:27–28). And there was yet another time, at the wedding in Cana, where the Lord said to Mary, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come” (John 2:4).

The Lord was aware of His own deity. He had little regard for the mother-son relationship in the flesh. He is the true God and Savior; He is always pleased to hear our prayers. Why would He need Mary to instruct Him? By exalting Mary to the position of God, the Catholic Church has debased the Lord. What blasphemy!

The Catholic Church also teaches the doctrine of Mary's perpetual virginity. They claim that she was preserved from all stain of original sin, and that she was taken bodily into heaven. But these claims are not biblically founded. The Bible says that Mary was a highly favored woman, a vessel specially chosen by God. When the angel announced to her the good news that she, a virgin, would

conceive and bring forth a Son by the Holy Spirit, she said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to Your word” (Luke 1:26–38).

Mary was also a very humble and obedient woman. Of her, it is written: “And Mary said: ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed’” (Luke 1:46–48). Mary's words show that she never expected to be exalted to a position equal to that of God and worshiped by future generations.

The Bible tells us that after the virgin Mary had given birth to Jesus, her firstborn, she bore Joseph several children who were the Lord's brothers and sisters in the flesh. “Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS” (Matt. 1:24–25). “And when He had come to His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, ‘Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? And His sisters, are they not all with us?’” (Matt. 13:54–56). These Bible verses clearly contradict the Catholic's claim that Mary was a *perpetual virgin*.

The Bible also says, “...for there is no one who does not sin” (1 Kings 8:46). “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). Since Mary was human, how could she be an exception? Who is without original and personal sin other than Jesus, the Son of God? The Bible makes no reference to the alleged *Assumption* of Mary. Apparently, this is something Roman Catholicism made up. We love and respect Mary for her obedience, humility, purity and other virtues. But it would be a great sin against God to worship her as God. “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all...” (1 Tim. 2:5–6). “And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins...” (1 John 2:1–2). There is no mediator besides Jesus.

Catholics always recite the name “Mary” when they pray, counting the beads of their rosary like the Buddhists do with their string of beads. They think that the more they recite her name, the more effective their prayers will be. This is absolutely wrong. Mary is not God. So she is not qualified to answer the prayers of men. Men can only pray to God in the name of Jesus Christ. By His death on the cross, He has opened this new and living way for us to come to God. The Lord Jesus taught His disciples this principle of prayer: To pray in His name. This is the only way for our prayers to be effective. “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do...” (John 14:13). “Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Rom. 10:13). Many devout Catholics have recited prayers for years, yet they are not saved. Why? Because they have never prayed in the name of the Lord Jesus. Their prayers are in vain. Our advice to the Catholics is this: Do not be deceived by the devil! Do not pray to Mary anymore. Pray now to God in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Worship of Idols and Relics

God has declared to all men, “You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself any carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God...” (Exod. 20:3–5; Deut. 5:7–9). “Take careful heed to yourselves, for you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure...(and) you feel driven to worship them and serve them...” (Deut. 4:15–16,19).

The Bible makes it clear that there is only one God. And God has specifically commanded us not to make any carved images; we should not bow down to any images or serve them. But the Catholic Church deliberately defies God. They make it compulsory for Catholics to worship and pray to icons of the virgin Mary and the twelve apostles. In order to conform to its erroneous teaching, the Catholic Church has boldly changed the word of God. In the

Catholic version of the Bible, Exodus 20:4–5, has been omitted. The Ten Commandments of God have been modified! The second commandment, *you shall not bow down to carved images*, has been deleted, and the tenth commandment, *you shall not covet ¼*, is divided into two commandments: *you shall not covet your neighbor's wife*, and *you shall not covet your neighbor's wealth*.

The Bible explicitly warns against any addition to or deletion from the word of God. Yet the Catholic Church has done this. They have committed the gravest sin of all—distorting the word of God. They use all means to cover up their wrongs, explaining that they are only paying homage to the icons, not worshipping them as God. But actions speak louder than words. If they are not deifying Mary and other saints, why do they kneel and pray before them? Do they not know that this is what God hates most? The Bible says, “Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God” (1 Cor. 6:9–10). “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death” (Rev. 21:8). “...adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like;... will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:19–21). Shouldn't you Catholics tremble in fear at the word of God? Shouldn't you come before the Lord immediately to confess your sins and repent? Shouldn't you abandon your idols, reject heresies and sins, and turn to the true God?

What is even more absurd is the Catholics' worship of relics. They venerate decayed wood (said to be remnants of the cross and debris of Noah's ark), dried bones (allegedly the apostles'), feathers (believed to be thrown down from heaven by the archangel Gabriel) and other such specimens. Catholics are told that by worshipping these things, peace and good fortune will come to them. The Catholic Catechism even claims that “holy water” and “holy candles” are effective in exercising evil spirits, relieving labor pains, healing

sicknesses, averting pestilence, preventing burglary... Such ridiculous and superstitious beliefs are even worse than idolatry. The devil has used such fallacies to deceive millions of Catholics. He blinds them from seeing that worshipping something or someone other than God is the most rebellious sin. The Lord Jesus says, "You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve" (Luke 4:8).

Purgatory

The Catholic heresy pertaining to purgatory has destroyed countless souls. Catholics are told that a man's soul will suffer in purgatory after death. But if family members pay a priest to pray for him, his time of suffering will be shortened. He will then be transferred from purgatory to heaven to enjoy peace and happiness. But if he is not prayed for, he will be cast from purgatory into hell to suffer eternally; any intercessions after that will be too late. Many families have been deceived by this lie. They give a lot of money to the priests to pray for their dead. They hope this will relieve their deceased family members' suffering. This practice contradicts biblical truth. Imagine, if one could go to heaven because his family paid the priests to pray for him, wouldn't many of the poor end up in hell? And wouldn't God be encouraging the rich to indulge in sins and wickedness? How absurd! God is righteous. He shows no partiality and cannot be bribed. All sinners must die, regardless of whether they are rich or poor. And after death comes judgment.

The Bible points out that there are only two places in eternity—heaven and hell. Whether one enjoys eternal life in heaven or suffers eternal death in hell depends on whether he has accepted Jesus as Savior before death. "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (John 3:36). Therefore, if anyone wishes to have everlasting life, he must believe in Jesus now, and trust in His precious blood to cleanse his sins. After death, he will have no more chance to be saved. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (Heb. 2:3) God gave His only begotten Son to die for us. His gospel is for everyone, including the poor and the afflicted.

Purgatory is not only a ploy of the Roman Catholic Church to cheat its members out of their money, but a subtle trick of Satan to lead souls into destruction. (He fulfills this by encouraging man to sin to his heart's content and to reject salvation during his lifetime.) I sincerely hope that Catholics will wake up and flee from the devil's trap!

Indulgence

The Catholic practice of *indulgence* is another way to fool their members out of their money. An *indulgence* is said to contain the merits of Mary and the saints, and, by buying one, a person will be redeemed; no matter how much he has sinned. This claim is absolutely groundless. The Bible says, “Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Pet. 1:18–19). Other than the precious blood of the Lord, what else can redeem mankind from sins?

Prohibition of Marriage and Meats

The Lord Jesus said, “...He who made them at the beginning made them male and female,...For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh” (Matt. 19:4–5). “Marriage is honorable among all...” (Heb. 13:4). “But even if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned.... But if they cannot exercise self-control, let them marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion” (1 Cor. 7:28,9).

From the above-mentioned Scriptures, it is clear that marriage is sacred. Some people may choose to remain single in order to serve the Lord with undivided attention, but this gift is not given to everyone. The Lord said, “All cannot accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given” (Matt. 19:11). Paul also said, “And this I say for your own profit, not that I may put a leash on you, but for what is proper...” (1 Cor. 7:35). The Catholic dogma strictly

forbids priests and nuns to marry. This is absolutely unscriptural. Since they do not remain single by choice, but by external pressure, priests and nuns are frequently involved in scandalous affairs.

The Catholic Church also requires its members to abstain from meat once a week. This is also inconsistent with the Bible. The Bible says, “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,...forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth” (1 Tim. 4:1–3).

Baptism and the Eucharist

The Lord Jesus said, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved...” (Mark 16:16). The first step to salvation is to believe in Jesus as Savior. Anyone who wants to be baptized must first confess his sins, repent sincerely before the Lord, and trust in His blood for the cleansing of his sins. Otherwise, his baptism will be meaningless. However, in the Catholic Church, as long as a person receives the rite of baptism by the sprinkling of water, he is considered saved. It does not matter whether he has truly believed and repented. So infants receive their baptisms without their knowing. The adults are no better. They think that after their baptism they will receive eternal life and will not have to seek the Savior any more. Since they have no understanding of God's salvation, how can they be saved? The deceitful teaching of the Roman Catholics about salvation by the sprinkling of water has destroyed innumerable precious souls.

The Eucharist (Holy Communion) was initiated by the Lord Jesus that His believers might remember His death until His return. The Holy Communion itself cannot sanctify or save a person. Yet the Catholic Church doesn't care whether the partakers understand the meaning of the Holy Communion. As long as they receive the *holy body*, they are considered blessed. This is wrong! The bread and wine in the Holy Communion symbolize the body and blood of the Lord. The Lord of Life, Jesus Christ, came to bear all our sins. He was hung on the cross, and with the shedding of blood, he died. The

Holy Communion proclaims the efficacy of the sacrifice for sins He made with His own body. This efficacy is not received through the act of eating, but by faith. So only those who believe in the Lord are to partake of the Holy Communion. The partaking of the Holy Communion itself should, therefore, distinguish a believer from a non-believer.

But the Catholic Church asserts that the bread and cup of the Holy Communion literally turn into the flesh and blood of the Lord Jesus after being blessed by the priest. This is what they call *transubstantiation*. According to them, partakers can orally receive the real flesh and blood of the Lord Jesus. So the efficacy of the Holy Communion is not based on the faith of believers, but on the blessing of the priest which *consecrates* the bread and the cup. So even non-believers are allowed to partake of the Holy Communion. This certainly is not in conformity with the Bible. If they believe in the *changing of elements*, they are only deceiving themselves and others. It is as if the priest performs magic. And the partakers are superstitious, because bread and wine can never change their states: the bread will still be bread, and the wine, wine.

Another erroneous practice of the Catholic Church is that it only allows its members to partake of the bread (the body), but not the cup. They claim that only the priests can partake of both. The Bible says, “Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, *all of you*. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins” (Matt. 26:27–28). How dare the Catholic Church alter the Holy Communion which was initiated by the Lord Himself!

There are many other Catholic doctrines and practices which are inconsistent with the Scriptures. They are too many to list. Once people join the Catholic Church, it is hard for them to get out. Many Catholics are actually very sincere; they thirst for the truth and desire to serve the Lord. But regrettably, they are so deceived by these heretical and evil teachings that the poison cannot be easily removed. Very few, if any, are able to come back to the light of truth. What a pity! My elder daughter, Ruth, was once ensnared by Roman Catholicism. But by the great grace of God, she was freed from the

grip of the devil and was brought back to the salvation of Christ. However, many of my friends and relatives are still being deceived by Satan, leading an irreligious Catholic life. Daily I pray earnestly that the Lord may save them and all other Catholics. May God bless His own words, and let more Catholics read this message. May they turn back to the true God soon. Indeed, God is anxiously waiting for them to repent and turn back to Him!

Mormonism (The Latter-Day Saints)

Mormonism was founded by Joseph Smith in 1830. Its tenets consist of devilish teachings which completely contradict scriptural truths. Our God is triune—Holy Father, Holy Son and Holy Spirit. The Bible makes many references to Him as the one and only true God. “Hear, O Israel, The LORD our God, the LORD is one” (Mark 12:29). “And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3). “For there is one God...” (1 Tim. 2:5). The Bible states that there is only one God. But the Mormons' strange and erroneous doctrines claim that there are three gods in three persons. So they believe that there is more than one God. Since they have made such a big mistake in the most essential truth, other errors are inevitable.

The Holy Father

Mormonism maintains that Adam is God the Father. How absurd! All of us know that Adam, the forefather of the human race, was created by God. And it was because of his transgression that sin and death came into the world. The Mormons make ridiculous claims that Adam is God, the Father who created the universe. They really do not know the true God. This has greatly blasphemed Him!

The Holy Son

Mormons don't believe that the Lord Jesus is the only begotten Son of God. They also deny that He was born of a virgin (Mary) by the power of the Holy Spirit. They say that the Lord Jesus was born of Adam and Mary. They believe that Jesus was a polygamist who married Mary and Martha of Bethany and Mary Magdalene at the wedding feast in Cana. So Mormons practice polygamy. They claim that Abraham was justified by God because he had several wives. This heresy is of Satan! The Bible says, "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel" (Isa. 7:14). "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins'" (Matt. 1:18–21). Therefore, Jesus, the Son of God, was surely born of the virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit.

The Bible states, "And He answered and said to them, ... *For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they are no longer two but one flesh. Whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery;*..." (Matt. 19:4–6,9). So the Lord Jesus also clearly opposed polygamy. Nowhere does the Bible say that Jesus, the Holy Son of God, was married. How dare the Mormons distort the Holy Bible and blaspheme the divinity of the Son of God, Jesus Christ!

The Holy Spirit

"Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God" (1 Cor. 2:11). Since the Mormon Church is an organization of devilish doctrines, the Holy Spirit can't possibly dwell there. So

Mormons cannot understand the things of God and try to understand God through human intellect. They think that God has a physical form and needs to wear clothes like a mortal man. Mormons deny the deity of the Holy Spirit, and treat Him as a tiny object. They are ignorant of what the Bible says: “God is Spirit” (John 4:24). He is not someone from the material world who can be felt physically. The Holy Spirit is the Godhead who hears, speaks, inspires, admonishes and can be grieved at heart. The Lord Jesus said, “And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven” (Luke 12:10).

Mormons disbelieve the Bible. Instead, they believe in the book they wrote, *Book of Mormon*. They see it as valuable scriptures. This is why they do not understand the origin of sin and its terrible consequences. And it follows that they do not realize the value of salvation. Since they do not believe that men have original sin (inherited sinful nature). They also do not believe that the blood of Jesus has the power of redemption. Mormons may appear to preach Jesus according to the Bible, but they are actually ignorant of the truth on salvation. When they persuade men to join the Mormon Church, they are actually dragging people to hell. They claim that whoever is baptized, and receives the laying on of hands by a Mormon priest, is saved. They even believe that the dead stand a chance of salvation through baptism by the priest.

Mormons are very fervent in their missionary work. Recently, in Hong Kong and Kowloon, you can always see a pair of foreigners—often wearing straw hats—toting their Bibles. They go from door to door, claiming that they are preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. Some of them even give free English lessons. Many people who have little knowledge of the truth join this devilish religion, either out of curiosity or for some earthly gain. Once they become Mormons, they are held captive for the rest of their lives. It is highly unlikely they will ever escape.

When I first dedicated myself to serve the Lord, a group of Mormon missionaries visited me and tried to persuade me to join them. Initially, I was too naive, hoping that by receiving them into

my house and preaching to them in love, I could save their souls from evil doctrines. I even asked them to pray with me. But surprisingly, they refused to kneel down and pray in the name of Jesus! I later learned from the Bible that they are the spirits of the Antichrist. “For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist... Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds” (2 John 7–11).

Then I realized that I had unknowingly sinned against God by receiving false preachers into my home; I shared in their evil deeds. From then on, I no longer dared to talk with them. It is not that we are unwilling to help them, but it is practically impossible to persuade them to turn away from their erroneous beliefs. We can only pray for them, pleading with God to have mercy on them and save them from their devilish doctrines. If we allow them to enter our homes, even if we are not deceived, our family members may fall prey to the devil. Whether you are a believer or not, you should never receive these people into your homes, either out of curiosity or just for some free English lessons. If you do, you are seeking your own destruction, and one day you will find it too late to regret.

Seventh-Day Adventism

Seventh-Day Adventism was founded in 1843. The doctrine of the Seventh-Day Adventists is deceptive. They are familiar with the Scriptures, but they do not have the Spirit of truth to guide them. So they have distorted and misinterpreted the Bible, inventing several heretical teachings. The major ones are as follows:

Disbelieve in the Immortality of the Soul

Seventh-Day Adventists maintain that after death, the soul of man is unconsciousness until the time of resurrection. They believe at the time of resurrection, good people will go to heaven, and the wicked will simply *vanish*. This vanishing they called the *annihilation of the soul* is an attractive idea to those who indulge in sin but fear eternal punishment in hell. Many people think: "It doesn't matter if I don't go to heaven after I die. What matters most is that I can enjoy myself now." Actually, this is not as simple as they think. God has declared to the world that he who does not gain eternal life will receive eternal death. For the wrath (severe punishment) of God falls on them who are without eternal life. If a man wishes to avoid eternal punishment, he must earnestly seek the word of eternal life. There is no mid-point between heaven and hell; men must choose one or the other. The Bible says, "It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). "For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether it is good or whether it is evil" (Eccles. 12:14). "Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment..." (Ps. 1:5). God is a righteous God. He rewards the good and punishes the wicked. Evildoers will be judged and condemned for their sins. Their end is perdition in hell. If one wishes to avoid judgment, he has to repent and receive the forgiveness of sins through the Lord's precious blood.

The Lord Jesus said, "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36–37). May these words encourage us to spend our short lives on earth planning ahead for our eternal life. We should not pursue the fleeting pleasures and temporal gains of this world at the expense of our precious, eternal souls.

The Adventists' fallacy on the *annihilation of the soul* shows that they have been deceived by Satan. They teach people to believe that, like the light of a candle being snuffed out, death is the end. As a result, men seek only the pleasures of the present life and are not concerned about their souls after death. They do not even feel the need to repent of their sins. Unknowingly, they will step right into the lake of fire, the place for eternal punishment. Mrs. Ellen White

was a co-founder of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. She suggested in her book that the idea of eternal punishment for the wicked in the lake of fire is not compatible with God's love and mercy. She argued that since man sins only for a short while—only during their lifetime—they should not have to suffer eternally. How ignorant she was of God's amazing plan of salvation! God is righteous and holy. He will not tolerate even the slightest sin, nor will He acquit the wicked. Those who sin will be condemned and suffer eternal punishment in the lake of fire. Otherwise, God's standard of righteousness would not be met.

But God is also merciful, loving and kind. He cannot bear to see man, whom He created, suffer under the oppression of sin and fall into eternal damnation. Therefore, He gave His only begotten Son to suffer and die for man that man might be saved from eternal death. “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 6:23). If the souls of the wicked were to simply “vanish,” and not have to suffer after death, then for what was the Lord Jesus crucified? If people could despise eternal life and indulge in sinful pleasures without being judged and punished, then the blood of Jesus would have been shed in vain.

But God rewards the good and punishes the wicked. He shall judge the world with righteousness. However, He does not want to see the wicked perish. How He hopes they will repent and have eternal life. God has prepared a wonderful salvation that sinners may be redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. All who believe in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life. Can greater love and mercy be found anywhere? This good news is what the entire human race needs. Anyone willing to accept this gospel will obtain salvation freely. But if the wicked reject the salvation, refuse to repent and choose perdition instead, they will have only themselves to blame, not God.

Many passages in the Bible show that man's soul continues to exist after death. The souls of the dead are conscious of happiness or suffering. To warn the world of this, the Lord Jesus told the story of the rich man and the beggar named Lazarus. While the rich man was still alive, he lived in luxury and did not care about God. After death, his soul was tormented in Hades, and not even a drop of water was

given him. Lazarus, on the other hand, was a God-fearing man in his lifetime. He had no material comforts and was despised. But after death, he was carried to Abraham's bosom to enjoy blessings. The Bible says, "Then he [the rich man] cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame'. But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented'" (Luke 16:24–25). These verses show us that the soul does not fade away but remains conscious after death.

"Then he [the rich man] said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment'" (Luke 16:27–28). The story of the rich man is a warning to those who pursue only riches and pleasures in their present lives and neglect the future of their souls. Although they enjoy temporal wealth and fame in the world, their souls will be tormented forever. It simply isn't worth it! And by the time they realize this, it will be too late. So we must accept the Lord's salvation now. Let us forsake worldly pleasures and take up our cross to follow Him. The Lord is the true joy of life. Besides saving our souls, He will enable us to preach the gospel to our loved ones, that they may also be saved. What a blessing! Why not enjoy such a blessing? The Seventh-Day Adventists' doctrine on *the annihilation of the soul* is indeed a heresy which has misled many!

The Lord Jesus said, "And if your eye makes you sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire—where 'their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' For everyone will be seasoned with fire..." (Mark 9:47–49). "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels...And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life'" (Matt. 25:41,46). "Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?" (Matt. 23:33). "And do not fear those who

kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matt. 10:28).

Dear friends in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church: Having read the word of God, can you still insist that the human soul vanishes after death? Ellen White is erroneous interpretation of the Scriptures has led countless precious souls to destruction. Friends, come to your senses now and turn to God! What are you waiting for? Ask yourselves this: Which is more reliable, the doctrine of Ellen White or the word of God? Like the rich man in Luke 16, White is suffering in the flames of Hades. Now it is too late for her to repent. Do you really want to follow in her footsteps? Why don't you turn back immediately from these evil doctrines while you still have the chance? Why should you perish?

Emphasize the Law More than Life

The Adventists admit that Jesus is the Savior, and they also acknowledge that His blood was shed for the remission of sins. But they still rely on the works of the law as a means of salvation. Such a belief is self-contradictory. The Bible says, “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified” (Gal. 2:16). “For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.’ But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for ‘The just shall live by faith.’ Yet the law is not of faith, but ‘The man who does them shall live by them.’ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us...” (Gal. 3:10–13).

It is clear that none of us can be saved by the works of the law. We can only be saved by faith in Christ's redemption, through His precious blood. Of course, a Christian should have both faith and good works, for faith without works is dead. But these good works do not refer to the good deeds of the flesh performed before

believing in the Lord, but to the fruits of faith we bear afterwards. Because of our faith in Christ, we obtain a new life—a spiritual life. And this faith enables us to bear the spiritual fruit. Therefore, we should strive for a more abundant spiritual life through the filling of the Holy Spirit.

We do not mean to abolish the law, for the Lord Jesus came into the world to fulfill the law. He said, “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘*You shall not murder;*’ and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’ But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.... You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘*You shall not commit adultery.*’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matt. 5:21–22, 27–28). Therefore, believers in the New Testament era not only fulfill the law, but are also able to perform things which are beyond the call of the law. This is achieved by the power of the Holy Spirit.

If we try to fulfill the law by the works of the flesh, we will surely fail. But if we begin with the Spirit, we will have the life of Christ in us. And with this life, we will naturally do those things which please the Lord. If we are only concerned with rigid observance of the law, but fail to seek the abundant life of Christ, aren't we missing the point? For we serve the Lord “in the Spirit, and not in the letter [law]” (Rom. 2:29). “But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter” (Rom. 7:6). The Lord Jesus wants us to worship Him in spirit and in truth. Believers must first repent, be reborn, and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Only then will they be able to serve and worship God in the spirit of life. The Adventists disregard the inner spiritual life, but fuss over matters such as food, drink and observance of days. What a fallacy!

Abstinence from Food

Seventh-Day Adventists forbid their members to eat certain foods such as pork, rabbit, lobster, crab and oyster. Abstaining from

these things does not benefit the spiritual life of the believers at all. The Bible tells us, “But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse” (1 Cor. 8:8). “...there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean... For the kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit” (Rom. 14:14,17). “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,... commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth” (1 Tim. 4:1,3). “For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well.” (Acts 15:28–29) The apostles did not burden the Christians with matters concerning food and drink, why should the Adventists?

Observance of the Sabbath

Adventism insists on observance of the Sabbath (Saturday), which God appointed for the Jews as a day of rest in the Old Testament—the era of the law. Adventists say that a person must keep the Sabbath in order to be saved. This is completely wrong. The Bible says, “Therefore let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ” (Col. 2:16–17). “For Christ is the end of the law...” (Rom. 10:4).

All the signs shown in the Old Testament were realized in the New Testament era in Jesus Christ. What happened during the period of the Old Testament was a shadow of things to come, but the reality is Christ. In the Old Testament era, the Jews kept the Sabbath to commemorate the mighty deliverance of God who brought them out of Egypt, the house of bondage. Likewise, in the New Testament era, Christians gather themselves on the Lord's Day

(Sunday) to commemorate the Lord's death and resurrection, and to remember that He has delivered us from the bondage of sin and death. He baptizes us with the Holy Spirit that we can be built up a spiritual house (being fitly joined together to become His church).

The Old Testament commandment for the Jews to observe the Sabbath was very strict. On that day, the congregation was forbidden to do any work, not even to light a fire to prepare food. Anyone who went against this commandment would be put to death (see Exod. 35:1–3). This was something very solemn. Once, a man found gathering sticks on the Sabbath day was stoned to death (Num. 15:32–36). Can the Adventists really keep such a strict law to the letter? The truth is that many Adventist preachers themselves violate the commandment of the Sabbath.

For what the law could not do, God did by sending His Son Jesus Christ into the world to be crucified. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us (see Gal. 3:13). “Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross” (Col. 2:14). “For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Gal. 2:19–20). Therefore, Christians of the New Testament era remember the risen Lord on the Lord's Day.

Ellen White said, “Some church leaders labor hard with their influences to wrestle the Scriptures to make a breach in God's law, to change, abolish, or do anything with the fourth commandment...the main object is to get around the Sabbath of the Lord, and observe another day than that sanctified and hallowed by Jehovah.” Such an argument seems right. But it is wrong. It is Satan's device to wreck the faith of the church.

The Lord's Day (Sunday) is the first day of the week. It is not only the day of the Lord's resurrection, but also the day the Holy Spirit descended to establish the body of Christ—the New Testament Church. “He rose early on the first day of the week” (Mark 16:9). “Now when the Day of Pentecost [the 50th day after Christ's

resurrection, which was also the first day of the week] had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place... And they were filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:1–4). Therefore, the Lord's church considers this day holy. Jesus Christ is the one who baptizes believers with the Holy Spirit and fire. The promise of the Father was only fulfilled when the Lord's people were filled with the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (Heb. 8:8–10).

With the shedding of blood, Christ made a new covenant with us. By filling us with the Spirit of life that He sent after His resurrection, He wrote the law of God in our hearts. With the law of God in us, we can subdue the activities of the flesh. Then the Holy Spirit, by whom Christ was raised from the dead, can reign in our lives. In this way, both God and men can enjoy rest. But the true and everlasting rest will not come until the advent of the new heaven and new earth. At that time, God will set up His tabernacle among men, and He will dwell with them. This is the true meaning of the Sabbath. “There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall after the same example of disobedience” (Heb. 4:9–11).

The apostles of the early church only went to the synagogue on the Sabbath to defend the truth among the non-Christian Jews. But they always observed the Lord's Day. On this day, the first day of the week, they would assemble to break bread in remembrance of the Lord. The Bible states, “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight” (Acts

20:7). “On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I [Paul] come” (1 Cor. 16:2). “I [John] was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet” (Rev. 1:10).

The apostles gathered together to break the bread and to worship God on the Lord's Day. These practices of the early Church were certainly orthodox. They should serve as an example of faith for all New Testament Christians. To worship the Lord on the Lord's Day (Sunday) does not change the fourth commandment. It is not setting another Sabbath day. Worship on the Lord's Day is clearly recorded in the Scriptures, and should be observed by all believers in the New Testament era. When God made a covenant with Abraham, He commanded that all his descendants be circumcised in the generations to follow. But how many New Testament believers today have been circumcised? Circumcision and the observation of the Sabbath are no longer applicable in the New Testament era.

Our Lord Jesus healed the sick on the Sabbath. He also did other things the Pharisees did not approve of. On the Sabbath, the Lord Jesus healed a man who had an infirmity for 38 years beside a pool called Bethesda (see John 5:8–11). “Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes” (John 9:14). It was also on the Sabbath that He healed a man with a withered hand (see Matt. 12:10–13), a woman who had an infirmity for eighteen years (see Luke 13:10–13), and a man who had dropsy (see Luke 14:1–4). And it was also on the Sabbath that His disciples plucked heads of grain to eat (see Mark 2:23). As a result, the Pharisees were infuriated with the Lord Jesus. They accused Him of breaking the Sabbath. They even conspired to destroy Him (see Mark 3:6). “For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath... Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father...” (John 5:16–18).

Things the Pharisees considered sin, the Lord Jesus did not. And He often reproached them for their sin of hypocrisy, saying, “Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox

or his donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it?” (Luke 13:15). He also said, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27–28). These Pharisees were not concerned with the truth, but with trivial things. They sought only the outward form of godliness but denied its power. Clinging to the letter of the law, they failed to keep the word of life. They strictly observed the Sabbath, yet crucified the Lord of the Sabbath. No wonder the Lord rebuked them, saying, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves. Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.’ Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold? Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!” (Matt. 23:15–17,24). These words also apply to the Seventh-Day Adventists today.

Another ridiculous claim of the Seventh-Day Adventists is that they will not only keep the Sabbath now, but also in the new heaven and new earth. They fail to realize that there will be no night in the new heaven and new earth. “And the city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light... (there shall be no night there)” (Rev. 21:23–25). “And there shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever” (Rev. 22:5). How can one possibly know what day it is when there will be no day or night—sunlight or moonlight?

False Predictions about the Date of the Lord's Advent

Jesus Christ will come back in glory to judge the world. He is going to end this wicked generation, and begin His eternal, glorious and incorruptible kingdom. But when is He coming? The Bible does not give the date. Even the Lord Himself said He did not know the day or hour. The Lord doesn't tell us because He wants Christians to wait alertly for that Day. He wants His children to be well prepared

to meet the Lord. The Lord may come at any moment, so Christians should pursue holiness and strive to save souls. However, Adventists do not pay too much attention to whether Christians are born-again or whether they are prepared to meet the Lord. Instead, they occupy themselves with calculating the date of the Lord's return. They have definitely gone against biblical teachings.

William Miller, the other Adventist co-founder, once predicted that Christ would return in 1843. So his followers gave away all their possessions, closed down their businesses, stopped studying... Donned in white robes, they went up to a mountain to wait for the Lord. But they were greatly disappointed when the Lord did not come. So Miller tried again, this time announcing that the Lord would definitely come in 1844. And again, the believers were disappointed. Finally, he openly confessed that he had made a great mistake. Later, after making some calculations, the Adventists decided that Jesus had "entered into the heavenly sanctuary" on a certain date. All these absurd and groundless claims have deceived many followers who do not have a solid knowledge of the truth. Thus, for decades, countless souls have been led to destruction.

Seventh-Day Adventists are active in their missionary work. Their publications—notably, *The Sign*—and their Bible correspondence courses have deceived many. Those who seek the truth, but are not wise enough to discern their false teachings, are easily misled by them. Even some Christians are unknowingly led astray. I have seen these "spiritual" publications displayed in many Christian homes. Out of their zeal and love for the Lord, they display these books, thinking that visitors would be benefited by reading them. But little do they realize that they have let soul-devouring wolves into their homes. I am always grieved when I see this. So after pointing out the erroneous doctrines of the Adventists. I tell these Christians to dispose of such harmful literature to avoid destroying more souls.

As I was writing this particular chapter, an elderly brother in the Lord, who was going away on a business trip, left some books with me for safekeeping. Surprisingly enough, the package mainly contained publications of Adventism. I deeply believe it was God's good intention. He arranged for this to happen that I might learn

more about the Adventists' deceptive and poisonous doctrines. I found out that Christians are the main target of their seductive work. Several of my sisters in the Lord were almost deceived by them, even though they were all very spiritual. At one point, the Adventists also tried to get me to join them. Fortunately, the Lord protected me and I did not believe them. I deeply hope that my brothers and sisters in the Lord will be on guard against the heretical teachings of the Adventists. After reading the words of God, may the members of the Seventh-Day Adventists be awakened to turn back to the right path. The Lord said, "Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees..." (Mark 8:15).

The Watch Tower (Jehovah's Witnesses)

This sect was founded in 1884 by Charles Taze Russell, who called himself "Pastor." Its doctrines are somewhat similar to those of the Seventh-Day Adventists, with the exception of keeping the Sabbath. Jehovah's Witnesses also believe in devilish doctrines like the *sleeping of the soul* and *annihilation of the wicked* as well as other bizarre theories. Some of their dogmas are as follows:

Disbelieving the Bible

The preachers of the Jehovah's Witnesses read the Bible and appear to preach from it. But they don't actually believe in the Bible. They say that there are many things in the Bible that aren't logical. They accept the things which are credible to the human mind and reject those which are not. They deem the books written by "Pastor" Russell more precious than the holy Bible. But who is Mr. Russell anyway? A mere sinner! How can his books be compared to the Bible, the word of God? "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). "If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the

words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing..." (1 Tim. 6:3-4).

Denying that Jesus Is the Son of God

The Jehovah's Witnesses deny that Jehovah is the triune God—the Holy Father, Holy Son and Holy Spirit. They claim that only the Holy Father is Jehovah God, and that Jesus is merely the archangel Michael, who came to the world in the form of man. Jesus, according to the Jehovah's Witnesses, is only a second-class god. What heresy! They even deny the deity of Jesus Christ, the Lord of heaven and earth and all things therein. The Bible says, "But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction" (2 Pet. 2:1).

Actually, the whole Bible testifies to the fact that Jesus Christ is the Son of God—He is the living God. "This is the true God and eternal life" (1 John 5:20). Peter testified to the Jews, saying that they "killed the Prince of life [Jesus], whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses" (Acts 3:15). John also testified, "And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life" (1 John 5:11-12). The Jehovah's Witnesses have made serious mistakes in the foundation of their faith. So everything else they teach is completely groundless.

Denying the Eternal Punishment of the Wicked

The Jehovah's Witnesses accept the Seventh-Day Adventists' doctrine that death is the end of everything. They assert that man himself is a spirit, and that his death is merely sleeping. Such a doctrine appeals to those who enjoy sinful pleasures. But appealing as it may be, it contains the most deadly poison ever used by the devil to destroy souls.

The Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in the existence of the lake of fire. They say that the lake of fire mentioned in the Bible refers to graveyards and the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, a place where the Jews burned their rubbish. This view is completely wrong. In Judah, there was a place called Tophet, also known as the Valley of the Son of Hinnom. It was a filthy valley used by the Jews for dumping garbage and burning refuse. Sometimes, the bodies of dead prisoners were also dumped there. In the Bible, this valley often represents a place of punishment for the wicked (see Isa. 30:33; Jer. 7:32). The lake of fire is just as real, but it is more dreadful than this valley. The Lord Jesus said, "It is better for you to enter into life maimed, than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—where 'their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.'...For everyone will be seasoned with fire..." (Mark 9:43–49). "...was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone...they will be tormented day and night forever and ever" (Rev. 20:10). Since the Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in the everlasting existence of souls and the eternal punishment of the wicked, they certainly do not believe in the existence of hell. How pitiful they are!

Disbelieving the Redemptive Power of the Blood

The Jehovah's Witnesses do not really believe that the Bible is the word of God. And they do not believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Nor do they believe that men's souls exist forever or that the wicked will suffer eternally in hell. So it is no surprise that they also do not believe in the efficacy of the blood of the Lord Jesus for redemption. They maintain that man is saved by his own works, and that he earns God's approval through preaching, charity, and the like. Since they reject God's salvation, what else is there for them to preach? It is a pity that what they preach is not the soul-saving truth of Christ, but a soul-destroying heresy. By preaching in this way, they are helping the devil lead souls to hell.

(Note: The Jehovah's Witnesses may say that they accept the Bible as the word of God. But they do not build their faith on it. In fact, they have their own version of the Bible. And although the

Jehovah's Witnesses today have changed their doctrines to acknowledge that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, they still do not believe He is God.)

Claiming Christ Has Returned

The Watch Tower (Jehovah's Witnesses) claims that Christ has already returned. They say that He cannot be seen with human eyes. The Millennium, according to the Watch Tower, is already here. Therefore, the Jehovah's Witnesses claim to be spreading the "message" of the Kingdom of Jehovah. How absurd! The Bible clearly tells us that when Christ returns in glory, He will not come in secret, but all eyes will see Him. "Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, and they also who pierced Him" (Rev. 1:7). "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matt. 24:30).

The Bible also states that when the Millennium comes, the devil will be shut up in the bottomless pit (see Rev. 20:1–3). In these last days, the devil is going all out to do evil. So, we know that Christ has not yet come. But we must always be prepared for His coming and be on guard, lest we be deceived by the devil's doctrines. The Lord Jesus said, "Then if anyone says to you, *Look, here is the Christ!* or *There!* do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise..." (Matt. 24:23–24).

Anyone with common sense will see through the bizarre and ridiculous doctrines of the Jehovah's Witnesses. Not long after my conversion, in my zeal of the flesh and ignorance, I bought many religious publications to read. I didn't care whether they contained truth or falsehood. At that time, members of the Jehovah's Witnesses often called me at home to sell me their devilish publications. So I bought them. But the more I read their words, the more confused I became. Their doctrines were contrary to the truth I had received. Later, in the light of the Holy Spirit, I realized that the doctrine of the Jehovah's Witnesses is plain heresy. Since then, I have been

extremely cautious with the Jehovah's Witnesses. I also warn others against them.

Shortly after my consecration, a sister told me that a certain Watch Tower preacher called on her frequently. I immediately told her not to see him again. Then this preacher came to my house to argue with me about the truth. At that time, I didn't realize that in receiving preachers of heresies I would have a share in their evil deeds. So I let him in, wanting to tell him the truth. I hoped to save his precious soul. We talked for several hours. He patiently explained to me their erroneous teachings. As I listened, I grieved for him and for those whom he had misled. I thought to myself, "Anyone with just a little Bible knowledge would immediately reject these outrageous and harmful teachings. But why have so many people accepted them?" I was astounded by the cunning and vicious tactics the devil used to destroy souls. Finally, I told that man to listen quietly as I related the wonderful works of God, my Savior. I pointed out to him that God is not a religion, but the Lord of Life. And my life is a living testimony to the grace I've received from Him. Indeed, evil never triumphs over righteousness. What that preacher believed in was a dead religion, but the One I serve is the true and living God! In the end, he departed with nothing to say, and since then he has never returned. May God save him.

Beware of Heresies II

The Social Gospel Preached by the New Theologian Sect Is a Deception

Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

(Rom. 16:17–18)

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

(Gal. 1:6–9)

1/4 contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

(Jude 3)

For centuries, Satan has been trying hard to destroy the church, the body of Christ. He has been sowing tares in the Lord's field, and apostasy is on the rise. In these last days, the works of the devil are more evil than ever. Heresies and evil doctrines are everywhere, both within and without the church. Many people have mistaken heresies for the gospel of Jesus Christ. They think they are saved. But they are not. So they face eternal damnation. Not only are there religions disguised as the truth outside the Christian faith (Please read *Beware of Heresies I*), but even within Christianity. The wicked dominion of Satan can be found everywhere.

The people who oppose the truth and accept the teachings of Satan are the Christian leaders themselves. They have turned away from the pure truth (the gospel) to a new theology called the social gospel. The social gospel is not the gospel of redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ, but a fake gospel. It was invented by the modernists, and is now thriving in several leading denominations. Many pastors and Christian leaders have forsaken the word of the Lord for these devilish theories. And because of them, countless souls have been deceived.

The church now faces a crisis never seen before. We who are of the Lord Jesus Christ can no longer be unconcerned. As Christians, we must arise and defend the truth. Christians should be accommodating, but when the truth is concerned, we must be resolute. The truth can never be compromised. Any compromise would mean bowing down to Satan. That would be a great sin, for it is being unfaithful to the Lord and rebellious against Him. The truth on Christ's salvation, and the doctrines of Satan, can never coexist.

Christians should have a love that surpasses human nature, a love that comes from Christ, "for love is of God" (1 John 4:7). Such love is definitely not of the flesh, but of God, and is completely founded on the knowledge of the truth. Love which comes from the truth is the most valuable love. People with such love are able to distinguish truth from falsehood, and good from evil. They will also have compassion for the souls of all men. They will pray and weep for the lost souls of the world, and do their best to lead men to salvation. But people who blindly follow the crowd have false love. Since they only want to please men, they compromise with apostates. Surely they benefit no one. Such love only leads men to eternal damnation. It is definitely not in the truth, but is merely a foolish and carnal emotion. The Lord says, "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing" (John 6:63).

To save the souls of men, the Lord Jesus willingly sacrificed His life. Through His death, He conquered the dominion of evil. He is gracious, meek, loving and humble. But He is also awesome when He shows His wrath against sin, which kills men's souls. When He rebuked the hypocritical Pharisees He was severe. This proves that

He is a righteous, holy and honorable God. Without holiness, no one can see Him. His word is holy and pure. He will not permit any false and impure doctrines to defile it.

In a way, I am grateful that God once placed me in a denomination that preached the social gospel and not the truth. After one year, I began to detect the soul-killing scheme of the devil. When I saw these, my heart was full of pain. Later, I consecrated myself to serve the Lord. God graciously filled me with His Spirit, and my eyes were opened to see the disobedience of the denominations. I often cried and lamented before the Lord for them. Then, He separated me from that false religious organization to become a witness to His truth. The Lord didn't despise me, for He knew I was foolish and ignorant. Instead, He entrusted me, a weak person, with a great mission. He told me to arise and denounce those evil doctrines. So, by the will of God, I am now going to expose the schemes of the devil. May those who have stepped onto the wrong path out of ignorance come to the light of the truth. May those who love and seek the truth be warned against these heresies, lest they fall into their snare and perish.

What is the *social gospel*? It is secular dogma for social reform and social service; it has nothing to do with the true gospel. Social gospel preachers say they preach the gospel of Christ to attract new members. But they do not preach the pure gospel of Jesus—the redemption by His precious blood. They deceive those who are not familiar with the truth, saying, “We are not selfish enough to only care about our going to heaven. But we obey the teachings of Christ to help and serve others—our society. This is the foundation of our religion.” They sound logical and self-sacrificial, but such doctrines actually contradict the truth. Helping society is a good idea, but it is only a fantasy. Such ideals can never be realized.

The Bible says, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?..Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil” (Jer. 17:9; 13:23). Since the heart of man is evil, who can transform it? All the wickedness of society are caused

by wicked men. So, to improve society, it must begin with every individual.

The Bible tells us that men are prone to evil. Men cannot do good because of their wicked nature. Just as the Ethiopian cannot change his skin nor the leopard its spots man cannot change his evil nature. For this reason, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into the world to die for us that we might receive His life of resurrection through the Holy Spirit. After being born again, we have a new life and a new nature like that of God. Only with such a life can we shine brightly in this wicked and perverse generation, and help others to receive this new life through repentance. Then, not only will we bring about a better society, but we will also obtain an eternal, heavenly life that is incorruptible.

So to create a better society, all of us must first repent of our sins and accept Jesus as our personal Savior. Only then can we preach the gospel (the Word of life—Blood, Water and Holy Spirit). Those who hear us may also believe in Him and obtain His life. This is the only way to better society. All other attempts to reform society will be futile. Therefore the social gospel is exceedingly harmful to the souls of men. It can easily and unknowingly divert men's attention away from the gospel of Christ to the material world; and away from the power of salvation to the works of man. Without the salvation of Christ, men have no way to eternal life.

But some people will say, “Although the social gospel doesn't benefit men spiritually, it doesn't harm them either. What's so bad about it?” This concept is wrong. The social gospel can do great harm to the souls of men. In fact, it is no less harmful than the four major heresies mentioned in the previous chapter of this book.

The four heresies do not disguise themselves as Christianity, so many people are on guard against them. But not the social gospel. It contains many antichrist theories that seem like the gospel of Christ. People who are not careful will not detect it. The unfortunate ones who have joined these organizations and have accepted their false gospel assume that they are saved—but they are not. Therefore, they refuse to listen to the true gospel—the salvation of the Lord Jesus. Caught in their own foolishness, they become false Christians for the

rest of their lives and miss the chance of ever coming to Christ. In the end they will suffer eternal damnation due to their ignorance. What a tragedy!

The world today has contracted the most malignant and dreadful disease—sin. Anyone who has this disease will eventually perish. The only cure is the precious blood of Jesus Christ. By relying on this remedy, sinners who were once without hope will be healed immediately—they will be saved from damnation and gain everlasting life. But Satan uses false preachers (who themselves have yet to repent and accept the truth) to *sell* his quack medicine—the social gospel—at a low price. Consequently, countless ignorant souls who suffer from this terminal disease will lose their lives, because they fail to obtain the true medicine (the true gospel). My heart breaks whenever I think of this.

Modern theology, which distorts the truth, is found in several of the world's leading denominations. The influence of such denominations is growing because they are supported by Satan. Millions of Christians who love and serve the Lord Jesus are confused; they can't tell whether their pastors or leaders are advocates of the social gospel. We must therefore take a good look at the teachings of modern theology which is destroying the faith of Christians. Those who are misled will then be able to recognize false shepherds in time and return to the sheepfold of our Lord Jesus. Here they will find real peace, joy and everlasting life.

Erroneous Beliefs of the Modernists

1. Denial of the Bible's Authority and Miracles

“...the Holy Scriptures...are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...” (2 Tim. 3:15–16). The Lord says, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away....The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life...these [the Scriptures] are they which testify of Me” (Matt.

24:35; John 6:63; 5:39). “Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him” (Prov. 30:5).

The Bible is the word of God and the guide of our faith. If we depart from it, we lose all assurance of salvation. We should always read the Bible with childlike simplicity and faith. We should believe in it without doubt, for every word of the Bible is true. Modern theologians study the Bible, but they do not believe it. In their opinion, certain portions of the Scriptures are illogical and, therefore, are not of God. They try measuring His infinite and unfathomable wisdom with their own limited wisdom. In the eyes of God, they are fools!

Preachers of the social gospel reject the biblical records of God's creation, the history of man's degeneration, as well as various signs and miracles. It would be better if they openly admitted their disbelief in God and the Bible, and stopped preaching. But they continue to act as if they believe. They even misinterpret God's inspired word in public, and openly distort the word of God. So endless problems arise among God's children. Taking godliness as a means of gain, these preachers have ruined the pure faith of many Christians with their doctrines, and have spiritually paralyzed and crippled countless youths.

Religious directors and Bible teachers of modern theological colleges have all embraced the same devilish beliefs. When students ask them questions about Genesis and the great miracles in the Bible, they disbelieve almost everything. This is why many youths who have studied in these so-called Bible colleges do not believe in the Bible. They oppose and blaspheme the Bible more than unbelievers who have never read it. Their first faith in God is destroyed by false pastors and teachers. How grievous it is!

These messengers of Satan not only destroy human souls in their colleges, but also sow the seed of disbelief from the pulpits of many major denominations. Their work is not intended to bring believers into the knowledge and grace of Christ, but into the world, and away from the truth on God's salvation. Wherever the social gospel is preached, the holy word of God is trampled underfoot.

Every miracle recorded in the Bible is worthy of our acceptance. If we believe them, we will experience the same power of God today. But, the unbelieving modernists slander and make a mockery of these miracles, dismissing them as myths or legends. For example, they discredit the story of Jonah, who was swallowed and later vomited by a big fish after three days and three nights. This is a true story. Even the Lord Jesus used it to illustrate His own death and resurrection (see Matt. 12:39–41; 16:4). But preachers of the social gospel conclude that this couldn't possibly have happened because, according to them, not all biblical records are confirmed. Modernists also have their distorted version of the miracle of the Lord Jesus feeding the 5,000 people with five loaves and two small fish. They claim that the Jews had brought their own food, but were unwilling to take it out to eat. Only when a lad contributed his five loaves and two fish was the crowd moved to share its food. How crafty their explanations are! With just a few lies they dismiss and discredit the great power of God.

The Bible is a book of miracles. And the Lord Jesus is the greatest miracle of all. His birth, death, resurrection, ascension, second coming, and so forth, are all miracles. His works are also miracles. But modernists do not believe in miracles because they are out to seek their own glory. They cater to the tastes of those who oppose God and who love to sin. No wonder they cannot accept God's truth.

2. Debasement of the Deity of Christ

Roman Catholicism exalts Mary above Christ and regards her as the Holy Mother, thus debasing the deity of Christ. Modernists dare not openly deny that Christ is the Son of God, because they need to use the banner of the cross of Christ to attract members. However, using all kinds of theories, they demote Christ from His divine position to the level of man, and destroy the reconciliation of man to God. Many innocent people have been deceived by them.

The Bible tells us that Christ is the only way to eternal life. While on earth the Lord Jesus tested a group of Pharisees, asking, “What do you think about the Christ?” (Matt. 22:42). They did not know how

to answer. Although they were familiar with the Scriptures, they did not know Christ, the Son of God. Therefore, they could not enter into eternal life. When the Lord asked His disciples, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven” (Matt. 16:15–17). The knowledge of Jesus as the Christ and the Son of God is the core of the gospel. Peter was worthy of eternal life because he had this knowledge, and the Lord called him blessed.

“That you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:31). “Then the angel said to her, ‘...Mary,...you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest...’” (Luke 1:30–32). “In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father...” (John 1:1,14).

These verses from the Bible refer to the deity of Christ who came into the world in the form of man. Such biblical references are too numerous to be listed here. But the modernists only regard Christ as a great man—a philosopher, a moralist, a philanthropist, and a founder of a religion. They use their theories, to deny the deity of the Lord Jesus, the only Savior of mankind. Here are two of them:

(a) *Modernists say, “Everyone in the world is a child of God.”* They claim this is the Christian definition of *love*. Actually, this is Satan’s vicious deception that leads men into believing that they are sons of God, and that Jesus is just one of them. So men no longer deem Jesus worthy of reverence and worship. Their unscriptural belief is one of Satan’s subtle schemes.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say that God recognizes unrepenting sinners as His children, for that is impossible. The Lord Jesus once said to the Jews who did not obey the truth, “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do” (John 8:44). It is clear that those who do not obey the truth are not the children of the heavenly Father, but of the devil. “But as many as

received Him [Jesus], to them He gave the right to become children of God..." (John 1:12). "Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God..." (1 John 3:9–10).

It is clearly stated in the Bible that only those who are in Christ, who have sincerely repented, and who walk in the truth are the children of God. The rest are the children of the devil. Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the living God. No man can be equal to Him, for He is God, the Most High and the Holy One.

(b) *The social gospel preachers rarely preach the word of life.* Usually, they only talk about how Jesus served the people when He was in the world. They do this to encourage their followers to make generous contributions to their social welfare programs. There is nothing wrong with giving to the poor, but they have completely ignored the importance of the salvation of Christ—a salvation that saves souls and gives eternal life. Such preachers give men the wrong impression: that Jesus was a mortal like Confucius, Gautama Buddha, Mohammed and other religious leaders. And they claim that faith in Jesus is but one of the many religions that inspire people to do charitable deeds. So, many of them overlook the fact that the Lord Jesus is the true God, the Savior and the source of life. They leave out some of the most important aspects of the gospel. They don't mention that believers must repent and receive forgiveness of their sins through Christ's blood. And they never explain how man must forsake sins, receive a new life, and testify to the word of God. Consequently, the divine position of the Lord Jesus is again lowered to that of a mortal man. What a grave and abominable sin!

Rejection of the Truth on Redemption

Modernists do not believe in the Bible, and they consider everyone a son of God. So, they do not believe that all men, including themselves, have sinned, or that sinners will be punished eternally in hell. Nor do they accept the fact that Jesus, the Son of God, died on

the cross to save sinners. Modernists claim that Christians use the idea of heaven and hell to deceive people. They say that the desire to go to heaven is selfish, and Christians use “going to hell” to scare others. They teach that these beliefs are too outdated for the scientific age. If you ask them: “If heaven and hell don't exist, then why did Jesus come to the world to be crucified?” They will reply, “The crucifixion of Jesus was merely a demonstration of the spirit of love and self-sacrifice. It is an example of how people should serve the society in the spirit of sacrifice.” They completely nullify the abundant grace of redemption. Modernists do not believe that the souls of sinners will suffer eternal punishment—an erroneous belief they and the Seventh-day Adventists have in common.

Denial of the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection of Christ and the Last Judgment

The modernists try to prove that their faith is orthodox by including the apostles' epistles in their Articles of Faith. But this does not make them right. For their faith is directly opposed to the apostles' beliefs. The apostles believed that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. But modernists do not believe this. They say that since the “immaculate conception” (virgin birth) cannot be scientifically proven, it should, therefore, not be accepted as a historical fact. They do not realize that what is impossible with men is possible with God. The Bible clearly says, “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son...” (Isa. 7:14). “...before they [Joseph and Mary] came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit” (Matt. 1:18).

The word of God is true. But the devil causes men to disbelieve the virgin birth and the resurrection of Christ. He attempts to deny the deity of Jesus. The apostles believed that the Lord was raised from the dead, but modernists insist that it was a resurrection only in a spiritual sense. The apostles believed that the souls of the saints would enjoy eternal life in heaven, but the modernists maintain that it is the mind that lives forever. They openly reject the biblical truth on the resurrection of the dead—believers to the resurrection of eternal

life, and unbelievers to the resurrection of judgment and condemnation.

At a youth convention, some modernist preachers were asked this question: "Do you believe Christ rose from the dead?" These false pastors, who didn't believe in Christ's resurrection, refused to give a direct answer to this all-important question concerning the faith. Instead, they artfully spread their lies to the congregation of youths who were earnest for the truth. They said, "We don't have to discuss whether Christ actually rose from the dead, because we consider it a somewhat more advanced theological question. Plus, it is not essential to the faith of ordinary believers." With these few words, the foundation and pure faith of these naive youths was completely destroyed. The Lord Jesus said emphatically, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live" (John 11:25). So why don't they believe it? Paul also said, "And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ [saints who have died] have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man [Adam] came death, by Man [Christ] also came the resurrection of the dead" (1 Cor. 15:17–21).

The Bible clearly tells us that Christ rose from the dead and that the dead will also rise. This is a fact. However, modernists argue that such resurrections are purely symbolic. They do not believe in the resurrection of Christ and of the dead, or the last judgment. So, they are not concerned with the truth on regeneration (being born again), or with the truth on being filled with the Holy Spirit. In fact, most of these clergymen who preach their fake gospel have not sincerely repented of their own sins, nor have they been born again. So it is impossible for them to experience the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit. Some of them may have accepted salvation through repentance, but their faith has been impaired by the training received at their modernist theological seminaries. They are constantly indoctrinated with poisonous theology and have unknowingly fallen away from their first pure faith. These preachers of fallacies do not

understand the true meaning of consecration, neither do they know that the primary duty of a preacher is to save souls. They merely consider preaching a more meaningful social service.

Since they do not understand the truth of the cross, they can't possibly know the significance of being born again. They think that people are born again when they are baptized into their denomination. They do not have the experience of being born again themselves, so when others testify about their spiritual experiences, they attack, persecute and mock them. In addition, they accuse others of being spiritually proud. To the simple-minded members of their denominations these preachers say, "People who talk about heaven and hell and things like being born again are selfish and narrow-minded. Such talk is inconsistent with our doctrines." Modernist doctrines secularize spiritual matters. They urge people to join their organizations and to make financial contributions to their social welfare programs. They cheat people out of their time, money and even their precious souls. As long as they can raise funds to meet their own needs, they are satisfied. They are not at all concerned about the fate of their members' souls.

When I first consecrated myself to serve the Lord full time, by His grace, I had many opportunities to bear witness for Him in the modernist organization I once belonged to. I spoke about my conversion and the truth on holiness. Brothers and sisters who heard my testimony were desirous for the truth. Regrettably, they were hindered by the pastors who even slandered the word of the Lord, calling it heresy. On several occasions, I was sent by God to preach in chapels and schools that preached the social gospel. The Holy Spirit always worked mightily, and many came forward at the end of the meetings to accept the Lord, weeping and confessing their sins. Most of them were social gospel followers who had never heard the true gospel. So once they heard the truth, they were pricked in their hearts. However, false preachers were always there to interfere. On one occasion, when I was preaching in a secondary school, about 100 students were moved to accept Jesus as their Savior. Weeping remorsefully, they confessed their sins. But the unbelieving director of that school openly stopped them, saying, "Christians should be

joyous. Such weeping is not repentance. You are being too emotional. Not only is this detrimental to your own health, but you'll also affect the mood of others.”

In another famous college run by some modernists in Hong Kong, a group of students accepted the gospel and stood up to testify for the Lord. But because of that, they were expelled by the dean. However, the Lord was with them and continued to lead them on the path of light. Obviously, the false preachers in this college were not saved, otherwise they would have understood that peace comes only after one confesses and repents contritely.

The ignorant modernist sheep are so pitiful! Under the heavy oppression of false shepherds, they are left hungry and thirsty. Some of them die of starvation and thirst; others are lost and have fallen prey to the wild beast (the devil). It grieves me to think of these poor and tender sheep. But what can I do other than pray and weep for them before the Lord? May the Lord open the eyes of the false shepherds that they may see how much they have sinned against God. May they know the salvation of the Lord, repent sincerely and return to Him. Only then can they escape the clutches of the devil and stop confusing the word of God. If they don't, they will harm their own souls and the souls of others. Thus says the Lord God, “Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require My flock at their hand...” (Ezek. 34:10). If they do not repent upon hearing the word of God, how will they escape the Lord's wrath and judgment on that Day?

Denial of Christ's Second Coming

“Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’” (2 Pet. 3:3–4).

The only hope Christians have is the glorious coming of the Savior, for that is the Day Christ will receive the church as His bride. That Day will also mark the end of Satan's kingdom. In order to be prepared to meet the gracious Lord, Christians should continue in holiness and self-control, and strive diligently to save souls. The

unshakable and glorious kingdom we hope for will then descend from heaven.

But preachers of the social gospel do not believe that Christ will come again. They don't admit this openly; they tell their members, "We do not deny or disbelieve that Christ will come again, but we fear that if we emphasize this, the work for social reform will be affected. We feel that we should work diligently toward the realization of the heavenly kingdom on earth, for this is the true meaning of Christ's second coming." What a beautiful lie! To think that men can set up God's millennial kingdom on earth by their own efforts is pure fantasy. Their teachings emphasize the material world and contradict the truth of the cross. Only the devil would agree with such absurd concepts—a trick he uses to delay his destruction.

The social gospel leaders encourage their members to preach. But, what they preach is not the truth—it is a false gospel. Their widely distributed gospel tracts never say: "Accept the salvation," or "The remission of sins is by the blood of Jesus." Instead, their tracts say things like: "Please join our campaign to reform society and build up the heavenly kingdom." Drowned in a sea of such slogans, their followers don't know the truth or the importance of the gospel. So they have no idea what the real meaning of gospel preaching is. The members think they are serving God by getting people to join their "campaign to set up the heavenly kingdom." Many ignorant believers, who sincerely love the Lord and desire to serve Him, have been misled to stray from the word of God. They offer to these organizations the time and money God has entrusted to them. Thinking that they are serving God faithfully they are actually serving Satan and helping him further his devilish work. They oppose the truth and do not realize it. Do you now see how much harm those false teachers have caused? No wonder the Bible calls them enemies of the cross! "For many walk,...that they are enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body..." (Phil. 3:18–21).

The five points mentioned earlier are major errors in the modernists' social gospel. Now let us look at their *secular organization* and *lawless activities*:

Secular Organization

Since modernists are not of the Spirit, their organization is of the world. Although the founders of these denominations were spirit-motivated and even faithful servants of God, the succeeding generations were not like them. They gradually grew cold, and quenched the motivation of the Holy Spirit. They even readily accepted the modern theology that has emerged in recent years. They allowed false teachers to come in, spreading the social gospel. So their churches have turned into secular organizations which oppose God. “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality [with the world]” (1 Thess. 4:3). The Lord Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:36). “I have given them [Christians] Your [the Father's] word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world” (John 17:14). “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before if hated you....Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you” (John 15:18–19).

The church of the Lord Jesus is definitely not of this wicked world, but consecrated to the Lord. God says, “Come out from among them [the world] and be separate....Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you” (2 Cor. 6:17). “And do not be conformed to this world....Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him....Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?” (Rom. 12:2; 1 John 2:15; James 4:4). The main testimony of the church is her separation from worldliness. But instead of leading their members out of the world, denominations that preach the social gospel encourage their members to befriend the world.

When I first joined these social gospel denominations, I was rather impressed by the grandeur of their ceremonies. But later, when

I searched the Scriptures, I realized that these outward formalities are abhorred by God. What God esteems is true godliness (like the tax collector who confessed his sins contritely). But in the social gospel cathedrals, all you see is the outward form of godliness (like the worship of the Pharisees).

Most of their choir members are not born again. Although they appear holy in their white robes, they are actually full of corruption. Their singing is pleasant to the ears, but is without spirit. Like a worldly musical concert, it is without sincere godliness, spiritual meaning and value.

Those who lead prayer on the pulpit ask the members of their congregation to close their eyes and bow their heads, but they, themselves, read the prayer from a prepared script. They are like actors reciting their parts in a play. Most of these prayer leaders are sinners who have yet to repent of their own sins. They are elected elders and deacons, not because they are more spiritual than others, but because of their earthly status, knowledge and wealth. Some of them are even casino or theater owners. As long as they are rich, they can hold high positions. These people are constantly exploiting others for their own benefit. When they attend services on Sunday, they act very godly. On the pulpit, their prayers sound so holy and righteous. But in their daily life, they practice deceit with their tongues, and the poison of the viper drips from their lips. Will God listen to such insincere prayers? Certainly not! For God says, “The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD...” (Prov. 15:8).

Moreover, most of these preachers have not obtained the life of Christ. They only hold a string of worldly titles—doctors, executives, pastors... Actually, they are but religious con men, not servants of God. They do not preach the word of life—the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ—but vain words on worldly matters. They preach in order to show off their knowledge and eloquence. If these preachers were not draped in black clerical robes, the audience would probably think they were listening to a public speech instead of a sermon. This hypocritical form of worship neither pleases God nor satisfies hungry

souls. People come to them for seeking the bread of life but gain nothing, and return home empty-handed.

Apart from Sunday worship, the social gospel denominations hold many other meetings. But these are mere social gatherings: banquets and other worldly activities. Instead of having fellowship, prayer, and giving testimonies in the spirit, their members use emotions to cement friendships. They smoke, entertain themselves and gossip in the cathedral. Such activities defile the sanctuary of God. But instead of putting a stop to these, the pastors happily join their members in sinning. Some pastors and preachers smoke and drink in public, and even go to the movies. As a result, many ignorant Christians stumble. They think that if their pastors and preachers can do these things, they can, too. But they don't realize that these false preachers who lead men astray will one day be severely punished by God.

The women's fellowship focus on make-up, beauty and health, birthday parties, flower arranging, cooking, sewing and so on. The youth fellowship includes plays, public speaking, concerts, folk dances and the like. It seems that the women and young people attend services only to enjoy these activities. They certainly don't come to seek God.

Some among them have accepted the truth elsewhere and are born again. They love the Lord and are willing to defend the truth. They encourage spiritual pursuits and lead other members to repent of their sins and accept the Lord as Savior. But, when they are caught, those false preachers start watching them. They are soon regarded as church rebels, accused of "causing divisions in the church" and of being "spiritually proud." Therefore, God's servants in these modernist organizations cannot serve God freely. How sad it is to be under the oppression of the devil's dominion!

The modernist's so-called baptism preparatory classes are even more ludicrous. In the denomination I used to attend, the class met once a week for half an hour. Only after attending four sessions were the students qualified for baptism. It would have been all right if the truth was taught, but they only talked about wedding and funeral rites, rules of worship and the Holy Communion. The instructors also

went on about how to schedule church meetings, how to manage financial contributions, and how to encourage members to support their social activities. All this empty talk is useless to men's souls. This denomination emphasized vain formalities and ignored the important messages concerning salvation, such as: heaven and hell; eternal life and eternal death; sin and redemption; the cross of Christ; remission of sins through the shedding of blood; Christ's death; burial and resurrection; His second coming; and the works of the Holy Spirit.

Just after I was born again, I was rather foolish and ignorant. I thought I was serving God when I brought people to join these soul-destroying religious organizations. Those I brought had been converted elsewhere and heard the true gospel. But after they were baptized into the social gospel denominations, they were led astray by false shepherds and drifted back into the world. I often grieve over this matter. I can only pray that the Lord be gracious to them, deliver them from the jaws of the wolves and bring them back to His salvation.

God says to these false teachers who ruin the souls of men: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. The more they increased, the more they sinned against Me; I will change their glory into shame. They eat up the sin of My people; they set their heart on their iniquity....So I will punish them for their ways, and reward them for their deeds" (Hos. 4:6-9).

You false teachers! Not only do you disbelieve the Bible, but you also lead others to disbelieve it! You do not lead a sanctified life, and yet you dare to bless others. Because you do not guide the flock with the knowledge of godliness, these poor sheep do not have the slightest knowledge of the truth. They have been false Christians for years, and many of them perish in ignorance. How severe will your punishment be! Will you not heed God's warning to turn back, prostrate, and repent before Him? "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." (1 John 1:9).

Lawless Activities

The leading denominations which preach the social gospel have established a worldwide network. But all their activities are lawless in the eyes of God. They are now trying to collaborate with the Roman Catholic Church. They calling their efforts the “ecumenical movement.” Such a movement, however, is the grand alliance of devils and evil spirits who are launching a concerted attack against the church of Jesus Christ. They do not know anything about the truth, nor are they concerned about faith. No wonder they can so easily merge with various heretical groups and evil religions.

Social gospel denominations and the Roman Catholic Church have one thing in common: they both use social education and charitable activities to win new converts. That would be fine if they could really save people. But they cannot. In fact, they end up leading people away from the salvation of Christ. Therefore, we need to be on guard against them. They do not care to save souls but only to expand their unscriptural organizations and collect more money. In this way, they can consolidate their earthly power, and wreck the truth of Jesus Christ. Since they have no intention of saving souls, they certainly will not bother to help people turn from sin to holiness. They only hope to satisfy those who love to sin and covet worldly gain. Many people think, “What do I have to lose? After I get baptized into this social gospel church, I can go to heaven. And in the meantime, I can receive some of their social benefits. It will be easier for me to find a job, and my children can attend a better school. I can also continue to live in sin.” As a result, millions of souls blindly walk into the trap of the devil.

We are not against charitable activities. They are good as long as the motive is purely to bring people into the salvation of Christ. Christians should be like-minded with Christ: affectionate, merciful, and always ready to help the poor and needy. It is indeed more blessed to give than to receive. However, there is something we must bear in mind: When Jesus, our loving Savior, was in the world, He was always merciful to the poor and the hungry. But before He satisfied their physical needs, He would first meet their spiritual needs by telling them the Word of life. Therefore, the purpose behind the

good deeds of a Christian must be to save souls, make people realize the dreadful consequences of sin, and to help them cherish the gospel. When men have Jesus, all their problems will be solved. For He is the source of all riches!

If people do not sincerely come before the Lord and repent of their sins, any efforts to meet their material needs will be futile. Limited material aid can never satisfy the spiritual needs of men. God cannot bless a man unless his sins have been cleansed with the precious blood of Jesus. A man may have all the wealth in the world, but if he doesn't repent, he will never have true peace in the spirit. Instead, he will perish forever. Only those who truly know Christ will have real peace, joy and everlasting life. Their sins will be forgiven, their souls saved, their sicknesses healed, and all their problems solved. They will become the children of God, and He will be responsible for their needs and protect them. As long as we are obedient to Him, forsake sins and walk in the word of God, we will not lack any good thing (see Ps. 34:10).

Social gospel denominations and the Roman Catholic Church neither lead people to repentance nor turn men to Christ. They do not preach the biblical truth—the glorious gospel that provides for all the needs of man. Instead, they emphasize philanthropic activities that provide for some temporal needs of the flesh. What a grave mistake they have made! This is how the devil blinds people. He causes them to take falsehood for truth, and to despise the eternal blessings for trivial, short-term benefits. As these heretical organizations grow, so does the devil's territory. Therefore, all who are redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ should arise to pray earnestly in one accord to demolish the wiles of Satan and wipe out his dominion in the holy name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Not only do social gospel denominations join hands with the Roman Catholic church, but they also befriend other leading heretical organizations. I know of a famous modernist pastor who tried to help one of his members get a visa to the United States. Instead of praying for this member (because modernists do not know the power of God nor of prayer), he introduced him to the heretical Mormon Church (Mormons often offer assistance in applying for U.S visas—

one of their ploys to ensnare the souls of men). So with the help of the Mormons, this pitiful member finally got his visa to America. But at the same time, he lost his visa to the heavenly kingdom!

I was once sent to preach in a Christian school. As I was distributing gospel tracts, I noticed a foreign pastor from my former denomination also handing out tracts to students. But his gospel tracts did not invite people to accept the salvation of the cross, but to join a cult—"The Moral Rehabilitation Movement." This sect does not believe in the remission of sins through the precious blood of Jesus—the truth on being born again. It is a coalition of various devilish religions. Just imagine: A pastor helping the devil further an evil religion under the banner of Christianity! What a grave sin! God was surely provoked to wrath! I hope he will read God's word soon, prostrate before Him, repent and turn back!

These rebellious blocs that preach the social gospel are now shouting "Unity!" They seek to join hands not only with the major heretical groups, but also with true churches. Their purpose is to extend their network and increase their influence. They want to completely overthrow the pure faith of the truth. Many Christians think these social gospel organizations are part of Christendom. And, being deceived, they gladly cooperate with these organizations. But Christians who are faithful to the word of the Lord and refuse to have anything to do with the social gospel, are accused by these organizations of "disrupting the unity of the church" or "causing divisions in the church". Such charges are absolutely groundless. Divisions in the church are not caused by those who keep the word, but by those who oppose it.

Anyone who knows the Bible understands the truth on separation and consecration. God said, "You shall keep My statutes. You shall not let your livestock breed with another kind. You shall not sow your field with mixed seed. Nor shall a garment of mixed linen and wool come upon you" (Lev. 19:19). "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial [Satan]? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of

God with idols [people or things that replace Jesus Christ]? For you are the temple of the living God” (2 Cor. 6:14–16). Just as water and oil, cannot mix, those who are of Christ and who obey His word must never mix with modernists, because modernists disbelieve the truth and work for Satan. And people who belong to Christ also must not unite with the Roman Catholic Church, which deviates from the truth and worships idols.

Before the Lord Jesus was crucified, He prayed to the Father for those who were His, saying, “I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours...Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are...I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one...” (John 17:9,11,23). The oneness the Lord Jesus referred to is the oneness in spirit and in life. This is the unity in Christ. They who are gathered together in one, are redeemed by the Lord's precious blood and have separated themselves from the world unto the name of Jesus Christ. They are “a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people” (1 Pet. 2:9).

Having been born again and saved, they all possess the life of Christ. They are all baptized into one body and are made to drink of one Spirit. Therefore, the unity of the saints should be in Christ. But unbelievers, backsliders and those who conform to the world can never have a part in this unity. There can be no unity between holiness and worldliness; believers and unbelievers; righteousness and unrighteousness; light and darkness; truth and heresy; Christ and Satan. If they are forced to unite, the consequences will be as disastrous and dangerous as infecting (unifying) a healthy person with a deadly disease. For this reason, those who are faithful to the truth must first separate themselves from those who are rebellious. Only then will they be able to bear a good and effective witness to the Lord's truth before the people.

“But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be

blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.” (2 Pet. 2:1–3)

“You therefore, beloved, since you know these things beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” (2 Pet. 3:17–18)

“Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way....Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way.” (Ps. 119:104,128)

Yes, every Christian must strive to uphold the truth and hate falsehood. In God's love, we must warn those who preach or believe in false doctrines that they may see the light of the truth. With reverence and compassion, let us pray earnestly for them, that the Lord may cleanse them with His precious blood. May God open their eyes to the horrifying situation they are in. They are not aware that they are being deceived and used by the devil. May God bless and use this message and, with His own word, awake the slumbering souls who are under Satan's spell.

By the mercies of God, I beseech all clergymen and believers who have gone astray to quickly repent, and forsake all false doctrines. Turn to the righteous Rock, the Lord Jesus Christ, whose blood was shed for us. Although the Lord hates sins, He has compassion for sinners. With open arms, He is waiting for you to return to His fold. He will forget and forgive all your past sins as long as you come to Him humbly in repentance, for He is merciful. But do not despise His righteousness, for He is severe on the impenitent. The Lord Jesus said, “He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day” (John 12:48). “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Heb. 10:31). May all of you turn back to the truth and repent without delay!

“‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’” (Ezek. 33:11)

“O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity; take words with you, and return to the LORD. Say to Him, ‘Take away all iniquity; receive us graciously, for we will offer the sacrifices of our lips.’...I [God] will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, for My anger has turned away from him.” (Hos. 14:1–2,4)

Beware of Heresies III

The Erroneous Beliefs of the True Jesus Church

The True Jesus Church was founded in Beijing in 1917 by Paul Wei of Faith Hall, in Hopei Province, China. In 1920, a year after the death of Wei, a man named Barnabas Chang and a group of followers subsequently spread the belief to southeastern provinces of China, then to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. The members of this denomination claim that their doctrines make special emphasis on “restoring the true church of the apostolic age.” However, they have neither apostle nor prophet ordained by God. Nor do they have the vision and mission of *the Holy Spirit rebuilds (restores) the church*, nor the complete truth of Blood, Water and Holy Spirit. They depend entirely on human efforts to seek pentecostal grace with emphasis on miracles and wonders. They overlook the need to build up a holy and abundant life of Christ. Moreover, most of their doctrines are inconsistent with the scripture. They are confused about the Lord’s precious blood for the forgiveness of sins and the rebirth of sinners. Yet they are arrogant and self-conceited, leaving foothold for the evil spirits and demons. As a result, many precious souls have been led astray. The following is a brief outline of their erroneous beliefs. We earnestly hope that the readers will be on guard against this heresy.

1st Error: Neglect of the Lord’s blood for redemption

Blood, Water and Holy Spirit is the full witness which God bears for His Son, Jesus Christ. But the True Jesus Church lacks the reality of the witness of Blood. They substitute blood with water, saying that there is already blood in the water baptism, so water baptism can

cleansing sins. They have neglected the confession of sins (repentance) before the Lord. They do not seek His precious blood for forgiveness of sins. This is a great error. Before a sinner thoroughly confesses his sins and is cleansed by the Lord's precious blood (unsure of salvation), he is bound to receive the evil spirit even when he asks for the Holy Spirit. This is something terrible and this error must be promptly corrected.

Thank the Lord for He Himself guided me to receive and experience the full witness of Blood, Water and Holy Spirit. These are not mere words or rites but my real life experience which is undeniable. Please refer to the testimony of my conversion in *The Living Testimony to the Truth*, and you will know how I was born again (saved). I received the forgiveness of sins through His blood, changed in life, grew to love God and desired of the truth and brought others to Christ. All these are undeniable facts. At that time I was yet to receive the water baptism and Spirit baptism promised by the Father, because I had not understood the complete truth. God let me have such an experience so that I can testify to all the three witnesses of God—Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit, that is His full salvation. No matter what, I will not deny the experience of my regeneration (rebirth) through the redemption of Christ's precious blood in 1957, because this witness of Blood is genuine.

The baptism of regeneration (born again) is the baptism of blood which is similar to the Israelites' blood-sprinkling at the Passover. Crossing the Red Sea signifies the water baptism; crossing River Jordan signifies the Spirit Baptism; entering Canaan signifies being established into the New Testament Church. The Lord purchased the church with His precious blood, established her with His Holy Spirit, and washed her with His word (Water). The witness of the church must comprise of Blood, Water and Holy Spirit. The greatest error of the True Jesus Church is their negligence in the witness of Blood and substituting water for blood. They claim that some people have seen blood in the water during baptism. But such vision should not replace the truth of redemption by blood. This great error in the fundamental faith has led many believers into incorrect beliefs. As a result, they have not truly repented and confessed their sins before

the Lord, or accepted the salvation in their hearts. They have not truly experienced the forgiveness of sins by the precious blood. Although water baptism is essential, the witness of Water does not end at water baptism. After the water baptism, one has to continue to abide by God's word (Water) for the rest of his life. Baptism comes only after believing in the Lord, for He has promised, *He who believes and is baptized will be saved*. One is eligible for water baptism only after he has confessed his sins and accepted Jesus as his Savior. If a person does not believe in the Lord's blood for the remission of sins, his baptism will be in vain. Some people have no changes in their lives after water baptism because they have not been born again and they do not have the life of Christ. But one who has the life of Christ should not refuse water baptism which testifies to his death and burial with the Lord. Water baptism also symbolizes the forgiveness of his sins, his baptism into Christ and resurrection with Him.

Baptism would be impossible for those who have accepted Christ in dry places. Does it mean that these Christians do not have the life of Christ? Yes, they do. Of course, one cannot refuse baptism when water is available. On many occasions, when I preached to those lying ill in the shadow of death, they repented in tears and confessed their sins in prayers. They also received the Spirit baptism and spoke in tongues. Their hearts were full of joy and peace. They were also willing to accept the water baptism. But on that very night many of them were received by the Lord into the heavenly home. They didn't have the chance to receive the water baptism. Are they saved? Of course! Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. God will have mercy on those who are willing to abide by His word but have no opportunity to do so. He knows their obedience to His word. On the other hand, how would baptism benefit one if he confesses the Lord with his mouth but does not repent in his heart? The Bible says, "...whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). "For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation" (Rom. 10:10). "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come

from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19). “The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sins. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us” (1 John 1:7–9).

It is obvious that those who truly repent will be saved. But a saved person must obey the Lord’s word to receive baptism which testifies of his following the Lord in His death, burial and resurrection. I always beseech the Lord to save those who are on the verge of death so that they may call upon His name before they die. Even if they cannot utter a word, I would still pray that the Lord would awaken their spirits to call upon His name so that they may escape the eternal punishment—the judgment of the Lake of Fire. For those who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, shall have life through His name (see John 20:31). The Lord’s word is settled in heaven. When a man is still alive, he must not only receive water baptism but also keep His word (Water) after the baptism (see 1 John 2:3–6). The witness of Water is the testimony of the church abiding by the truth on earth. However, one will not have the strength to obey the Lord’s word if he is not filled with the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the Lord sends us the promised Spirit so that we may abide by His statutes, relying not on ourselves but on the Holy Spirit. Everything depends on the Spirit, not on the law of the flesh or the code of regulations (see Heb. 9:10). What profit those Pharisees who washed the outside of the cup but not the inside? Would not the faith of the dying souls who have repented, confessed their sins and accepted the salvation be completely wrecked if the erroneous theory of the True Jesus Church maintains that without water baptism there is no salvation?

2nd Error: Falling face down during baptism

The True Jesus Church maintains that one must prostrate (face downward) during baptism and that is the correct mode for water baptism. According to them, this method of baptism was seen in a

vision by P. Wei. However, there is no such scriptural basis. How can vision be reliable if it does not conform to the Scripture but distort the truth? Moreover, P. Wei declared that he had a revelation about Jesus would be coming in a certain year, but it turned out to be a great lie from Satan. How can you be certain that the vision regarding baptism (falling face down during baptism) was not another lie from Satan? Actually, *to be in the likeness of the Lord's death* does not require anyone to prostrate during baptism. The Lord bowed His head and gave up His spirit when He died. He did not fall forward in the tomb. The Bible clearly states that He was laid in the tomb. Only sinners like Ananias and Sapphira who lied to the Holy Spirit fell down and died!

Baptism signifies death, burial and resurrection with the Lord. How could the Lord have fallen forward in the tomb since He was laid in it and arose from it? The correct way of baptism is to have the believer stand in the water with his head bowed (in the likeness of the Lord's death), confess his sins, pray for the forgiveness of all his sins by the Lord's precious blood, and profess dying with Christ. Then his body is totally immersed in the water with his face upward (in the likeness of the Lord's burial). When he comes up out of the water (in the likeness of the Lord's resurrection), he should walk in the newness of life (see Rom. 6:3–6). This method is absolutely biblical and clearly expresses the significance of water baptism—the truth concerning death, burial and resurrection with Christ. Moreover, *to be in the likeness of the Lord's death* does not solely refer to the mode of receiving the baptism. More importantly, this refers to the daily breaking of the spiritual life, the dealing of self by the cross, and to die to self and to live to God (see Rom. 6:10–11). “Buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead” (Col. 2:12).

3rd Error: The observance of the holy Sabbath of the Old Testament

The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. When God created all things and man, He wanted man to walk with

Him so that He might find rest. But after Adam sinned, men rebelled against God's commandment, walked in their own way and became enemy of God. Thus God lost His rest. For this cause God sent His Son (the latter Adam) to the world to accomplish His full salvation on the cross, leading men to the Father. He cleansed and sanctified them with His blood, word and Spirit. After His resurrection and ascension, the Lord sent the Holy Spirit to establish the church (His body). All the saints who receive this full witness will be built up a spiritual house. God puts His law in the hearts of the believers so that they triumph, not by flesh but by the Holy Spirit. When the evil deeds of the flesh have been put to death by the Holy Spirit, and man obeys His law, only then will God and man enjoy true rest (sabbath). This rest does not only testify the dominion of the Holy Spirit over the church but also signifies that God will dwell with men in the coming Millennium until the eternal rest in the new heaven and new earth.

“The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath” (Luke 6:5). One will only find true sabbath (rest) when he has the life of Christ. True rest lies in Christ and it is irrespective of which day. If we are so particular about observing this day, then let me ask: does the Sabbath which the Jews observe tally with our Saturday? God created heavens and earth in six days and rested on the seventh day. Is our Saturday the actual seventh day? Moreover, the earth is round and there is a time difference between the East and the West. How then can this day be kept so precisely? Furthermore, did the Jews who kept it so rigidly gain true rest?

We do not object to the Sabbath day which God had set. However, the rest on the Sabbath was destroyed when Adam sinned. The sins of the Israelites had also ruined the Sabbath of the law (the rest of the Sabbath in the Ten Commandments). During the old testament era, God often made covenants with men, and His work was done whenever men were willing to keep His covenants. However, it is a pity that though the spirit is willing, the flesh is weak. The evil law of the flesh prevented men from keeping God's covenants. Men often break and destroy them. So God had to make another new covenant which He fulfilled by Himself. He sent His

beloved Son to the world to be crucified, making a new covenant with men through His blood. He also sent men the promised Holy Spirit. As long as men commit themselves to the Holy Spirit, they will be helped to fulfill the covenant God establishes in their hearts. The Lord Jesus shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins, for without shedding of blood there is no remission (To enter the tabernacle, the priest had to pass through the altar and the laver before he could enter the Sanctuary and the Holy of Holies). The Lord rose from the dead to set life free, he gave the law of the Spirit of life to set us free from the law of sin and death. This is true sabbath (rest). It is similar to the circumcision which the Israelites received as a seal of the righteousness of the faith (see Rom. 4:11). Abraham was already justified through faith before the circumcision but circumcision is an evidence of his righteousness through faith. The true circumcision every new testament believer receives is the Spirit baptism and submission to the Holy Spirit. “For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh” (Phil. 3:3). “For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly, and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God” (Rom. 2:28–29). A true Jew is one who repents, believes in the Lord and accepts the full witness of the truth. He who receives true circumcision is one who worships God in spirit and in truth.

The True Jesus Church preaches on the Sabbath as stated in Isaiah 58:13 and Exodus 31:13. But can they really attain the stage of *not doing their own ways, nor finding their own pleasure, nor speaking their own words*? Or are they like the Pharisees who put on an outward piety for man to see but not for God? We thank and praise God for He has liberated us so that we can worship Him in spirit and in truth. “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (2 Cor. 3:17). We are no longer bound by code of regulations and rules, for the Lord has blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, and took it out of the way by nailing it to the Cross. “Therefore let no one judge you in food or in drink, or

regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ” (Col. 2:16–17). Since Christ has made us free, we should not be entangled with the yoke of bondage anymore. Therefore Paul said, “...if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing” (Gal. 5:2). Since we are born of the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Do not make perfect by the flesh, for we are born of the freewoman by promise and not of the bondwoman by the flesh. Paul said again, “You observe days and months and seasons and years. I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain” (Gal. 4:10–11, 22–23).

The True Jesus Church stresses that the Sabbath she keeps is not the Sabbath of the law but the Sabbath of grace in Eden. This is wrong. We all know that heavens and earth and all the things therein were created within six days, and on the seventh day, God rested from all His work. God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it. However, He did not ask Adam to keep this Sabbath. Later God commanded the Israelites to keep the Sabbath under the law of Mount Sinai but the Israelites failed to observe it. God created man for the purpose of dwelling with man (God and man may find rest together), and let man exercise His sovereignty over all things on earth. But Adam sinned and lost the authority. Then God found Abraham who obeyed His words. God chose his descendants, the Israelites, and He wanted to make them a nation under His rule, abiding by His will, leading all nations to Him. Regrettably, they sinned and lost this eligibility. Nevertheless, the will of God will not fail due to the corruption of man’s flesh. God has devised a wonderful plan to overcome this corruption—He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to the world in the form of flesh and blood to accomplish the complete salvation—Blood, Water and Holy Spirit (see Heb. 2:14). All the experiences of the Israelites in the old testament era symbolize the spiritual experiences of Christians in the new testament. The Sabbath of the law symbolizes the true sabbath (rest) in Christ when Christians receive the full witness (walk in the Holy Spirit). Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward. (That is for a testimony of the full gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God).

For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house (the Comforter, the Holy Spirit) has more honor than the house (the temple). For every house is built by some man; but he that built all things is God (see Heb. 3:3–6). The Lord said, "...there is One greater than the temple... for the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day" (see Matt. 12:6, 8). Since the New Testament Church is built by the Holy Spirit, she should walk in the Spirit. Aren't we laying wrong emphasis on the truth if we walk in the flesh and regard the observance of Sabbath as the foundation of salvation while neglecting the precious blood of Jesus Christ? Their conditions liken that of the Pharisee, whom Jesus rebuked, saying, "Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!" (Matt. 23:24). Is it right in the sight of God to neglect the rest in Christ but fuss over the day of Sabbath under the code of law? "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain" (Gal. 2:21).

It is written, *The Lord of the Sabbath was risen on the first day of the week*. On that day, He brought true rest—the rest of life to mankind. When the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost (also the first day of the week), all the disciples who were all with one accord in one place were filled with the Holy Spirit and were established to be the body of Christ, the spiritual house (church). They abided by the will of God, witnessed for the full salvation of the Lord who is the Head of the church, and led all men to repent and obey God. The Spirit of God dwelt in their midst and found true rest.

Therefore the Bible says, "...the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: 'And God rested on the seventh day from all His works'; and again in this place: 'They shall not enter My rest.' Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, again He designates a certain day, saying in David, 'Today,' after such a long time, as it has been said: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.' For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His

rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest..." (Heb. 4:3–11).

Both the day of the Lord's resurrection and the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came and established the Lord's body—New Testament Church fell on the first day of the week. "This is the day which the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps. 118:24). Therefore, it is right for us to gather together (not to observe the day) to worship the Lord in spirit and in the truth and to hold bread-breaking service in remembrance of the Lord on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came (the first day of the week). This is the testimony of the New Testament Church. We are able to cease from our works, as God did from His because of our obedience to the Spirit and truth. The rest that was lost because of the first Adam's sin was restored after the last Adam (Christ) was risen and had sent down the Holy Spirit. The first Adam was a type of Him (Christ) who was to come. The rest that God could not gain from the first Adam was finally obtained in Christ, His Son.

Why the Lord of Sabbath was not raised on the Sabbath day (seventh day) and why the Holy Spirit was not sent to establish His body (church) on the Sabbath day? It is clear that God has appointed a certain day (another rest) for the church to worship Him. When the disciples were all together in one place on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit poured out mightily upon them. They experienced the reality of worshipping God in spirit and in truth.

To emphasize their view of holding the bread-breaking meeting on the Sabbath day, the True Jesus Church stresses that the Bible does not state that the bread-breaking should be held on the first day of the week. This is a very grave mistake. They do not realize that the events recorded in Acts chapter 2 took place on the first day of the week. On that day, "...about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:1–4, 41–42). Each time the Bible mentions of the church breaking bread in remembrance of the Lord, it is always on the first day of the week. It is because the New Testament Church was established on the first

day of the week, the day of Pentecost. That day marked the birth of a new era, when God made a new covenant with men.

God beloved Son, Jesus Christ shed His blood and laid down His life for us. He rose from the dead, ascended to heaven and sent down the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. The Comforter Himself releases us from the law. “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, ...that we might receive that promise of the Spirit through faith” (Gal. 3:13–14). Therefore, the New Testament Church no longer serves God under the law but worships Him in spirit and in truth. No where in the New Testament does it teach the saints to keep the Sabbath or hold the bread-breaking on Sabbath day. It does, however, clearly state that the bread-breaking are held on the first day of the week. This is the pattern of the first bread-breaking meeting of the pristine church. This is the day confirmed by God. Who can deny it? (See Acts 2:42; 20:7.) The apostles entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day was just to contend for the faith because that was the day the Jews would gather in the synagogue. In the synagogue, the apostles reasoned with the Jews the resurrection of Christ (See Acts 17:2–3).

The Sabbath of the law preached by Moses signifies the Sabbath of life—the true rest from Christ. What Christ had preached is more honorable than what Moses had preached because He is the Lord of the Sabbath. The law and the Ten Commandments preached by Moses were written on tablets of stone but the commandments and ordinances (will) of Jesus Christ written with life and Spirit are on tablets of hearts of those who abide in Him.

“Who (the Lord) has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness” (Heb. 7:16, 18). The Israelites went into the tabernacle to worship God on the Sabbath day but they could not enter the Holy of Holies. The high priest himself could only enter the Holy of Holies once a year by bringing blood. Therefore, worshipers could not be made perfect according to the carnal ordinances. However, after the coming of the Holy Spirit, the saints of the new testament era can enter into a greater and more

perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is, not of the world, and offer true sacrifice in Christ, i.e. spiritual sacrifice. This is the true rest. The former written code for worship and regulations for food and drink, ceremonial washings were all ordinances for the body imposed until the time of reformation (direct translation from the original version means until the time of Amendment—the time of establishment of the New Testament.) The way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. (If a man remains in a ministration of written code and regulations, or the thought of man, he will not be able to serve in the Spirit.) All offerings not in the Spirit will be in vain. So, when God says “new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete (see Heb. 9:1–10, 8:13).

The True Jesus Church says that Sunday is altered by the Catholics and that the day is supposed to be the festive day of the sun. We do not know anything about these, for we have nothing to do with these legends. We only follow the truth in the Bible. On the first day of the week, God raised Jesus who showed Himself to the disciples. He also sent the Holy Spirit on the first day of the week to establish the New Testament Church. Apostle John was moved by the Holy Spirit on the Lord’s day (first day of the week) to preach to all the churches the revelation he received from the Lord (see Rev. 1:10–11). Therefore, it is scriptural for saints of the new testament era to gather, break bread, preach the gospel and testify of the Lord on the first day of the week. On the day of His resurrection, the Lord appeared to His disciples, breathed on them, and sent them out to work. These were fully fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. (See John 20:19–23; Acts 2:1–4, 41–42.)

4th Error: Maintaining that one can only be saved if he receives the Spirit and water baptism

A believer is saved and born again when he trusts in the precious blood of the Lord Jesus. But a saved person should be baptized with water and Holy Spirit for this is the commandment of the Lord. I personally experienced the profound grace of the Lord’s blood that

redeemed and transformed me. Though I had not received the water and Spirit baptism, it is an undeniable fact that I was a saved and born again person. Everyone noticed the change in my life and saw the love and burden I had for lost souls. No one could deny this testimony. Not only me, many others who loved the Lord, also manifested the life of Christ even before they understood the truth of the baptisms of water and the Spirit. On the contrary, in the books of the True Jesus Church, I can't find any testimony concerning the dealing of sins or seeking the love of the cross and the manifestation of abundant life. It is because the True Jesus Church has neglected the testimony of blood that is for remission of sins. As a result, there are many errors in their beliefs. If you were to say that one is only born again after receiving the baptisms of water and the Holy Spirit, then I would like to ask this: A person normally receives water baptism and Spirit baptism at different times. Then, when will his rebirth be? After the water baptism or after the Spirit baptism? Does he have to be born again in two stages?

5th Error: Maintaining that infants are saved through water baptism

To baptize babies is another gross error of True Jesus Church. They think that babies should be baptized since the Israelites, both young and old, passed through the Red Sea. They don't know that crossing the Red Sea of the Israelites, with both young and old, symbolizes the promise of God's salvation for our families. As recorded in Acts 16:31: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Since we have been saved, we should pray earnestly for the salvation of our families and preach to them. When the children are young, we ought to guide them to know the Lord so that when they grow up, they will know how to call upon the Lord's name, and accept Him as their Savior. Then they will be ready to receive the water baptism and the Spirit baptism. We had seen many children confessed their sins, accepted Christ, received the Spirit baptism and God bore witness for them that they were clear of the salvation and had obtained the life of Christ. So, in

the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we baptized them unto the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Meanwhile we continue to nurture them in the truth, teaching them how to pray and participate in bread-breaking to commemorate the Lord.

Since salvation comes by faith, how can an infant who has no faith bear such a testimony? These infants have not confessed their sins, repented, prayed, or have had any relationship with God. They do not have the seal of the Holy Spirit (evidenced by speaking in tongues); they do not know how to partake the bread and cup of the Lord worthily; they are still unable to render thanks and praises upon receiving the grace of God. If these infants are baptized and considered saved, then such “certificates” of salvation are issued by the True Jesus Church, not God. God will certainly not acknowledge this procedure as this only produced hereditary Christians, not the children of God begotten of the gospel. The True Jesus Church says that the faith of the parents can replace the faith of their children, and children can be baptized and be saved on account of their parents’ faith. This is also a grave error! God has said that each man has to bear his own sins. “The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself” (Ezek. 14:10, 18:20).

God judges everyone’s work according to His righteousness. Parents can only pray tearfully for their children, God will have mercy and give their children a chance to repent. But parents cannot believe in Christ on behalf of their children and vice versa. However, all believers will have a chance to bring their household to believe in Christ and be saved. The True Jesus Church believers argue that parents can consult a doctor on behalf of their sick children, so in the matter of faith, parents can also decide for their children. They fail to understand that sickness concerns only the flesh. But salvation is a matter of faith which requires personal experience. So no one can receive it on behalf of others. The True Jesus Church is only concerned in superficial matters of the flesh, whereas God searches the hearts of men. All spiritual ministrations are done from the heart

and not outwardly. What God wants is a broken and contrite heart, a torn heart, not a torn garments. If they place all the emphasis on some outward regulations but neglect the reality of the inner life, then the gospel of Jesus Christ will be of no benefit to them.

6th Error: Maintaining that Spirit baptism should be evidenced by the shaking of one's body other than speaking in tongues

The claim of True Jesus Church has no scriptural basis. It is right that Spirit baptism is evidenced by speaking in tongues. According to the promise of the Lord, one shall receive power when he accepts the Spirit baptism (see Acts 1:5,8). But this power is manifested in our lives, not on our physical body. During our gospel campaign in Singapore and Malaysia, we met many weak Christians who began to overcome sins and lead a victorious life in Christ after their Spirit baptism. They were timid believers in the past, but now they bravely testify for the Lord. This is the power of the Holy Spirit manifested in the lives of the believers. It is certainly not demonstrated through the shaking of the body. However, we agree that some believers do shake their bodies when they are baptized with the Holy Spirit, but this is not mandatory. This misconception of the True Jesus Church makes her believers to fake such an act, shaking their bodies vigorously on their own accord. This is incorrect. The power of the Holy Spirit is shown by the transformation in our lives—leading a holy and victorious life, not by the bodily shaking or trembling.

7th Error: The testimony, ministration and name of the True Jesus Church are not in conformity with the Scripture

The True Jesus Church claims that she is the only true church built by the Holy Spirit. Such claim is wrong because the church built by the Holy Spirit must first be cleansed by the precious blood of the Lord. The testimony of Blood, which includes the repentance of sins and the remission of sins by the precious blood, is indispensable (see 1 John 1:7–9; Heb. 9:22, 10:19; Rom. 3:23–25,27). The believers of this denomination claim that the water contains blood during

baptism so they fail to confess their sins sincerely and to be cleansed by the Lord's blood. They have neglected the reality of the witness of Blood which is the basis of our faith. If the foundation is destroyed, what can the righteous do? Although they esteem the witness of the Holy Spirit, their negligence in the precious blood has posed a big barrier to the Holy Spirit. There were cases in their midst when people who had not been cleansed by the Lord's precious blood being possessed by the evil spirits when they sought for the Holy Spirit. As a result, they have subjected the pentecostal grace to slanders and scorn.

The True Jesus Church has her own headquarter and departments with chairman and other officials. She is of no difference from the other denominations.

Name of the church: The local New Testament Churches established by the Holy Spirit as mentioned in the Bible are named after their localities. For example: Church of Corinth, Church of Ephesus, etc. Any other name is the idea of man. The greatest problem with men is their tendency to add whatever they presume good to the word of God. As a result, the will of God is vague and unclear.

I know that there are many in the True Jesus Church who are sincerely seeking for the truth. The Lord will not forsake those who seek Him. He will reveal Himself to them. As long as they pray humbly before the Lord, beseeching His blood to forgive them and willingly pay the price of bearing the cross and submitting themselves to the truth, the Lord will deliver them from the erroneous beliefs and organization and bring them back to the New Testament Church built and ruled by the Holy Spirit. Thereby we will be able to serve in the spirit and in the truth, witnessing for the complete truth and awaiting the Lord's coming.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I hope you will understand this one crucial point: *The head and founder of the church is Jesus Christ Himself.* The church was established in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came on the day of

Pentecost. The foundation of our faith is built on the word of God (the Bible), the solid rock—the precious blood of Jesus Christ, the truth and the Holy Spirit.

The four main heretical sects discussed here are definitely not the church of Jesus Christ. Their heads, founders, dates and places of origin and the foundation of their beliefs are completely inconsistent with the faith of the pristine church. They are actually the works of Satan in disguise. Beware of them, lest you lose your soul!

I have been beseeching the Lord to open the eyes of those who preach heresies. May they behold the light of the truth and know Jesus Christ. I pray that they will no longer misinterpret the Bible, nor be the tools of Satan, acting as blind guides to others. May they cease from harming their own souls as well as others. May the Lord show mercy to the leaders and followers of all heretical religions. And may He cover them with His precious blood, bring them to the light of the truth, and lead them back to the bosom of our Savior Jesus Christ. “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon” (Isa. 55:7).

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables” (2 Tim. 4:3–4).

The Lord Jesus said, “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:9–10).

Let us pray: *O Lord Jesus, You are the gracious, loving and true God who lives forever. Cleanse me with Your precious blood and forgive all my sins which I committed in ignorance. Enlighten me with the Holy Spirit that I may understand the truth of Your salvation. Save my precious soul from the hands of the devil. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I rebuke Satan, and command him to stay away from my heart! O Lord, lead me away from the path I have strayed onto,*

and guide me back to Your living rock. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I pray. Amen!