

THERE SHOULD BE TIME NO LONGER : PART 1

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The current article evolved from a private online conversation I was having with one of my Facebook friends. As it turns out, my friend was having a discussion with her father, who was of the opinion -- like a number of other misguided Christians -- that a pre-Adamic, or pre-Adamite, race or civilization was in existence on the Earth prior to the events which are described

for us in the opening verses of the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. As I will explain more fully in a future article, this pre-Adamic civilization doctrine and theory is based in part on the belief that an undefined period of time transpired between verses two and three of Genesis chapter one. People who embrace this doctrine refer to it as the "Gap Theory". But let us take a close look at verses two and three:

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

Genesis 1:2-3, KJV

As I explained to my friend -- and she in fact agreed with me -- nowhere do those verses say or clearly suggest that there was any kind of lengthy time span -- or gap -- between verse two and verse three. In my view, some Christians are simply inventing an imaginary gap, in order to promote and validate their misguided theory regarding the existence of a pre-Adamic race. In fact, verse two very clearly describes an environment which would have been totally inhospitable to any form of air-breathing life, including human beings. Need I remind you of how God chose to wipe out all air-breathing life during the days of the Patriarch Noah? In a word, He restored the Earth to the condition it was in, as described in the first chapter of Genesis; meaning a global ocean.

Please note that in the original Hebrew, the phrase "without form and void" is derived from two Hebrew words -- "tohuw" and "bohuw" when transliterated into English -- which mean that the surface of the Earth had no shape. In other words, it was empty, and there was nothing, absolutely nothing, on the face of the Earth. Why was this? Verse two clearly tells us that it is because the Earth was a world totally covered in water. As I said a minute ago, our planet was in effect a global ocean before God made the dry land to appear. Thus, it shouldn't be that difficult for you to understand that no human life could have possibly existed on the Earth at that time.

Now, if you want another small piece of Scriptural evidence which proves that there was no such thing as a pre-Adamite civilization on the Earth, then please consider what the Apostle Paul wrote in his first Epistle to the brethren at the Church in Corinth. I think that what Paul writes below makes it rather clear that before Adam, there was simply no

one else living on the Earth. Why? Because the Apostle Paul refers to him as "The first man Adam". Now unless I am just misunderstanding something here -- yes, I'm purposely being a bit sarcastic -- first means first, right? So I am sorry, my friends, but there was no pre-Adamic race, no matter how much you want to invent one, for whatever your reasons. Here is what the Apostle Paul wrote:

"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit."

1 Corinthians 15:45, KJV

As I mentioned earlier, I will be providing a more expanded explanation regarding the pre-Adamic civilization doctrine in a future article. When that will be, I cannot honestly say. The truth is that I have had personal notes regarding that issue sitting here on my computer since 2005, when I was still running the EDGE mailing list, and engaged some of my friends in a discussion regarding this very same topic. In fact, it might interest you to know that I have a lot of notes and partially completed articles sitting here which, when finally finished and published, will probably result in another one hundred new articles and series. So I still have years of work ahead of me, providing that the Lord gives me both the health and the time to complete them all. We shall see. I do what I can each day.

Returning to the Book of Genesis, I suspect that part of the confusion results from the fact that some people don't fully understand how the verses are written in Genesis chapter one. In other words, if you read carefully, you will notice that the number of the day is actually announced after the events which took place during that particular day. Let me give you a clear example. It is my belief that verses three through five below are describing all of the events which occurred on Day One:

"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day."

Genesis 1:3-5, KJV

As we saw earlier in verse two, prior to this point in the creation of the world, the writer Moses informs us that the global ocean was completely covered in darkness. Moses wrote

"darkness was upon the face of the deep." Then, smoothly continuing to verse three -- and with absolutely no time gap mentioned -- he tells us that God created light, and divided the light from the darkness. Furthermore, Moses tells us that "God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night."

It was at this point as I was reading those verses and typing out a response to my Facebook friend, that I was suddenly hit with a wonderful truth which I had never seen before; at least not in this way. As I read verse five above, I suddenly came to the realization that until God divided the light from the darkness, time did not exist. That is why God declared it the first day in verse five. What? Yes, my friends. I am becoming convinced that it was that division of light and darkness in Genesis chapter one which first began marking the passage of time on the Earth. As I said, prior to that point, time simply did not exist.

In that previous set of verses, the English word "divided" is translated from the Hebrew word "badal". This ancient Hebrew word is translated as "divided" eight different times in the pages of the Old Testament, while it is likewise translated as "separated" a total of twenty-five times. So its meaning is rather clear. But how could God separate the light from the darkness on this, our physical plane? He had to follow the laws of physics which He Himself had created. So the only way He could do this was by giving each one time to exist apart from the other. And that is exactly what He did. He created a twelve-hour day period, and a twelve-hour night period; and that is why we are told that "the evening and the morning were the first day." Time now existed. Even Jesus confirmed this fact, as you will see a bit later in this same article.

Now, I have long believed and taught that the Bible in large part interprets itself, if we are diligent in our study of the same. It should come as no surprise then that the minute that the realization hit me regarding the beginning of time occurring with the division of the light from the darkness, a few other verses immediately came to my mind as well. Isn't that in fact what Jesus said the Holy Spirit would do for us? Consider the following two verses:

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

John 14:26, KJV

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

John 16:13, KJV

To continue, the verses which came to me are both found in the Book of Revelation; and in my view, they seem to confirm what I just stated regarding time, and the passage of time, being created the moment that God separated the light from the darkness. In other words, God created alternating phases of light and darkness. Please carefully consider this first verse, taking particular note of the last seven words which I have placed in uppercase letters for emphasis:

"And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, THAT THERE SHOULD BE TIME NO LONGER:"

Revelation 10:6, KJV

Now, why would this seventh mighty Angel of the Apocalypse declare that time would cease to exist? Equally important, how could time actually cease to exist? Personally, as I've long taught, it is my view that God the Father, Jesus, the Angels and whatever other entities may exist in the Spirit Realm, exist outside of time. Yet, at the same time, they seem to be able to interface with it, and in it, if they so choose. For example, you may recall that in one of my very old articles, I mention the fact that I believe that in one particular incident which is mentioned in the Gospels, Jesus may have actually manipulated time. Consider the following verses, taking particular note of the word "immediately", and decide for yourself:

"And when even was now come, his disciples went down unto the sea, And entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them. And the sea arose by reason of a great wind that blew. So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship: and they were afraid. But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid. Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went."

John 6:16-21, KJV

Please note that if you study the English word "immediately" as it is used in other verses throughout the New Testament, you will discover that it always means in that instant and on the spot. In other words, without delay. That being the case, are the previous verses saying that Jesus actually translated their ship through time so that it was immediately at shore, thus avoiding the rest of the storm and the rough waters? Interesting idea, isn't it? According to your faith.

As I was saying earlier, I never really stopped to consider exactly how it is that God the Father, Jesus Christ and other spiritual entities exist outside of time. I just accepted it as fact, by faith, just like so many other things in the Bible which I do not fully understand. However, as of today, I think that I may possibly be beginning to understand how this happens. Now, if what I mentioned earlier regarding how time began when God divided the light from the darkness, and set alternating phases of light and darkness into motion is true, then there should be some Biblical evidence to support how this could work in reverse, so that time ceases to exist, exactly as the Seventh Angel cried out. Well, it turns out that such evidence does in fact exist.

In Revelation 10:6 the Angel spoke the seven words "that there should be time no longer." As many of my Christian friends will already know, the final two chapters of the Book of Revelation describe the wonderful Heavenly City, New Jerusalem, the City of Light, and the Eternal Capital of God the Father and His Son. In describing this place, the beauty of which we cannot even begin to imagine, and how the gates of the City will never be shut, consider the final seven words of the following verse, which I have again placed in uppercase letters for emphasis:

"And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: FOR THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT THERE."

Revelation 21:25, KJV

Do you see that? In both Revelation 10:6 and Revelation 21:25 we have seven important words: "that there should be time no longer" and "for there shall be no night there". Do you see the connection between those two sets of seven words and how it directly relates to our discussion regarding the separation of light and darkness in Genesis chapter one? If not, allow me to clearly explain it to you. It is my belief

-- or hypothesis, if you will -- that time ceases to exist inside the Heavenly City, because time is measured by the passage of day and night, or the alternating phases of both light and darkness, as I explained earlier.

However, as the previous verse makes abundantly clear, there is no night -- or darkness -- in the City of Light. That is to say, New Jerusalem. Therefore, time simply does not exist there. In short, Eternity exists within God's Eternal City. In fact Revelation 22:5 says the same exact thing regarding there being no night in God's Eternal City, New Jerusalem. And once again, it is stated in almost exactly the same seven words, as we see here:

"AND THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT THERE; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever."

Revelation 22:5, KJV

Wow! Do you see that? God's brilliance is so powerful, that there isn't even any need for the Sun, or for solar panels. The very power of His brilliance and being lights up the entire city. And mind you, we are talking about a city that is about 1,500 miles wide on each of the four sides of its square base. That is half the size of the United States of America, my friends! God powers it all! As I have mentioned before, and as the Apostle John wrote, "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." Again, no darkness alternating with the light means that time ceases to exist, if my theory holds true. Let me also remind you that as I have pointed out in a few other articles, even Jesus mentioned how each day alternates between twelve hours of light, and twelve hours of darkness, as we see by these two verses:

"Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him."

John 11:9-10, KJV

So taking into consideration what is stated in chapter one of the Book of Genesis, and what we also discover in the Book of Revelation, that is why I am led to believe that time appears to have begun in our physical plane on the very first day of Creation with the division of the light from the darkness. That is why I likewise lean towards the belief that time is nonexistent in God's wonderful City of Light,

because no darkness or night exists there at all. There is simply nothing to mark the passage of time.

But there is so much more to this story of light which I want to share with you, some of which I have mentioned before in other articles, such as "The Children of Light: Are You One of Us?". First of all, consider the following set of verses that describe for us the powerful glory and light of both God the Father and Jesus Christ His Son. They are awesome beings who radiate pure, unending, brilliant light:

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that GOD IS LIGHT, AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL."

1 John 1:5, KJV

"And the city had NO NEED OF THE SUN, NEITHER OF THE MOON, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

Revelation 21:23, KJV

"THE SUN SHALL BE NO MORE THY LIGHT BY DAY; NEITHER FOR BRIGHTNESS SHALL THE MOON GIVE LIGHT UNTO THEE: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. THY SUN SHALL NO MORE GO DOWN; NEITHER SHALL THY MOON WITHDRAW ITSELF: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended."

Isaiah 60:19-20, KJV

Before sharing additional verses with you regarding this same topic, allow me to make another point. The previous group of verses seems to be suggesting that the Sun and Moon no longer even exist because New Jerusalem has no need of them. But the verses go even further than that when they say "Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself." Now in my view, there are only two ways in which we can interpret that sentence. Either it is saying that both the Sun and the Moon remain permanently fixed in the sky above, or else it is saying that they both no longer exist, which is why the Sun no more goes down, and the Moon no more withdraws itself.

Being as this set of verses is talking about the New Heavens and the New Earth, are they saying that God does not create a new Sun and a new Moon? As I thought on this, I wondered about the people who live outside of the City of Light. After all, we are clearly told in the Book of Revelation that the kings and nations bring their glory into the City, and the gates of

New Jerusalem are never shut. So won't they still be needing the Sun and the Moon? And what about all of the flora and fauna which exist outside of the Heavenly City? Won't they require natural sunlight as well?

But you see, the previous verses provide us with a very clear answer. Because right after stating that "Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself", that same sentence says "for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light". If you stop and think about it, even today with our modern technology, we can grow things and raise things even in the absence of natural sunlight. There are all kinds of growth bulbs which have the proper light spectrum. In fact, I personally use such LED lights on my small aquariums. I can adjust which lightwaves to use, how long the lights should run, whether or not they should simulate both daytime and nighttime light cycles, etc. So if we can do this with our current technology, just imagine what God and His Son can do, even if there is no Sun and Moon traversing the sky.

There is also something else to consider. As we discussed earlier, the City of Light is just as tall as it is wide on each sides of its base. In other words, this amazing city is 1,500 miles in height. As I mention in my three-part series entitled "New Jerusalem: Heavenly City and Mountain of the Lord's House", I believe that the headquarters of God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, may be located at the very top -- or apex -- of the pyramidal City of Light. I also suspect that a great light emanates from the apex of the Celestial City. Now considering everything I have shared regarding the brightness and intensity of the light and energy which proceeds from God the Father and the Lamb, would it really be any great task for them to light up the entire Earth from the summit of New Jerusalem?

On a related note, let me pose another question. In the days before clocks, watches, computers, time servers and the like were invented, how did humanity keep track of time? As we all know, they did this by measuring shadows and watching the positions of the Sun, Moon and stars. Right? So in my view, the fact that all of the previous verses seem to indicate no presence of the Sun and Moon, is yet a further indication that time does not exist in God's Celestial City, exactly as the Seventh Angel proclaimed in Revelation chapter ten. Let us continue now with some additional verses where we learn that God is the Father of Lights, and that He and His Son, Jesus, shine with a constant brilliance that is greater than

even the Sun:

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the FATHER OF LIGHTS, with whom is NO VARIABleness, NEITHER SHADOW OF TURNING."

James 1:17, KJV

"God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. And HIS BRIGHTNESS WAS AS THE LIGHT; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power. Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet."

Habakkuk 3:3-5, KJV

"Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty. WHO COVEREST THYSELF WITH LIGHT AS WITH A GARMENT: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:"

Psalms 104:1-2, KJV

"For THE LORD GOD IS A SUN and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

Psalms 84:11, KJV

"And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and HIS COUNTENANCE WAS AS THE SUN SHINETH IN HIS STRENGTH."

Revelation 1:13-16, KJV

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR."

Revelation 22:16, KJV

"At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, ABOVE THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE SUN, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me."

Acts 26:13, KJV

"WHO BEING THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;"

Hebrews 1:3, KJV

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy WITH THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS COMING:"

2 Thessalonians 2:8, KJV

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the DAY STAR arise in your hearts:"

2 Peter 1:19, KJV

"Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the DAYSPRING [or rising Sun] from on high hath visited us,"

Luke 1:78, KJV

As you can see, over and over again throughout the Bible, we are repeatedly told about the magnificent brilliance of God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. Absolutely nothing can compare to their royal splendor. Having said that, have you ever stopped to wonder how this radiant energy must affect those creatures and entities who constantly dwell in their wonderful presence? I have on occasion, and I would like to share my thoughts with you.

Over the years since I first began studying the Scriptures in earnest some fifty years ago, I have had certain thoughts and inklings which may possibly be true. Most of the time, I do not share such things publicly, because they aren't doctrines which are set in stone, and I cannot solidly or convincingly prove them by way of the Scriptures. Well, at least not yet. They are simply personal theories and speculations, and I do not wish to confuse my readers, and I most certainly do not want to stumble those Christians who may still be very young in the faith. As the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews admonishes us:

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But

strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

Hebrews 5:12-14, KJV

But on occasion, I will share a few tidbits just to see what kind of a reaction I may get from my readers. In this case, I believe that there is a lot more to this business of Divine Light. While we are clearly told that it is the Light of God the Father and Jesus Christ which illuminates the Heavenly City, New Jerusalem, I suspect that this powerful light may serve another purpose as well. We have already seen that time does not exist within the Eternal City. Therefore, all beings which continually dwell therein are eternal. But exactly what is it that makes them eternal? Is it simply the lack of the passage of time? Or is it because they are spirits by nature and spiritual energy cannot be destroyed?

I propose another possibility. I have long believed that when the Scriptures use the word "spirit", in many cases, it is in fact referring to a type of energy which proceeds from God the Father. As I have mentioned in other articles, I believe that this is precisely what the Holy Spirit is. That is to say, it is an extension of God the Father Himself. It is His creative energy which flows and emanates from Him. I suspect that this is why when Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit in the Gospels, He always used the pronoun "he". Doesn't that make sense to you now?

I believe that it is this same creative energy -- or the Holy Spirit -- which miraculously made Jesus form in Mary's womb. In fact, taking this a step further, if you are knowledgeable of the Scriptures, then you will know that Jesus was filled with the Spirit from His Father without measure, as we can easily determine by the following group of verses:

"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him."

John 3:34, KJV

"For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;"

Colossians 1:19, KJV

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

Colossians 2:9, KJV

Once we understand that Jesus Christ had an unlimited supply of His Father's energy, or Spirit, it makes it a lot easier to understand what the following verses mean when they state that "virtue" flowed out of Jesus when He healed people:

"And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?"

Mark 5:30, KJV

"And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all."

Luke 6:19, KJV

"And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me."

Luke 8:46, KJV

In fact, it is this same creative energy, or Spirit from the Father, which breathed life back into Lazarus and some other folks in the Gospels, as well as into the Resurrected Christ Himself. It is the same creative energy which breathed life into Adam's lifeless body in the Book of Genesis. Now if that is not enough for you, then consider that it is also the very same creative energy which hovered over the deep in the first chapter of the Book of Genesis as well; and we all know what happened right after that: Creation:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED UPON THE FACE OF THE WATERS."

Genesis 1;1-2, KJV

Please go to part two for the conclusion of this article.

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THERE SHOULD BE TIME NO LONGER : PART 2

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Light Is A By-Product Of Energy Release Or Energy Transfer, Light From The Sun Stars Lightning And Nuclear Explosions, Spiritual Light Of God The Father And Christ Illuminate And Energize Entire Heavenly City, What Is The Actual Source Of Eternal Life In New Jerusalem?, Twelve Fruits Of The Tree Of Life, Exposed To And Absorbing The Light And Energy Of God, Example Of Rechargeable Batteries, Dead In Our Sins Without Christ, Quickened By The Spirit, The Earnest Of The Spirit, God's Good Radiation Therapy, Father Of Lights, Shining Face Of Moses, Morning Stars, Fall Of Lucifer The Light Bearer, Satan: King Of Empires And God Of This World, "As Lightning Fall", Angels Of Light And Satan The Deceiver And Father Of Lies, Auras Of Light And Halos In Paintings And On Statues, Jesus' Amazing Transfiguration, What Happens When A Person Is Removed From God's Spiritual Light And Energy?, Fate Of The Fallen Angels: Chains Of Darkness, Does Constantly Being In The Dark Away From God's Presence Drain Spiritual Power?, Parallels To Superman, Walk In The Light, Flee From Darkness, We Will See His Face, Closing Remarks, Suggested Reading List

Continuing our discussion from part one, at this point, you may be wondering exactly where am I going with all of this. Well, consider the following. In the world of physics, many of us know that one by-product of energy release or energy transfer is light. The Sun is a tremendous combustion engine which when it burns its fuel, releases energy in the form of a massive amount of light. This light energy is so powerful that it illuminates our own planet and beyond. Other stars do the very same thing. Electricity is likewise a form of energy which produces light in the form of a spark, an arc, or a bolt of lightning. When a nuclear explosion occurs, there is likewise a brilliant flash of light. Are you starting to get the point yet?

We have clearly seen that the Heavenly City is lit up by the very light of God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. The intensity of their light is described in the Scriptures as being brighter than the Sun. That light, in my view, is in fact a by-product of their very spiritual nature. In other words, if Spirit is a form of creative energy, and light is a by-product of energy release or energy transfer, it makes

perfect sense. God the Father and Jesus Christ are spiritual powerhouses, so they obviously produce an enormous amount of light energy, and that is why they light up New Jerusalem. Furthermore, as Jesus said in the Gospel of John:

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

John 4:24, KJV

In other words, if I am correct, the Light of God the Father and the Lamb does not just light up the City of Light. It in fact energizes New Jerusalem and powers it as well. But that is not all that it does. I asked earlier, exactly what is it that gives beings in God's City of Light eternal life? Is it simply the fact that time does not exist there, and thus an eternal state exists there? Or is there more to it than just that? Is it possibly due to the fact that said inhabitants of New Jerusalem have rights to partake of the twelve fruits of the Tree of Life, as we see by the following verses?:

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

Revelation 2:7, KJV

"In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

Revelation 22:2, 14, KJV

While these are obviously contributing factors, allow me to propose that it is even more than that. I propose that it is also due to the fact that the inhabitants of New Jerusalem are constantly exposed to and constantly absorbing the light and energy from God the Father and the Lamb which contributes to and maybe maintains their eternal nature. They are similar to rechargeable batteries which need to be recharged after a period of use. If they aren't charged frequently enough, then we say that the batteries are dead. Similarly, if we refuse to accept the spiritual light and Eternal Life that is freely offered to us through Christ, then surely, we will die in our sins, and we will never experience the wonders of the Lord's

marvellous City of Light. Why? Well, because the wages of sin is death, and we will be dead as a doornail, just like those depleted batteries which no longer have a spark of life in them. Now consider the following group of verses:

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

John 1:4, KJV

"Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come. Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."

John 8:21-24, KJV

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 6:23, KJV

"And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness."

Romans 8:10, KJV

"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;"

Colossians 2:13, KJV

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins . . . But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

Ephesians 2:1, 4-7, KJV

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

1 Peter 2:24, KJV

So as I said, God the Father and Jesus Christ are both the

source of our spiritual light, as well as the source of our Eternal Life. They are our energy source, plain and simple. In fact, in the previous verses, the word "quicken" is derived from the two Koine Greek words "suzoopoieo" and "zooopoieo". According to Thayer's Greek English Lexicon, these words mean to cause to live, to make alive or to give life. Of course, in this case, we are referring to Eternal Life in the Kingdom of God. Exactly how are we made alive? By the spark of the Holy Spirit which dwells in us.

As I mention in articles such as "A Treasure in Earthen Vessels: God's Promise of the Spirit", the Apostle Paul refers to this spark of the Divine Nature which now resides in us -- that is, the Holy Spirit -- as "the earnest of the spirit". But exactly what does this phrase mean? In all of the following verses, the word "earnest" is derived from the Koine Greek word "arrabon". Thayer's Greek English Lexicon defines this ancient Greek word as meaning "money which in purchases is given as a pledge or downpayment that the full amount will subsequently be paid." In other words, the spark of the Holy Spirit which we each receive in this current life is sort of like a downpayment, preview or sample of the full life in the Spirit which we shall someday experience in the wonderful City of God. It is just a foretaste of what is to come:

"Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the EARNEST OF THE SPIRIT in our hearts."

2 Corinthians 1:21-22, KJV

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the EARNEST OF OUR INHERITANCE until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."

Ephesians 1:13-14, KJV

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle [meaning our physical body] were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we

shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the EARNEST OF THE SPIRIT. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

2 Corinthians 4:18-5:8, KJV

Now think about this for a moment. If we are told that the "virtue" which flowed from Jesus was enough to heal people in the Gospels, and to even raise some of them from the dead, imagine what it must be like to be constantly in the presence of God the Father and the Lamb, and to constantly be exposed to -- and absorbing -- that same spiritual energy. It is like being exposed to a good kind of radiation. Instead of chemo which can easily kill you and the cancer both, it is God's holy radiation which constantly bathes you in His restorative energy and light and gives you life. In fact, Eternal Life. Maybe we can call it "God's Good Radiation Therapy". Ha!

As we learned in part one, God the Father is described as both a sun -- which is a star -- and as the Father of Lights. What is meant by the latter phrase? What lights is God the Father of? You mean, He and Jesus are not the only lights? They are most definitely not. I am willing to bet that any creature which is exposed to that Divine Light and Divine Energy long enough is going to start shining like a star as well. And if you doubt my word, then consider the following interesting set of verses which suggest the very same thing. As you will see, Moses' face literally shone after he was exposed to the Lord's presence during those forty days on the summit of Mount Sinai. Likewise, the sons of God are compared to stars in the Book of Job for a good reason:

"And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him. And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him. And Moses called unto them; and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned unto him: and Moses talked with them. And afterward all the children of Israel came nigh: and he

gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai. And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a vail on his face. But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the vail off, until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel that which he was commanded. And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the vail upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him."

Exodus 34:29-35, KJV

"When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

Job 38:7, KJV

"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

Daniel 12:3, KJV

Wow! I bet that some of you didn't realize that the Bible is such a heavy Book! Well, we aren't quite done yet. We have talked about time and eternity, as well as Spirit, light and energy. But there are still a few additional topics I would like to include in this article before concluding it. For example, think about the mighty Angels who are constantly in God's presence and absorbing that amazing light and energy. Oh, how they must shine! This leads me to think about God's notorious archenemy, Lucifer. Many of you no doubt know that prior to his fall from grace, it appears that Lucifer was actually God's light bearer, whatever that means. In fact, in the original Hebrew language, that is precisely what the word "heylel" means: light-bearer, shining one or morning star. Consider the following verses which describe that evil one's sin against the Lord, and his subsequent fall:

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."

Isaiah 14:12-15, KJV

"Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus,

and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."

Ezekiel 28:12-15, KJV

Please note that while on the surface the previous two sets of verses appear to be addressing the kings of Babylon and Tyre, they take a strange twist, and we suddenly realize that in reality, they are actually addressing the spiritual entity who is behind those two earthly rulers. After all, Satan is the king of empires, and the god of this present evil world, as we see by the following group of verses:

"And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it."

Luke 4:5-6, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

Do you recall in the tenth chapter of the Gospel of Luke how Jesus described Satan's fall when he was finally cast out of Heaven permanently? Consider the following verse where we once again see a clear connection between light and energy. We all know exactly what a lightning strike is like. There is a sudden, brilliant flash of light as the electricity arcs through the sky:

"And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

Luke 10:18, KJV

But this is not the last verse in the Bible where we see the Devil -- or Satan/Lucifer -- associated with light in some way. As some of my readers will likewise recall, the Apostle Paul also writes the following rather interesting verse in his second Epistle to the Christian brethren in the city of Corinth:

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."

2 Corinthians 11:14, KJV

Now, if as Paul writes, Satan can transform himself so that he appears as an Angel of Light for the purpose of deceiving people, what that verse suggests is that Angelic Beings do have some kind of aura of light surrounding them. Yes, we can interpret the phrase "angel of light" as being a metaphor for a bearer of spiritual truth -- which is why the Apostle Paul is warning the brethren to beware of deceivers -- but I think that there is more to it than that. As we have already seen, beings who are exposed to God's wonderful energy and light for an extended period time can indeed shine and glow, just as Moses did. So why else would Satan be trying to copy them in such a manner? I was just reminded of the following verse:

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Isaiah 5:20, KJV

Now isn't that exactly what Satan, the Father of Lies, does? Isn't that precisely how he operates? He is always trying to trip us up with some half-truth, or with some distortion of God's Word. He tries to mix a little bit of light -- or truth -- with his darkness -- or lies -- so that we will hopefully take his evil bait. Isn't that what he did with Adam and Eve when he said "Hath God said"? Isn't that even what that fiend attempted to do with Jesus when he said "If thou be the Son of God"? However, as the Apostle Paul also admonishes us in his second Epistle to the Corinthian brethren:

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

2 Corinthians 2:11, KJV

Yet at the same time, perhaps it is this appearance of being surrounded by an aura of glowing light which also explains the presence of halos in so many classic works of religious

art, as well as on statues of revered religious figures. I have read some sources which claim that halos came about as a result of wanting to protect statues from bird feces. But personally, I prefer to go with the previous explanation. It certainly seems to find support in the Scriptures. In fact, as many of my readers will likewise recall, we see something very similar occurring in all three of the synoptic Gospels -- that is, in Matthew, Mark and Luke -- where the Lord is transfigured before Peter, James and John, as we see in the following group of verses:

"And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

Matthew 17:1-5, KJV

"And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid. And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves. And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead."

Mark 9:2-9, KJV

"And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his

countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said. While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud. And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen."

Luke 9:28-36, KJV

But now let us look at this same issue in reverse. If being in the presence of God the Father and the Lamb for a long period of time fills us with that same spiritual energy and light so that we have Eternal Life, and so that we even begin to glow in some fashion just as Moses did after a mere period of forty days on the summit of Mount Horeb, what happens when we are removed from that magnificent presence and spiritual light and energy?

It seems to me that an exact opposite process would begin to occur. In other words, while this is again just speculation on my part, I suspect that the spiritual light and energy which one has absorbed would begin to wane, and eventually, maybe even dissipate completely, unless it is replenished. If this is indeed the case, it may possibly help to explain what happens in the following set of verses in regards to the fate of the Fallen Angels, as well as the Devil himself. I discuss these same topics more fully in the nine-part series entitled "Nephilim: The Giants of Genesis". Personally, I am convinced that God has a very clear purpose and goal for everything that He does. Did He do this to intentionally weaken His foes by draining them of their spiritual power?:

"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into CHAINS OF DARKNESS, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;"

2 Peter 2:4-5, KJV

"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in EVERLASTING CHAINS UNDER DARKNESS unto the judgment of the great day . . . Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; WANDERING STARS, TO WHOM IS RESERVED THE BLACKNESS OF DARKNESS FOR EVER."

Jude 1:6, 13, KJV

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season."

Revelation 20:1-3, KJV

As you can see, all of these wicked beings were cast into utter darkness, away from the presence of God the Father and the Lamb, and away from their revitalizing energy and light. As I said, this act of being imprisoned in darkness must in some way serve a purpose. Is it possible that I am correct in stating that this particular punishment is to drain them of their spiritual energy which they received while they were in God's presence? Do they begin to lose their spiritual charge, just as batteries slowly lose their charge with use?

You know, for you comic book and superhero fans, this reminds me of the story of my favorite childhood hero, Superman, who as some of you may know, has a number of indirect references to the life of Jesus Christ. As the story goes, Kal-El -- or Superman -- hails from the planet Krypton, which has a red sun. It is only when he arrives in our Solar System, and is basked in the light of our yellow Sun, that Kal-El gains his super powers. Furthermore, it is only as long as he remains in the presence of the rays of our yellow Sun, that Superman retains his amazing powers. Are you seeing the parallel yet?

In similar fashion, the writers of the New Testament also exhort us to continually walk in the light of Jesus Christ, and to flee from the works of darkness. Not only that, but the Book of Revelation informs us that one of these days, after our sojourn here on Planet Earth is through, we will see our beloved Savior face-to face, and we will bathe in

His light forever, as we dwell in that wonderful, eternal City of Light where time exists no longer. Consider the following inspiring group of verses:

"While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them."

John 12:36, KJV

"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."

Romans 13:12, KJV

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

2 Corinthians 4:6, KJV

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

2 Corinthians 6:14, KJV

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children . . . For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light . . . And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

Ephesians 5:1, 8, 11, KJV

"That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;"

Philippians 2:15, KJV

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:"

Colossians 1:13, KJV

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness."

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5, KJV

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy

nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

1 Peter 2:9, KJV

"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

1 John 1:6-7, KJV

"And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And THEY SHALL SEE HIS FACE; and his name shall be in their foreheads."

Revelation 22:3-4, KJV

With these inspiring verses I will bring this article to its conclusion. It is my hope that you have found it to be both informative and enlightening, and I pray that it has been a blessing in your life as well. If you have an account with Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr or with any other social network, I would really appreciate if you would take the time to click or tap on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were also mentioned in this article, or which contain topics that are related to this article, and which are likewise located on the Bill's Bible Basics web server.

The Children of Light: Are You One of Us?

Star Wars: The Real Battle Wages On!

This Little Light, Glory of the Lord and Our Bright Future

Do You Want Love and Light, or Rod and Wrath?

What is Meant by Outer Darkness in the Bible?

New Jerusalem: Heavenly City and Mountain of the Lord's House

A Treasure in Earthen Vessels: God's Promise of the Spirit

Sex, a Bowl of Soup, and the Nature of Angels

Adaptation, EVILution and the Six Days of Genesis

The Earth is Under Seven Thousand Years Old!

Nephilim: The Giants of Genesis

Satan: His Origin, Purpose and Future

Satan: King of Tyrus, King of Empires

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