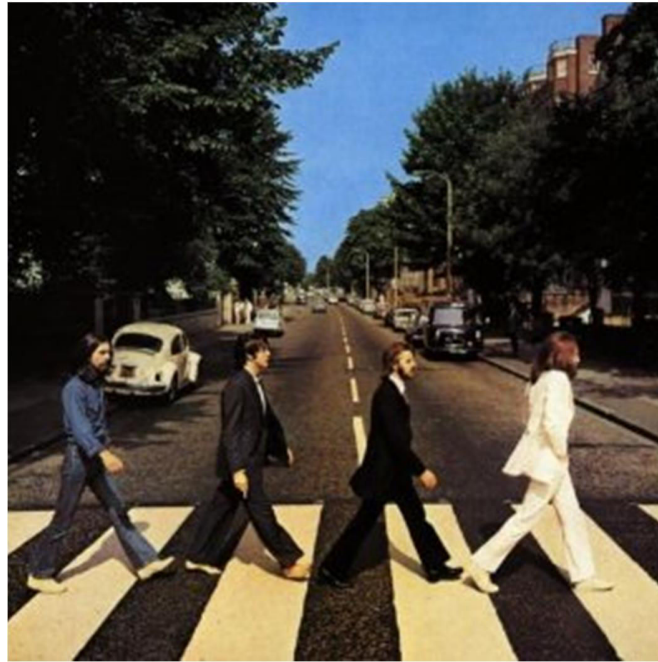


THE BEATLE BIBLE



THE STORY OF

THE
BEATLES

AS TOLD IN

WHOLLY SCRIPTURE

The Beatle Bible Team

THE BEATLE BIBLE

THE STORY OF

THE
BEATLES

AS TOLD IN

WHOLLY SCRIPTURE

The Beatle Bible Team
Revised Dec. 2022

SUMMARY

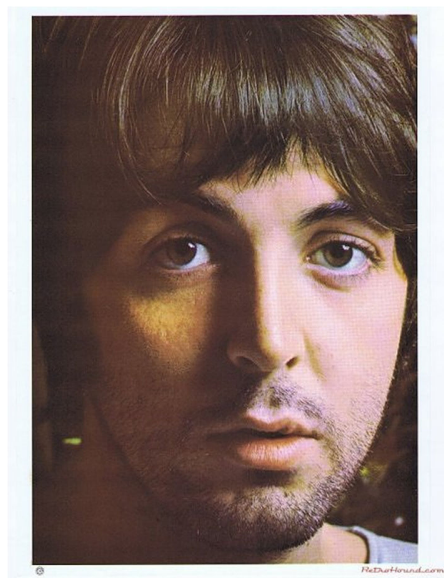
This is the story of the Beatles told entirely through scripture. The members of the group are portrayed as modern day prophets who bring to the world a new understanding and appreciation of spiritual truth. A splendid time is guaranteed for all.

THE BEATLES

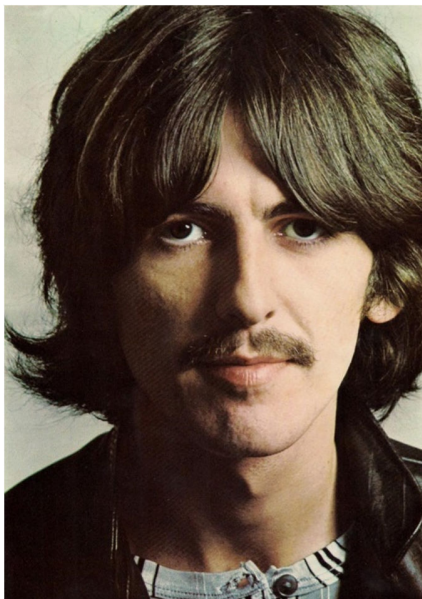
JOHN LENNON
(1940-1980)



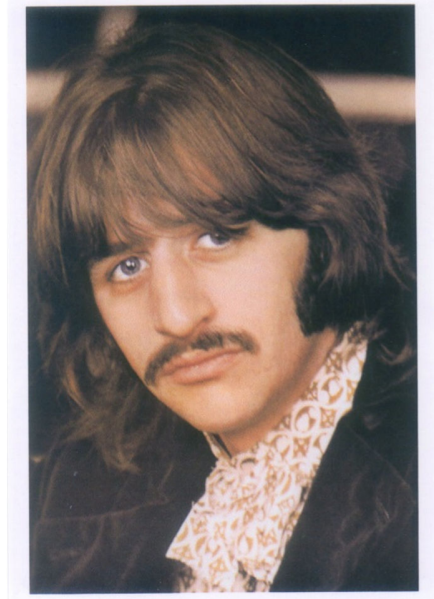
PAUL MCCARTNEY
(1942-)



GEORGE HARRISON
(1943-2001)



RINGO STARR
(1940-)



THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT (HEBREW SCRIPTURES)

- [Genesis](#)
- [Exodus](#)
- [Leviticus](#)
- [Numbers](#)
- [Deuteronomy](#)
- [Joshua](#)
- [Judges](#)
- [Ruth](#)
- [1 Samuel](#)
- [2 Samuel](#)
- [1 Kings](#)
- [2 Kings](#)
- [1 Chronicles](#)
- [2 Chronicles](#)
- [Ezra](#)
- [Nehemiah](#)
- [Esther](#)
- [Job](#)
- [Psalms](#)
- [Proverbs](#)
- [Ecclesiastes](#)
- [Song of Solomon](#)
- [Isaiah](#)
- [Jeremiah](#)
- [Lamentations](#)
- [Ezekiel](#)
- [Daniel](#)
- [Hosea](#)
- [Joel](#)
- [Amos](#)
- [Obadiah](#)
- [Jonah](#)
- [Micah](#)
- [Nahum](#)
- [Habakkuk](#)
- [Zephaniah](#)
- [Haggai](#)
- [Zechariah](#)
- [Malachi](#)

NEW TESTAMENT

- [Matthew](#)
- [Mark](#)
- [Luke](#)
- [John](#)
- [Acts](#)
- [Romans](#)
- [1 Corinthians](#)
- [2 Corinthians](#)
- [Galatians](#)
- [Ephesians](#)
- [Philippians](#)
- [Colossians](#)
- [1 Thessalonians](#)
- [2 Thessalonians](#)
- [1 Timothy](#)
- [2 Timothy](#)
- [Titus](#)
- [Philemon](#)
- [Hebrews](#)
- [James](#)
- [1 Peter](#)
- [2 Peter](#)
- [1 John](#)
- [2 John](#)
- [3 John](#)
- [Jude](#)
- [Revelation](#)

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	ix
How To Read The Beatle Bible.....	xv
List of Characters.....	xvii
Prologue A Long, Long Time Ago.....	1
Chapter 1. I Will Send Them Prophets And Apostles.....	3
Chapter 2. Yahweh Showed Me Four Craftsmen.....	5
Chapter 3. John.....	9
Chapter 4. Paul.....	11
Chapter 5. George.....	13
Chapter 6. Ringo.....	15
Chapter 7. Go Into All The World And Preach The Good News.....	17
Chapter 8. All The Earth At Rest And In Peace.....	23
Chapter 9. We Hope You Will Enjoy The Show.....	25
Chapter 10. Sit Back And Let The Evening Go.....	27
Chapter 11. We're Sorry But It's Time To Go.....	33
Chapter 12. Trouble With The Elders.....	35
Chapter 13. Away From The Noise Of Your Songs!.....	39
Chapter 14. Paul Responds To The Elders.....	43
Chapter 15. John Responds To The Elders.....	45
Chapter 16. Magical Mystery Tour (Part 1).....	49
Chapter 17. Magical Mystery Tour (Part 2).....	57
Chapter 18. Warm Below The Storm.....	63
Chapter 19. The Fool On The Hill.....	67
Chapter 20. Ask And It Will Be Given.....	69
Chapter 21. A Most Excellent Way.....	75
Chapter 22. All You Need Is Love.....	79
Chapter 23. Won't You Open Up Your Eyes?.....	85
Chapter 24. She Showed Me Her Room, Isn't It Good?.....	91
Chapter 25. Get Behind Me, Satan!.....	93
Chapter 26. John Cries Out For Help.....	97
Chapter 27. The Third Angel Speaks.....	105
Chapter 28. Life Flows On Within You And Without You.....	113
Chapter 29. What Is Sweet Now Turns So Sour.....	117
Chapter 30. How Long, Lord, How Long?.....	119
Chapter 31. With A Little Help From My Friends.....	127

Chapter 32.	The Church Is Upset.....	131
Chapter 33.	Money Can't Buy Me Love.....	141
Chapter 34.	More Wisdom From John.....	145
Chapter 35.	Nothing's Gonna Change My World.....	155
Chapter 36.	The Ballad Of John And Yoko.....	159
Chapter 37.	Hey Jude.....	165
Chapter 38.	Paul Teaches About Jesus And God's Kingdom	171
Chapter 39	Two Of Us.....	181
Chapter 40.	While My Guitar Gently Weeps.....	185
Chapter 41.	Something In The Way She Moves.....	191
Chapter 42.	Salt and Light.....	197
Chapter 43.	We're Only Trying To Get Us Some Peace.....	199
Chapter 44.	Because The World Is Round.....	203
Chapter 45.	A New Heaven And A New Earth.....	205
Chapter 46.	More Wisdom from Paul.....	209
Chapter 47.	She Came In Through The Bathroom Window.....	215
Chapter 48.	Let It Be.....	219
Chapter 49.	In The Wilderness.....	227
Chapter 50.	Abbey Road: The Final Album.....	229
Chapter 51.	And In The End.....	231
Chapter 52.	For Everything There Is A Season.....	235
Epilogue	The Rock Of Our Salvation.....	237
Glossary.....		239
Song Index.....		241

Dedicated to Stephen Langton and Robert Estienne, without
whom this project would not have been possible.

These are the two individuals who are most responsible for
dividing the Bible into its modern day arrangement of
chapters and verses.

THE BEATLE BIBLE

THE STORY OF THE BEATLES AS TOLD IN WHOLLY SCRIPTURE

“The Beatles *were* a kind of a religion.”

– John Lennon

“We [The Beatles] just happened to become leaders of whatever cosmic thing was going on. We came to symbolize the start of a whole new way of thinking.”

– Paul McCartney

“The more I go into this spiritual thing, the more I realize that we- the Beatles- aren’t doing it, but that something else is doing it.”

– George Harrison

“We were honest with each other and we were honest about the music. The music was positive. It was positive in love. They did write - we all wrote - about other things, but the basic Beatles message was Love.”

– Ringo Starr

Throughout history, avatars have come forth to help mankind evolve spiritually. Jesus, the Buddha, and Lord Krishna are perhaps the most famous examples, but there have been many others.

Avatars are prophets sent by God. Like angels or Divine messengers, they bring teachings that show us what is possible when we make the right choices, but that also warn us what will happen if we continue to make the wrong ones. Avatars are blessed with good timing; they always seem to arrive just when we need them.

This is historical fiction that portrays the Beatles as spiritual avatars. In this metaphysical fantasy, four young men are chosen by God to bring a positive message of love, peace, joy, personal freedom and self-empowerment to all mankind.

What makes this story unique and perhaps controversial is that it is told entirely through scripture. This is done by re-arranging several thousand verses from different books of the Bible into a new sequence, and then adding chapter titles and explanatory notes.

The wording of the scriptures remains the same, but their interpretation is, well, open to interpretation. If you are a Bible literalist, this project may not be for you.

However, though the verses have been reimagined, the powerful spiritual truths that they convey remain intact. As spiritual beings having a temporary human experience, we can live our best life when we live it according to the timeless and universal spiritual principles found in the Bible.

Unfortunately, since the Bible also includes beliefs, rules, and practices that reflect the culture and the consciousness of people who lived thousands of years ago, many people consider it to no longer be relevant in today's society. The ways that the scriptures have been used and interpreted over time have made it a very controversial and often misunderstood collection of writings.

The Bible endures however, and at its core it continues to offer us an invaluable tool that we can use for our own personal growth and pursuit of happiness.

The Beatle Bible (The Story of the Beatles as Told in Wholly Scripture) gives Beatle fans and Truth seekers the opportunity to enjoy familiar passages from the Bible in a fresh, unique way.

With Our Love We Could Save The World

The era just before the Beatles incredible rise to fame, the Fifties and early Sixties, is a time of peace and prosperity, and things seem fine on the surface. But in Western society at least, problems such as discrimination, repression, conformity and materialism are largely ignored.

Many people feel trapped, afraid to break away from the pack and express themselves authentically. Fearful of repercussions, they cling to what is traditional,

familiar, and comfortable. Anyone that is different is looked at with suspicion.

Older white males seem to be in charge of everything, and they are comforted by the fact that people tend to behave in a controlled, predictable manner. Many of those in charge are frightened of what might happen to society if women and minorities are given more power or even just granted equal rights.

People are reluctant to explore new or different spiritual ideas and practices. Not only that, many pay little more than lip service to what Jesus has already taught two thousand years ago, that love is really all that matters.

Even popular music is getting stale, predictable. The new genre called rock and roll that originated in America has yet to fulfill its promise.

Things need to be shaken up, even if the pendulum has to move a bit too far in one direction in order to bring about change. God did not give us a spirit of fear. Joy and self-expression is our birthright. We are called for freedom, and that includes the freedom to learn the lessons and suffer the consequences from the choices that we make.

A correction is necessary. This is where the Beatles come in. Man was ready to take a leap forward in consciousness, and they helped to usher in that process.

At first, the group charmed us with their winning personalities and songs with sweet melodies and innocent lyrics. Then the Sixties exploded, and as their songs got more complex, they changed and grew like the rest of their generation.

With their music, their lifestyle, and their philosophy, The Beatles pushed boundaries, rebelled against the established order, and helped to break down the barriers between classes, races, and the sexes.

They encouraged us to pay attention to what really matters and get serious about life, but without taking *ourselves* too seriously. The wisdom that is contained in their songs could have come straight out of the Bible: enjoy your life, love each other, and make the world a better place.

The Beatles taught us how important it was to be free, to be an individual, and to express ourselves honestly. They reminded us that our creator designed each one of us uniquely, and that there is no need for us all to look or to act the same way.

When the Beatles, led by George Harrison, embraced Eastern spirituality, they reminded us that we don't have to worship the same way either.

Their relentless pursuit of excellence and innovation in performing, songwriting and recording thrilled and inspired us. Their songs made us feel good, and feeling good made our spirits soar, helping us to come into contact with the higher part of our nature that thrives on such good feelings.

Their music continues to do the same thing for a new generation of fans today.

The Story Of The Beatles

The Beatle Bible (The Story of the Beatles as Told in Wholly Scripture) is an imaginative reconstruction of actual events from the turbulent Sixties. This was a decade featuring great social change that was fueled in large part by the fresh ideas and innovative music that originated from the Beatles and their contemporaries.

In the story, John, Paul, the "third angel", and the "fourth angel" go about playing their music, touring by land and by sea, and sharing their ideas and the spiritual wisdom from their songs.

Along the way, the band members are forced to confront their own personal demons. Avatars, after all, are flawed human beings who often learn spiritual realities by carefully observing what happens when the wrong choices are made. Jesus during the last three years of his ministry would be an exception to this.

Fortunately, the angels are able to hear from a still small voice, and naturally, "Mother Mary" comes to Paul in his hour of darkness.

The scriptural essay also chronicles the resistance that the group and their youthful followers met from parents, the church, and other members of the status quo who did not embrace all of the changes in the culture that were occurring.

No "behind the music" story would be complete without sex and drugs, so that is here too. These four musicians may indeed be angels on earth with an urgent and heartfelt message to share, but they are not choirboys.

The story ends with the recording of the Beatles final album and, finally, the breakup of the group.

The World Is At Your Command

Through their own personal example, and of course by so many of their songs, the Beatles offer us hope that life can be so much more than it seems, and that despite our difficulties we can have more and do more with our lives.

The gospel according to John, Paul, George and Ringo could be summed up like this: open your heart and change your mind, and let the power of love transform you and the world that shows up around you.

Each of us has the ability to awaken to our true spiritual identity, the best part of us, and let the Universe express itself through us. Spirit always finds a way to create what it loves, so we can create the life we love when we have access to this power.

The path to real fulfillment is to learn to live from the inside out and follow our higher wisdom, rather than habitually reacting to circumstances based on our conditioning.

My intention is that as you consider and then apply the spiritual principles found in this Biblical saga, that you experience the personal growth and transformation that is awaiting you.

It is also my intention that you see the Bible not as a confusing, archaic, or divisive book, but as a friendly resource, a collection of beautiful, inspired writings that anyone can use to facilitate the unfolding of their soul.

Above all, *The Beatle Bible (The Story of the Beatles as Told in Wholly Scripture)* is a celebration. A celebration of the Bible and its timeless wisdom. A celebration of the Beatles, the band that changed everything.

And most important, a celebration of what it means to be alive. Each of us has been given a gift called life, and we get to decide what to do with it. Fortunately, others have gone before and shown us how to make choices that can bring more of our Divine purpose and potential into expression.

The party starts now. Spirit is calling, and you're invited. Come as you are. What are you waiting for?

How To Read The Beatle Bible (The Story Of The Beatles As Told In Wholly Scripture)

This is the story of the Beatles told entirely through scripture. The verses appear on the left hand side of each page, and are arranged in such a way as to tell the story of the band. No scripture is used more than once, and each passage is footnoted.

The scriptures are taken from the World English Bible, or WEB, an excellent modern translation that is available in the public domain. They are selected from the core 66 books that are found in all Christian Bibles, which includes the text from the Hebrew Bible. The verses from these books are the ones that are going to be the most familiar to people.

Some minor punctuation changes have been made to the verses for readability. Typically, this involves adding quotation marks or changing a period to a comma or vice versa. Other than that, the original Bible text is used exactly as it appears in the World English Bible.

On the right hand side of each page, the chapter and verse locations for the scriptures are given. Each chapter and verse location is in bold type, and follows a number that corresponds to a scripture on the left hand side. (e.g. ¹ **John 3:16**)

The corresponding scripture will always be found on the same page. Simply match the numbers, keeping in mind that since footnote format is used, on the left hand side the number appears *after* the scripture, but on the right hand side the number appears *before* the chapter and verse location, as above.

For many of the verses commentary is provided, and this is also found on the right hand side. Here you will find background information, quotes, and Beatle lyrics, as well as interpretation of the scriptures and the songs.

Comments that are in [*brackets*] are explanatory notes that are especially important to read in order to understand the story.

Those who are familiar with the geography of the Middle East will find that liberty has been taken with the locations of some cities and places. This is by necessity but does not compromise the basic story or the spiritual principles contained within it.

List of Characters

(In Order of Appearance)

“Saul” and “David” [Prologue]	First and second Kings of Israel
“The angels” *	The Beatles
“Daniel”	Visionary Beatles’ manager Brian Epstein
“John” (“the first angel”)	John Lennon
“Paul” (“the second angel”)	Paul McCartney
“The third angel”	George Harrison
“The fourth angel”	Ringo Starr
“The fifth angel”	Keyboardist Billy Preston
“Lot”	“Roadie” for the Beatles
“Joshua”	The man at Gilgal
“The seer” (“the old man”)	The fool on the hill
“Tabitha”	John’s lover
“Peter”	Beatle insider Peter Brown
“Elizabeth”	The woman with a fattened calf
“The woman out of the multitude”	Ringo’s lover
“The woman with an alabaster jar”	Yoko Ono
“His wife”	Cynthia Lennon (John’s first wife)

List of Characters (continued)

“Judah”	Julian Lennon
“Lydia”	Linda McCartney
“Jacob”	A Beatle fan
“Rebekah”, “Martha”, “Delilah”	George’s lovers
“Ruth”	She came in through the bathroom window
“Mary”	Mother Mary
“Jesus”	Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus the Christ

* The Beatles are also known throughout The Beatle Bible as “the prophets”, “the shepherds”, “the apostles”, “God’s sons”, the “four great animals”, the “four craftsmen”, and the “four youths.”

Prologue

A Long, Long Time Ago

BIBLE

Saul was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned over Israel forty-two years.¹

Now the Spirit of Yahweh departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from Yahweh troubled him.² Saul's servants said to him, "See now, an evil spirit from God troubles you."³

"Let our lord now command your servants who are before you, to seek out a man who is a skillful player on the harp. It shall happen, when the evil spirit from God is on you, that he shall play with his hand, and you shall be well."⁴

Saul said to his servants, "Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring him to me."⁵

David came to Saul, and stood before him. He loved him greatly; and he became his armor bearer.⁶

It happened, when the spirit from God was on Saul, that David took the harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.⁷

COMMENTARY

¹ **1 Samuel 13:2** [*The prologue to the story of the Beatles takes place in the time of Saul and David*] Saul, born circa 1079 BC, was the first King of Israel.

² **1 Samuel 16:14** Saul was being troubled by his carnal nature, the "flesh."

³ **1 Samuel 16:15**

⁴ **1 Samuel 16:16** We are energetic beings and listening to music that makes us feel good raises our vibration, connecting us to Spirit and bringing us into alignment with who we really are, a spiritual being.

⁵ **1 Samuel 16:17** Aldous Huxley: "After silence, that which comes closest to expressing the inexpressible is music."

⁶ **1 Samuel 16:21** David, born circa 1040 BC, was an accomplished singer, songwriter, and harpist before he became the second King of Israel. He is described by Scott Benarde, author of *Stars of David: Rock 'n' Roll's Jewish Stories*, as "the first Jewish rock star. He played an instrument, wrote songs, and chased after women."

⁷ **1 Samuel 16:23** Plato: "Rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul."

Chapter 1

I Will Send Them Prophets And Apostles

BIBLE

So we also, when we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental principles of the world.¹ For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.²

But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives them understanding.³ For who among men knows the things of a man, except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so, no one knows the things of God, except God's Spirit.⁴

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.⁵ Like a father has compassion on his children, so Yahweh has compassion on those who fear him.⁶

Now therefore this is what Yahweh of Armies says: "Consider your ways."⁷ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you", says Yahweh, "thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future."⁸

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with me."⁹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Galatians 4:3** Like Saul, we also are "held in bondage" when we are controlled by fear based thoughts and emotions. Lacking spiritual maturity, we try to live our lives by worldly principles rather than by spiritual principles.

² **Romans 3:23** To "sin" is to be separated from God and from His best plan for us. All of us "sin" at times and find ourselves stuck in a lower state of consciousness.

³ **Job 32:8** As spiritual beings, we can live our best life when we live it according to spiritual principles.

⁴ **1 Corinthians 2:11**

⁵ **Psalms 46:1**

⁶ **Psalms 103:13** To "fear" God is to be in awe of Divine power and to have a healthy respect and understanding of spiritual law.

⁷ **Haggai 1:5**

⁸ **Jeremiah 29:11** We live in a Universe that supports our good. Albert Einstein: "The most important question you'll ever ask is whether the Universe is a friendly place."

⁹ **Revelation 3:20** The "door" (which opens from the inside) leads to spiritual understanding. "Lead me to your door," Paul pleads in "The Long And Winding Road."

The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness; but is patient with us, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.¹⁰ For the creation waits with eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.¹¹

Therefore also the wisdom of God said, "I will send to them prophets and apostles; and some of them they will kill and persecute."¹²

For thus says the Lord Yahweh: "Behold, I myself, even I, will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.¹³ I will set up shepherds over them, who shall feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be lacking," says Yahweh.¹⁴

"I will bring the blind by a way that they don't know. I will lead them in paths that they don't know. I will make darkness light before them, and crooked places straight. I will do these things, and I will not forsake them."¹⁵

So will it be in the end of the world. The angels will come and separate the wicked from among the righteous.¹⁶ Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.¹⁷

¹⁰ **2 Peter 3:9** To "repent" is to realign ourselves with the Divine by changing our mind.

¹¹ **Romans 8:19** The truth of who we really are must be revealed to us within our own consciousness.

¹² **Luke 11:49** John, one of the four Beatle "angels" sent by God to enlighten mankind, was killed by an assassin in 1980. Jesus, John Lennon, Gandhi, and Martin Luther King Jr., each of whom died a violent and premature death, were all prophets who taught a message of peace and love.

¹³ **Ezekiel 34:11**

¹⁴ **Jeremiah 23:4**

¹⁵ **Isaiah 42:16** The path to wholeness is a long and crooked road that leads back to where it started, to God. And although the Divine will help us on every step of our journey, we will never reach the ultimate destination, freedom from the human condition, in this lifetime. Paul has "seen that road before" in "The Long And Winding Road." "Many ways I've tried," he tells us, to reach the "door" that leads to spiritual bliss. He laments, however, that in the end his efforts only lead him "back to the long and winding road," the road which "will never disappear."

¹⁶ **Matthew 13:49** The "wicked" are those who are out of alignment with their Divine self.

¹⁷ **Matthew 13:43**

Chapter 2

Yahweh Showed Me Four Craftsmen

BIBLE

Four great animals came up from the sea, diverse one from another.¹

Now as for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.²

Then these men assembled together, and found Daniel making petition and supplication before his God.³

He dreamed. Behold, a stairway set upon the earth, and its top reached to heaven. Behold, the angels of God ascending and descending on it.⁴

Then was the secret revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.⁵

Daniel spoke and said, "I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the sky broke out on the great sea.⁶ I heard a sound from heaven, like the sound of many waters, and like the sound of a great thunder. The sound which I heard was like that of harpists playing on their harps."⁷

COMMENTARY

¹ **Daniel 7:3** [*The "four great animals" that "came up from the sea" are the Beatles*] Animal names have always been popular choices for rock bands. Examples include the Byrds, the Turtles, Eagles, the Monkees, the Animals, Scorpions, Arctic Monkeys, Counting Crows, and of course the Beatles. The Beatles, who hailed from the port city of Liverpool, England, chose their name as a tribute to a favorite band of theirs, the Crickets, featuring Buddy Holly.

² **Daniel 1:17** [*"Daniel" is Brian Epstein, original manager of the Beatles*] Like the Biblical Daniel, Brian Epstein was one of the world's great Jewish visionaries.

³ **Daniel 6:11**

⁴ **Genesis 28:12** Angels of God bring heavenly ideas to earth.

⁵ **Daniel 2:19** Brian Epstein, who discovered the Beatles in November 1961 at the legendary Cavern Club in Liverpool, had a vision for the group. He saw great potential in the band, and guided them to much of their early success.

⁶ **Daniel 7:2**

⁷ **Revelation 14:2**

“Yahweh showed me four craftsmen.⁸
They sing to the tambourine and harp,
and rejoice at the sound of the pipe.⁹

“Yes, they will sing of the ways of
Yahweh; for great is Yahweh’s glory.¹⁰

“There will be no night, and they need
no lamp light; for the Lord God will
illuminate them. They will reign
forever and ever.¹¹

“Your eyes will see, and you will
say, ‘Yahweh is great—even beyond
the border of Israel!’¹² For he will put
his angels in charge of you, to guard
you in all your ways.”¹³

Then Daniel went to his house, and
made the thing known to Hananiah,
Mishael, and Azariah: his
companions.¹⁴

These great animals, which are four,
are four kings, who shall arise out of
the earth.¹⁵ They will come from the
east, west, north, and south, and will
sit down in God’s Kingdom.¹⁶

“I will strengthen them in Yahweh;
and they will walk up and down in his
name,” says Yahweh.¹⁷ “Out of them
shall proceed thanksgiving and the
voice of those who make merry; and I
will multiply them and they shall not
be few; I will also glorify them and
they shall not be small.¹⁸

⁸ **Zechariah 1:20**

⁹ **Job 21:12**

¹⁰ **Psalm 138:5** Natt Weiss, friend
and business partner of Brian
Epstein: “He had the vision to say
the Beatles would be bigger than
Elvis in 1961...He knew that the
Beatles would be bigger than
anything and he never gave up on
that.”

¹¹ **Revelation 22:5**

¹² **Malachi 1:5**

¹³ **Psalm 91:11**

¹⁴ **Daniel 2:17** Beatles producer
George Martin, on Brian Epstein:
“He had this unswerving devotion
and faith in them [The Beatles],
that they were brilliant and that
they were going to conquer the
world.”

¹⁵ **Daniel 7:17**

¹⁶ **Luke 13:29** Each Beatle will bring
his own distinct personality to the
group, and to the cause of
furthering God’s Kingdom.

¹⁷ **Psalm 148:5** Michael Smith,
The Present (With Religion): “The
Beatles themselves were like other
men, but the music and lyrics
channeled through them contained
magic and messages from beyond
the mind.”

¹⁸ **Zechariah 10:12** Philip Larkin:
“When you get to the top, there is
nowhere to go but down. But the
Beatles could not get down. There
they remain, unreachable, frozen,
fabulous.”

“They shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the common, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.¹⁹ Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.²⁰

“They will be for a sign and for a wonder to you and your offspring – forever.”²¹

Let them praise Yahweh’s name, for he commanded, and they were created.²²

As for their appearance, the four of them had one likeness, like a wheel within a wheel.²³ They had hair like women’s hair, and their teeth were like those of lions.²⁴

They had breast-plates which seemed to be made of steel; and the noise caused by their wings was like that of a vast number of horses and chariots hurrying into battle.²⁵

The first creature was like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like a man, and the fourth was like a flying eagle.²⁶

¹⁹ **Jeremiah 30:19**

²⁰ **Isaiah 35:5**

²¹ **Ezekiel 44:23**

²² **Deuteronomy 28:46** Kurt

Vonnegut: "I say in speeches that a plausible mission of artists is to make people appreciate being alive at least a little bit. I am then asked if I know of any artists who pulled that off. I reply, 'The Beatles did.'"

²³ **Ezekiel 10:10**

²⁴ **Revelation 9:8** Sinead O’ Connor:

“I have a theory that the Beatles were actually the four horsemen of the apocalypse. They changed the entire face of the planet.”

²⁵ **Revelation 9:9** The “breast-plates which seemed to be made of steel” are electric guitars. Michael Tomasky, in *Yeah Yeah Yeah*, credits the Beatles for basically inventing the “rock and roll two electric guitar sound.” Sounds affect our brain chemistry and thus our mood, and Tomasky describes the electric guitar as “the emperor of the dopamine kingdom.”

²⁶ **Revelation 4:7** John is represented by the lion, a symbol of outspoken leadership, strength and courage. Ringo is the calf; peaceful, gentle and dependent on the rest of the herd. George is the flying eagle, a symbol of strength combined with lofty spiritual values. Paul, “the cute Beatle,” has facial features distinctive from the others in this group: he has “a face like a man.”

They are joined to one another. They stick together, so that they can't be pulled apart.²⁷ Each one went straight forward: where the spirit was to go, they went; they didn't turn when they went.²⁸

And all ate the same spiritual food,²⁹ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.³⁰

Yahweh is their strength. He is a stronghold of salvation to his anointed.³¹ They change the night into day, saying "The light is near" in the presence of darkness.³²

This is the plan that is determined for the whole earth. This is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations.³³

For three things the earth tremble, and under four, it can't bear up.³⁴

²⁷ **Job 41:17** Allen Ginsberg: "The Beatles changed American consciousness."

²⁸ **Ezekiel 1:12** George: "I think we gave hope to the Beatle fans. We gave them a positive feeling that there was a sunny day ahead and that here was a good time to be had and that you are your own person and that the government doesn't own you. There were those kinds of messages in a lot of our songs."

²⁹ **1 Corinthians 10:3** Artemy Troitsky: "The Beatles, Paul, John, George and Ringo have done more for the fall of Communism than any other western institution."

³⁰ **1 Corinthians 10:4** By aligning themselves with their higher nature and letting God express through them, the Beatles drank from the rock that was Christ consciousness.

³¹ **Psalms 28:8** Jim Wentzel: "[The Beatles] changed the world's attitude toward what the younger generation could accomplish."

³² **Job 17:12** "When the night is cloudy, there is still a light that shines," the Beatles remind us in "Let It Be."

³³ **Isaiah 14:26** Paul: "There'd never been anything like the Beatles, who were about music but also about something more far-reaching."

³⁴ **Proverbs 30:21** Plato: "When the mode of the music changes, the walls of the city will shake."

Chapter 3

John

BIBLE

There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John.¹

He came and preached peace to you who were far off and to those who were near.² He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.³

The law and the prophets were until John. From that time the Good News of God's Kingdom is preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.⁴

He said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear."⁵ Don't think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I didn't come to destroy, but to fulfill.⁶ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.⁷

"Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and don't be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."⁸

COMMENTARY

¹ **John 1:6** [*John is the "first angel"*]

² **Ephesians 2:17** John was an advocate for peace. His song "Give Peace A Chance" was released in 1969, just before the Beatles broke up.

³ **John 5:35** We rejoiced for a while in John's light. His life was cut short by an assassin's bullet.

⁴ **Luke 16:16** Following rules ("the law") and listening to teachers ("the prophets") is a good place to start our spiritual journey. Our goal, however, is to go within and listen to our heart and learn how to follow our own guidance. The message of John and the Beatles is that God's Kingdom is within us. This is the good news.

⁵ **Mark 4:9** "Can you hear me?" John asks in "Rain"

⁶ **Matthew 5:17** The spiritual journey takes us from fear based obedience to love based choice.

⁷ **Romans 13:8** "Love is all you need," John reminds us in "All You Need Is Love."

⁸ **Galatians 5:1** "Christ" is our higher self, our Divine nature. Jesus was able to demonstrate and express his Divinity to such an extent that he became the Christ.

For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only don't use your freedom for gain to the flesh, but through love be servants to one another.⁹

"Don't let your heart be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me.¹⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."¹¹

"Yahweh, your God, is among you, a mighty one who will save. He will rejoice over you with joy. He will calm you in his love. He will rejoice over you with singing."¹²

"Don't seek what you will eat or what you will drink; neither be anxious."¹³ For everyone who asks receives. He who seeks finds. To him who knocks it will be opened."¹⁴

As he spoke these things, many believed in him.¹⁵ The man grew great, and grew more and more until he became very great.¹⁶

⁹ **Galatians 5:13** John reminds us in "Come Together" that we are called for freedom: "One thing I can tell you is you've got to be free." But if we are using our freedom to serve the "flesh", we are aligning with our human, carnal self.

¹⁰ **John 14:1**

¹¹ **Matthew 11:30** "It's easy, all you need is love," John reminds us in "All You Need Is Love." When we give and receive love freely, we enter into a higher level of consciousness. We are truly in the flow and life gets easier.

¹² **Zephaniah 3:17** We are "saved" when we live life as a spiritual being, allowing the Divine to express itself through us.

¹³ **Luke 12:29** "There's nothing to get hungabout," John reassures us in "Strawberry Fields Forever."

¹⁴ **Matthew 7:8** "Everything has got to be just like you want it to," John encourages us in "Dig A Pony." When we are in alignment with our Source, the door is open for us, although we still have to ask, seek and knock; making our intentions clear, being persistent, listening for guidance, and taking action.

¹⁵ **John 8:30** John: "My role in society, or any artist's or poet's role, is to try and express what we all feel. Not to tell people how to feel. Not as a preacher, not as a leader, but as a reflection of us all."

¹⁶ **Genesis 26:13**

Chapter 4

Paul

BIBLE

God worked special miracles by the hands of Paul.¹ He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of workmanship.²

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the Good News of God.³ He spoke three thousand proverbs; and his songs numbered one thousand five.⁴

His head is like the purest gold. His hair is bushy, black as a raven.⁵ His feet were like burnished brass, as if it had been refined in a furnace. His voice was like the voice of many waters.⁶

Yahweh will preserve him, and keep him alive. He shall be blessed on the earth, and he will not surrender him to the will of his enemies.⁷

He will be like a tree planted by the streams of water, that produces its fruit in its season, whose leaf also does not wither. Whatever he does shall prosper.⁸

Therefore he says, “Awake, you who sleep, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”⁹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 19:11** [*Paul is the “second angel”*]

² **Exodus 35:31**

³ **Romans 1:1**

⁴ **1 Kings 4:32** Paul is one of the most prolific and successful songwriters in history. As a Beatle and as a solo artist, he has sold over 100 million albums and over 100 million singles. 32 of the songs that he has written or co-written have reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. His songwriting partnership with John was somewhat unusual in that both of them wrote words and music, as opposed to the more typical arrangement where one person is lyricist and the other is composer.

⁵ **Song of Solomon 5:11**

⁶ **Revelation 1:15**

⁷ **Psalms 41:2**

⁸ **Psalms 1:3** Prosperity obviously includes more than just monetary wealth, but Paul is in fact the richest musician in the UK. His net worth was estimated in 2014 to be US \$660 million.

⁹ **Ephesians 5:14** “You were only waiting for this moment to arise,” Paul shares in “Blackbird.” The indwelling Christ presence must be awakened in each one of us.

“Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good, for his loving kindness endures forever.”¹⁰

“The night is far gone, and the day is near. Let’s therefore throw off the deeds of darkness, and let’s put on the armor of light.”¹¹ For you were once darkness, but are now light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.¹²

“Having eyes, don’t you see? Having ears, don’t you hear? Don’t you remember?”¹³ Were you called being a bondservant? Don’t let that bother you, but if you get an opportunity to become free, use it.”¹⁴

“You shall be blessed in the city, and you shall be blessed in the field.”¹⁵

¹⁰ **Psalm 118:1**

¹¹ **Romans 13:12** In “The Long And Winding Road,” Paul tells us that “the wild and windy night...has left a pool of tears crying for the day.”

¹² **Ephesians 5:8** In “Blackbird,” Paul encourages us to fly “into the light of the dark black night.” Light is good, it takes away the darkness.

¹³ **Mark 8:18** “Take these sunken eyes and learn to see,” Paul counsels in “Blackbird.” Paul, on the inspiration behind “Blackbird”: “I had in mind a black woman, rather than a bird. As is often the case with my things, a veiling took place...she became a bird, became symbolic, so you could apply it to your particular problem. This is one of my themes: take a sad song and make it better. ‘Empowerment’ is a good word for it.”

¹⁴ **1 Corinthians 7:21** A bondservant represents someone in bondage to the “flesh.” Paul reminds us in “Blackbird” that “you were only waiting for this moment to be free.” Embracing the light of God and of higher consciousness sets us free from the flesh. The only place to find this freedom is in *this moment* however, since God is found only in the present moment.

¹⁵ **Deuteronomy 28:3**

Chapter 5

George

BIBLE

Another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a great voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead, or on his hand,¹ you will be cursed in the city, and you will be cursed in the field.”²

“Brothers, don't be children in thoughts, yet in malice be babies, but in thoughts be mature.³ Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter end.”⁴

Behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shined with his glory.⁵ Yahweh alone led him. There was no foreign god with him.⁶

Now the natural man doesn't receive the things of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to him, and he can't know them, because they are spiritually discerned.⁷ But he who is spiritual discerns all things, and he himself is judged by no one.⁸

Yahweh's Spirit will rest on him: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yahweh.⁹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Revelation 14:9** [*George is the “third angel”*]

The “beast” is our beastly nature. A person who “worships the beast” is someone stuck in a lower state of consciousness, feeling threatened by their environment and habitually reacting to their circumstances in the way that an animal would.

² **Deuteronomy 28:16**

³ **1 Corinthians 14:20** “Although your mind's opaque, try thinking more for your own sake,” George advises us in “Think For Yourself.”

⁴ **Proverbs 19:20** George urges us to listen to counsel in “Taxman”: “Let me tell you how it will be.”

⁵ **Ezekiel 43:2** George, “the glory of the God of Israel,” embraced Eastern religion and philosophy.

⁶ **Deuteronomy 32:12**

⁷ **Romans 12:4**

⁸ **1 Corinthians 2:15** George was known as the “spiritual Beatle.” What would become a lifelong interest in Indian music and philosophy began during the filming of the Beatles movie *Help* in 1965. Two years later, he encouraged the others in the group to get involved in Transcendental Meditation.

⁹ **Isaiah 11:2**

He will not shout, nor raise his voice, nor cause it to be heard in the street,¹⁰ but his delight is in Yahweh's law. On his law he meditates day and night.¹¹

His delight will be in the fear of Yahweh. He will not judge by the sight of his eyes, neither decide by the hearing of his ears.¹²

He will dwell on high. His place of defense will be the fortress of rocks. His bread will be supplied. His waters will be sure.¹³ He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord, their God.¹⁴

"Now I will arise," says Yahweh; "Now I will lift myself up. Now I will be exalted."¹⁵ Behold, my servant whom I have chosen; my beloved in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my Spirit on him. He will proclaim justice to the nations.¹⁶

"I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will not take my loving kindness away from him, as I took it from him that was before you."¹⁷

"Behold, my servant will deal wisely. He will be exalted and lifted up, and will be very high."¹⁸ No enemy will tax him. No wicked man will oppress him.¹⁹

"Hear, and give ear; don't be proud; for Yahweh has spoken."²⁰

¹⁰ **Isaiah 42:2** George was also known as the "quiet Beatle."

¹¹ **Psalms 1:2** Meditation, along with chanting, was part of George's spiritual practice. George: "Christ said 'Seek the kingdom of heaven that lies within.' Well, [meditation] takes you to that state, that state which is the kingdom of heaven that lies within. It's within everybody."

¹² **Isaiah 11:3** To "fear" Yahweh is to be filled with awe and wonder for the power of the Divine. To "see" this power we go within. "The more I go inside, the more there is to see," George shares in "It's All Too Much."

¹³ **Isaiah 33:16**

¹⁴ **Luke 1:16** George: "The world is ready for a mystic revolution, a discovery of the God in each of us."

¹⁵ **Isaiah 33:10**

¹⁶ **Matthew 12:18**

¹⁷ **1 Chronicles 17:13**

¹⁸ **Isaiah 52:13** George: "You can be standing right in front of the truth and not necessarily see it, and people only get it when they're ready to get it."

¹⁹ **Psalms 89:22** George gets the last laugh in his social commentary "Taxman." The taxman is so oppressive that he will "tax the street," "tax your seat," "tax the heat," and even "tax your feet."

²⁰ **Jeremiah 13:15**

Chapter 6

Ringo

BIBLE

COMMENTARY

Another angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer. Much incense was given to him, that he should add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne.¹

He will not be afraid of evil news. His heart is steadfast, trusting in Yahweh.² He lays up sound wisdom for the upright. He is a shield to those who walk in integrity.³

His hands are like rings of gold set with beryl. His body is like ivory work overlaid with sapphires.⁴ His bones are like tubes of brass. His limbs are like bars of iron.⁵

But he spoke of the temple of his body:⁶ “The life of the body is a heart at peace, but envy rots the bones.”⁷ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.⁸

“Most certainly, I tell you, whoever doesn’t receive God’s Kingdom like a little child, he will in no way enter into it.”⁹

¹ **Revelation 8:3** [*The other angel is Ringo, the “fourth angel”*]

The altar is the place in our consciousness where we exchange our lower state of mind for a higher one, where we sacrifice our animal nature to the Divine.

² **Psalms 112:7** “Evil” is wrong thinking.

³ **Proverbs 2:7**

⁴ **Song Of Solomon 5:14** Ringo took his stage name in part because of the rings he wore. In the movie *Help* he is the owner of a sacrificial ring that belongs to a religious cult.

⁵ **Job 40:18**

⁶ **John 2:21**

⁷ **Proverbs 14:30**

⁸ **Matthew 5:8** When we become “pure in heart,” we do not actually “see” God; rather we are able to see things from a higher level of consciousness. We see things the way God sees them.

⁹ **Mark 10:15** “Oh what joy, for every girl and boy,” Ringo sings in “Octopus’s Garden.” Having childlike qualities such as being open, teachable, trusting, joyful and humble will help us to enter into God’s kingdom. “Octopus’s Garden” and “Yellow Submarine,” both sung by Ringo, were written as children’s songs.

“Hear, you kings! Give ear, you princes! I, even I, will sing to Yahweh. I will sing praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel,¹⁰ who comforts us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, through the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.¹¹

“I will sing to Yahweh, because he has been good to me.¹²

“When calamity overtakes you like a storm, when your disaster comes on like a whirlwind; when distress and anguish come on you,¹³ cast your burden on Yahweh, and he will sustain you. He will never allow the righteous to be moved.¹⁴

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore choose life, that you may live, you and your descendants.”¹⁵

The people shouted, “The voice of a god, and not of a man!”¹⁶ But he denied it before them all, saying, “I don’t know what you are talking about.”¹⁷

“For who is greater, one who sits at the table, or one who serves? Isn’t it he who sits at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.”¹⁸

¹⁰ **Judges 5:3** “Lend me your ears and I’ll sing you a song,” Ringo offers in “With A Little Help From My Friends.”

¹¹ **2 Corinthians 1:4** Those who have endured a difficult situation are in an excellent position to help others who are going through a similar predicament.

¹² **Psalms 13:6** Ringo: “I am truly grateful. I’m a grateful human being.”

¹³ **Proverbs 1:27** “We would be warm below the storm, in our little hideaway beneath the waves,” Ringo shares in “Octopus’s Garden.” If we cast our burden on Yahweh, we are “below the storm.”

¹⁴ **Psalms 55:22** “As we live a life of ease, every one of us has all we need,” Ringo reminds us in “Yellow Submarine.” When we are in the flow and living a life of ease, we allow the Universe to provide for us what we need.

¹⁵ **Deuteronomy 30:19** Choices have consequences. Fear based choices lead to spiritual death, but a life lived in God is real life.

¹⁶ **Acts 12:22**

¹⁷ **Matthew 26:70** Ringo: “The Beatles were just four guys that loved each other. That’s all they’ll ever be.”

¹⁸ **Luke 22:27** Marianne Williamson: “Nothing liberates our greatness like the desire to help, the desire to serve.”

Chapter 7

Go Into All The World And Preach The Good News

BIBLE

The Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, “Don't be afraid, but speak and don't be silent.”¹ What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in the ear, proclaim on the housetops.²

“My people have been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray; they have turned them away on the mountains; they have gone from mountain to hill; they have forgotten their resting place.”³ According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted. Therefore they have forgotten me.⁴

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 18:9** In this metaphysical fantasy, Paul receives a vision wherein the group is given their mission. Actually, however, it was John who had a vision in the early days of the group. He told reporters in 1961 that a man spoke to him on a “flaming pie,” telling him that from now on the name of the group would be spelled ‘Beatles’ with an ‘a’ rather than ‘Beetles.’

² **Matthew 10:27** This verse contains four Beatle “clues”: Their manager Brian Epstein discovered the group “in the darkness” at the subterranean Cavern Club; the Beatles spoke “in the light,” bringing love and light to the world and writing songs like “Good Day Sunshine” and “Here Comes the Sun”; “Let me whisper in your ear” is a lyric from one of their earliest songs “Do You Want To Know A Secret”; finally, they will “proclaim on the housetops” at their famous rooftop concert on January 30, 1969.

³ **Jeremiah 50:6** “My friends have lost their way,” George tells us in “Blue Jay Way,” using metaphor, perhaps, to describe those who have lost their way spiritually.

⁴ **Hosea 13:6**

“They have mouths, but they don’t speak. They have eyes, but they don’t see.⁵ They have ears, but they don’t hear. They have noses, but they don’t smell.⁶

“Therefore, you shepherds, hear Yahweh’s word.⁷ Cry aloud, don’t spare. Lift up your voice like a trumpet. Declare to my people their disobedience, and to the house of Jacob their sins.”⁸

He said, “Go, and tell this people, ‘You hear indeed, but don’t understand; and you see indeed, but don’t perceive.’”⁹

“For my people have forgotten me, they have burned incense to false gods; and they have been made to stumble in their ways, in the ancient paths, to walk in byways, in a way not built up.”¹⁰

“Therefore lift up the hands that hang down and the feeble knees.¹¹ Say to your brothers, ‘My people!’ and to your sisters, ‘My loved one!’”¹²

He said to them, “Go into all the world, and preach the Good News to the whole creation.¹³ Sing to him a new song. Play skillfully with a shout of joy!”¹⁴

⁵ **Psalm 115:5** John reminds us in “Strawberry Fields Forever” that “living is easy with eyes closed.”

⁶ **Psalm 115:6** Spiritual discernment requires going beyond our physical senses.

⁷ **Ezekiel 34:7** [*The Beatles are the “shepherds”*]

⁸ **Isaiah 58:2** “Sins” are error thoughts.

⁹ **Isaiah 6:9** Steve Turner, *The Gospel According to the Beatles* (2006): “The central advice of the Beatles is always to expand the consciousness...the result of opening the eyes, of freeing your mind, is that the total experience of life is enhanced.”

¹⁰ **Jeremiah 18:15** Anything that takes priority over our spiritual growth becomes a false god. This includes religious tradition.

¹¹ **Hebrews 12:12** Paul Swift, *The Beatles and Philosophy* (2006): “By eliminating the mediator between God and humanity, the Beatles were able to shake the collective consciousness of an entire generation by demanding a type of ethical responsibility that points directly back to the individual.”

¹² **Hosea 2:1**

¹³ **Mark 16:15** John: “We all want to change the world.” (“Revolution”)

¹⁴ **Psalm 33:3** Paul: “Take a sad song and make it better.” (“Hey Jude”)

“Don’t quench the Spirit.¹⁵ Rather, go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.¹⁶ Tell them, ‘As I live, says Yahweh, surely as you have spoken in my ears, so will I do to you.’¹⁷

“Come! Come! Flee from the land of the north,” says Yahweh; “for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the sky,” says Yahweh.¹⁸

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.¹⁹

“I, Yahweh, have called you in righteousness, and will hold your hand, and will keep you, and make you a covenant for the people, as a light for the nations.²⁰ I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my ordinances, and do them.”²¹

He said, “Behold, I make a covenant: before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been worked in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among which you are shall see the work of Yahweh; for it is an awesome thing that I do with you.”²²

¹⁵ **1 Thessalonians 5:19**

¹⁶ **Matthew 10:6**

¹⁷ **Numbers 14:28** Our words and thoughts have creative power; what we focus on tends to manifest.

¹⁸ **Zechariah 2:6** In the summer of 1963, the group moved from Liverpool in the North of England to London. The capital city became their base of operations as their fame spread abroad.

¹⁹ **Colossians 3:16**

²⁰ **Isaiah 42:6** Rogan Taylor, *The Death and Resurrection Show* (1985), on the Beatles: “Do we all attend their shows in order to ‘feel better’? Are we humming the songs so that we might, like the singers, get *transformed* from the ordinary world into the *extraordinary* world? If we do, we are in a church. We are attending a religious rite.”

²¹ **Ezekiel 36:27** Paul: “There’s all sorts of lucky things came together, amazing little coincidences; amazing skills added to those coincidences. It was a lot of stuff that came together to make The Beatles.”

²² **Exodus 34:10** Rock critic Greil Marcus: “The Beatles affected not only the feel but the quality of life—they deepened it, sharpened it, brightened it.”

“Let no man despise your youth; but be an example to those who believe, in word, in your way of life, in love, in spirit, in faith, and in purity.”²³

“The glory of young men is their strength. The splendor of old men is their gray hair.”²⁴ Therefore don’t throw away your boldness, which has a great reward.²⁵

“Preach the word; be urgent in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with all patience and teaching.”²⁶ Heal the sick who are therein, and tell them, ‘God’s Kingdom has come near to you.’²⁷

“Remind them of these things, charging them in the sight of the Lord, that they don’t argue about words, to no profit, to the subverting of those who hear.”²⁸ In all things showing yourself an example of good works; in your teaching showing integrity, seriousness, incorruptibility.²⁹

“Don’t rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father; the younger men as brothers.”³⁰ You shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and shall show them the way in which they must walk, and the work that they must do.³¹

²³ **1 Timothy 4:12** Richard Falkenstein and John Zeis, *The Beatles and Philosophy* (2006) : “The music of the Beatles, like all great art, is significant because it discloses certain basic truths about who and what we are as human beings and what we take to be of absolute value.”

²⁴ **Proverbs 20:29**

²⁵ **Hebrews 10:35**

²⁶ **2 Timothy 4:2** Nick Bromell, *Tomorrow Never Knows* (2000), on the Beatles: “Their music certainly did create a framework, invisible to the eyes, in which something like enlightenment was an imagined possibility.”

²⁷ **Luke 10:9** “God’s Kingdom” is a state of mind, a higher level of consciousness where we are one with the Divine. In “The Inner Light,” George reminds us that this “Kingdom” is not a physical place to go to: “Without going out of your door, you can know all things on earth.” He based these and other lyrics in the song on a translation of the Tao by Juan Mascaró entitled “Lamps of Fire.”

²⁸ **2 Timothy 2:14** In “We Can Work It Out,” the Beatles remind us that arguing is not profitable: “Life is very short, and there’s no time for fussing and fighting, my friend.”

²⁹ **Titus 2:7**

³⁰ **1 Timothy 5:1**

³¹ **Exodus 18:20**

“Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.³² For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.³³

“Tell the righteous ‘Good!’ For they shall eat the fruit of their deeds.³⁴ Command and teach these things,³⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to withstand or to contradict.³⁶

“Now there are various kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.³⁷ What is it then, brothers? When you come together, each one of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has another language, has an interpretation. Let all things be done to build each other up.³⁸

“For the body is not one member, but many.³⁹ If they were all one member, where would the body be?⁴⁰ No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.⁴¹

“Let each man stay in that calling in which he was called.⁴²

³² **Exodus 4:12**

³³ **Matthew 10:20**

³⁴ **Isaiah 3:10**

³⁵ **1 Timothy 4:11**

³⁶ **Luke 21:15**

³⁷ **1 Corinthians 12:4** Spirit has given each of us our own unique gifts to share with the world.

³⁸ **1 Corinthians 14:26** Each of the Beatles had their own talents, but it was their ability to come together synergistically as a unit that made them so successful.

³⁹ **1 Corinthians 12:14** Steven R. Covey, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* (1989): “When mutual understanding and respect is present, the spirit of synergy inevitably starts to develop. Synergy is always exciting and tenuous because you are never quite sure what it’s going lead to. All you know is that it’s going to be better than before, better than what either party could come up with themselves.”

⁴⁰ **1 Corinthians 12:19** Paul: “We’re individuals, but we make up together The Mates, which is one person. We all add something different to the whole.”

⁴¹ **1 Corinthians 12:22** George: “If you put together all the personalities of the Beatles, it worked perfectly. It was magic.”

⁴² **1 Corinthians 7:20**

“Put on therefore, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, humility, and perseverance;⁴³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, if any man has a complaint against any; even as Christ forgave you, so you also do.”⁴⁴

“I will make your name to be remembered in all generations. Therefore the peoples shall give you thanks forever and ever.”⁴⁵

“Therefore, you shepherds, hear Yahweh’s word:⁴⁶ Be careful to do all things that I have said to you; and don’t invoke the name of other gods or even let them be heard out of your mouth.⁴⁷ Don’t lift up your horn on high. Don’t speak with a stiff neck.”⁴⁸

“Now go, write it before them on a tablet, and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever.”⁴⁹ As you go, preach, saying ‘The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!’⁵⁰

“Above all these things, walk in love, which is the bond of perfection.”⁵¹

⁴³ **Colossians 3:12**

⁴⁴ **Colossians 3:13** The Beatles bore with one another to accomplish their mission despite their differences in personality and talent. Business guru and visionary Steve Jobs: “They were four guys who kept each others negative tendencies in check. They balanced each other and the total was greater than the sum parts.”

⁴⁵ **Psalm 45:17** Paul Swift, *The Beatles and Philosophy* (2006): “The Beatles were actually able to challenge an entire generation to question and think, activities which are almost always met with public hostility. Like Socrates, the Beatles vision of the world was at one time in conflict with popular religion and was met with hostility and death threats.”

⁴⁶ **Ezekiel 34:9**

⁴⁷ **Exodus 23:13**

⁴⁸ **Psalm 75:5**

⁴⁹ **Isaiah 30:8**

⁵⁰ **Matthew 10:7** Steve Turner, *The Gospel According to the Beatles* (2006): “The Beatles sought out wonder, meaning and innocence in their lives and their music...a huge international audience looked to the Beatles to find much the same thing.”

⁵¹ **Colossians 3:14**

Chapter 8

All The Earth At Rest And In Peace

BIBLE

All who heard it wondered at the things which were spoken to them by the shepherds.¹ The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world.²

The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.³ In their mouth was found no lie, for they are blameless.⁴ There are four things which are little on the earth, but they are exceedingly wise.⁵

God, who knows the heart, testified about them, giving them the Holy Spirit, just like he did to us.⁶

He sent them out to preach God's Kingdom and to heal the sick.⁷ Their voice has gone out through all the earth, their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun.⁸

They cast out many demons, and anointed many with oil who were sick, and healed them.⁹ There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.¹⁰

Fear came on every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.¹¹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Luke 2:18** [*"The shepherds" are the Beatles*]

² **John 1:9**

³ **Acts 11:21**

⁴ **Revelation 14:5**

⁵ **Proverbs 30:24**

⁶ **Acts 15:8** Maharishi Mahesh Yogi: "The Beatles were angels on earth."

⁷ **Luke 9:2**

⁸ **Psalm 19:4** Matthew Kelly: "If you want to understand any period in history, simply ask two questions: 'Who were the storytellers?' and 'What story were they telling?'"

⁹ **Mark 6:13** "Demons" are error thoughts. "Oil" represents love.

¹⁰ **Psalm 19:3** Promoter Sid Bernstein on the Beatles: "Only Hitler ever duplicated their power over crowds."

¹¹ **Acts 2:43** "Fear" in this sense of the word means awe. Among their many wonders and signs, perhaps none were more miraculous than what happened the week of April 4, 1964 when the Beatles had 12 songs, *including the entire top 5*, on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. This feat remained unmatched until the streaming era 57 years later when Drake also claimed the entire top 5 and 9 of the Hot 100's top 10.

Passing through the valley of Weeping, they make it a place of springs. Yes, the autumn rain covers it with blessings.¹² For God has put in their hearts to do what he has in mind, and to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God should be accomplished.¹³

Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, “Yahweh has done great things for them.”¹⁴

Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart.¹⁵ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men.¹⁶ The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who lived in the land of the shadow of death, on them the light has shined.¹⁷

All who believed were together, and had all things in common.¹⁸ They reported to Yahweh’s angel who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, “We have walked back and forth through the earth, and behold, all the earth is at rest and in peace.”¹⁹

“Let the field and all that is in it exult! Then all the trees of the woods shall sing for joy.”²⁰

¹² **Psalm 84:6**

¹³ **Revelation 17:17**

¹⁴ **Psalm 126:2** Producer Rick Rubin: “For me, the Beatles are proof of the existence of God.”

¹⁵ **Psalm 97:11** Bob Dylan: “They [The Beatles] were doing things nobody was doing. Their chords were outrageous, just outrageous, and their harmonies made it all valid. I knew they were pointing the direction of where music had to go.”

¹⁶ **Titus 2:11** Edna Gunderson, USA Today: “No other entertainers in history have been as popular, as influential, as important or as groundbreaking... The band hijacked the entertainment media and transcended music to become a chapter in world history. Its members had political clout, spiritual authority, cultural sway and the ears of the planet.”

¹⁷ **Isaiah 9:2**

¹⁸ **Acts 2:44**

¹⁹ **Zechariah 1:11** Nicholas Schaffner, *The Beatles Forever*: “The Beatles will be remembered not only for their considerable contribution as songwriters and recording artists, but also as the most remarkable cultural and sociological phenomenon of their time.”

²⁰ **Psalm 96:12** George: “The Beatles saved the world from boredom.”

Chapter 9

We Hope You Will Enjoy The Show

BIBLE

So the word of the Lord was growing and becoming mighty.¹

Many people assembled at Jerusalem to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great assembly.² For the king had taken counsel, and his princes, and all the assembly in Jerusalem, to keep the Passover in the second month.³

The king's servants said to the king, "Behold, your servants are ready to do whatever my lord the king chooses."⁴

Those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together as many as they found, both bad and good. The wedding was filled with guests.⁵

On the four sides were the porters, toward the east, west, north, and south.⁶

On the east were three gates; and on the north three gates; and on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.⁷

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 19:20**

² **2 Chronicles 30:13** [*People are assembling for a concert by the Beatles*]

³ **2 Chronicles 30:2** Passover celebrates the freedom of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. The liberation of our spiritual nature from the control of our mind (which the Beatles facilitated), is an ongoing process.

⁴ **2 Samuel 15:15**

⁵ **Matthew 22:10** A wedding symbolizes the union of the higher and lower nature of Man, the carnal with the spiritual. After the wedding, a new creation emerges.

⁶ **1 Chronicles 9:24** The Beatles are known as the "Fab Four." The number four represents completion and stability. There are four seasons, four directions, four elements, four temperaments, and of course four Beatles. Mammals have four limbs, most furniture has four legs, and most vehicles have four wheels. In Buddhism, there are four noble truths, and in the Bible there are four gospels.

⁷ **Revolution 21:13** Galileo: "Mathematics is the language with which God has written the Universe."

Then the king said to the wise men, who knew the times, for it was the king's custom to consult those who knew law and judgment:⁸ "Gather yourselves together, go to the right, set yourselves in array, go to the left, wherever your face is set."⁹

"After that you will come to the hill of God, where the garrison of the Philistines is; and it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the high place with a lute, a tambourine, a pipe, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying."¹⁰

He said, "Bring them here to me."¹¹

So Ahab sent to all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together to Mount Carmel.¹²

With gladness and rejoicing they shall be led. They shall enter into the king's palace.¹³

Let them praise Yahweh for his loving kindness, for his wonderful deeds to the children of men!¹⁴ Let them offer the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his deeds with singing.¹⁵

Let them praise his name in the dance! Let them sing praises to him with tambourine and harp!¹⁶

⁸ **Esther 1:13**

⁹ **Ezekiel 21:16**

¹⁰ **1 Samuel 10:5** [*The "band of prophets" are the Beatles*][*"The high place" represents an altered state of consciousness reached by using marijuana or other mind expanding drugs*] The band is warming up for the concert. Paul is offering harmonic support on the lute, a stringed instrument similar to a lyre. Ringo is on tambourine providing percussion, John is on the pipe, and George is playing the lead melody on the harp.

¹¹ **Matthew 14:18**

¹² **1 Kings 8:20**

¹³ **Psalm 45:15** In November 1963, the Beatles played for the Royal Variety Performance in London. The Queen Mother and Princess Margaret were in attendance. It was at this show that John delivered his famous line: "Will the people in the cheaper seats clap your hands? And the rest of you, if you'll just rattle your jewelry..."

¹⁴ **Psalm 107:21** The Beatles: "We're gonna have a good time." ("Birthday")

¹⁵ **Psalm 107:22** The Beatles: "We hope you will enjoy the show." ("Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band")

¹⁶ **Psalm 149:3** The Beatles: "A splendid time is guaranteed for all." ("Being For the Benefit of Mr Kite!")

Chapter 10

Sit Back And Let The Evening Go

BIBLE

The king turned his face about, and blessed all the assembly of Israel, and all the assembly of Israel stood.¹ He brought his people out with joy, his chosen with singing.²

Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, “Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen.³ Let's come before his presence with thanksgiving. Let's extol him with songs!”⁴

Now John himself wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.⁵ He summoned the multitude, and said to them, “Hear, and understand.”⁶

As the people were in expectation, and all men reasoned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he was the Christ,⁷ the third angel blew his trumpet; and there fell from Heaven a great star, which was on fire like a torch. It fell upon a third part of the rivers and upon the springs of water.⁸

COMMENTARY

¹ **1 Kings 8:14** U2 members Bono and the Edge, describing the power of rock and roll in separate interviews: [Bono] "Rock music can change things. I know that it changed our lives. Rock is really about the transcendent feeling. There's life in the form. I still think that rock music is the only music that can still get you to that eternal place where you want to start a revolution, call your mother, change your job or change your mind. I think that's what rock music can do." [The Edge] "You see, rock and roll isn't a career or hobby - it's a life force. It's something very essential."

² **Psalms 105:43**

³ **Acts 13:16**

⁴ **Psalms 95:2** "It's wonderful to be here, it's certainly a thrill," announces the Sgt. Pepper "band" in "Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band." Gratitude is a powerful spiritual tool.

⁵ **Matthew 3:4**

⁶ **Matthew 15:10**

⁷ **Luke 3:15** In 1966, John made his statement suggesting the Beatles were more popular than Jesus.

⁸ **Revelation 8:10** [*"The third angel" is George*]

The fourth angel sounded, and one third of the sun was struck, and one third of the moon, and one third of the stars; so that one third of them would be darkened, and the day wouldn't shine for one third of it, and the night in the same way.⁹

The fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from the sky which had fallen to the earth. The key to the pit of the abyss was given to him.¹⁰

They sang to one another in praising and giving thanks to Yahweh, "For he is good, for his loving kindness endures forever toward Israel." All the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised Yahweh, because the foundation of the house of Yahweh was laid.¹¹

"Praise Yahweh, you angels of his, who are mighty in strength, who fulfill his word, obeying the voice of his word.¹² Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all his army!"¹³

"Raise a song, and bring here the tambourine, the pleasant lyre with the harp.¹⁴ Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet! Praise him with harp and lyre!¹⁵ Praise him with loud cymbals! Praise him with resounding cymbals!"¹⁶

"Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice! Let them say among the nations, 'Yahweh reigns!'"¹⁷

⁹ **Revelation 8:12** [**"The fourth angel" is Ringo**] If you take away one third of 1,000, which represents perfection in the Bible*, you are left with 666, which symbolizes man and our beastly nature. Our task on our journey back to the light is to restore the one third that has been darkened. And since progress is often "two steps forward one step back," one third of every step we take may be in the wrong direction. The Beatles can help us on our long and winding road. (*In Revelation, we are told that those in Heaven lived with Christ for a thousand years)

¹⁰ **Revelation 9:1** [**The "fifth angel" is keyboardist Billy Preston**] The mythical title of "fifth Beatle" has been bestowed to several different individuals, including Billy Preston, former members Pete Best and Stu Sutcliffe, producer George Martin, and manager Brian Epstein. Preston performed with the Beatles at their rooftop concert.

¹¹ **Ezra 3:11** Plato: "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."

¹² **Psalm 103:20** Edgar Winter: "Music is very spiritual, it has the power to bring people together."

¹³ **Psalm 148:2**

¹⁴ **Psalm 81:2**

¹⁵ **Psalm 150:3**

¹⁶ **Psalm 150:5**

¹⁷ **1 Chronicles 16:31**

The Jews had light, gladness, joy, and honor.¹⁸ They gave them drinks in golden vessels of various kinds, including royal wine in abundance, according to the bounty of the king.¹⁹ They send forth their little ones like a flock. Their children dance.²⁰

It happened, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking Yahweh; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised Yahweh, [saying], “For he is good; for his loving kindness endures forever!” that then the house was filled with a *cloud*, even the house of Yahweh.²¹

However the high places were not taken away: the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.²² The foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.²³

“Come,” [say they], “I will get wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and tomorrow shall be as this day, [a day] great beyond measure.”²⁴

Others, mocking, said, “They are filled with new wine.”²⁵ Wine is a mocker, and beer is a brawler. Whoever is led astray by them is not wise.²⁶

¹⁸ **Esther 8:16**

¹⁹ **Esther 1:7**

²⁰ **Job 21:11** “Everybody let their hair down,” John observes in “I’ve Got A Feeling.”

²¹ **2 Chronicles 5:13** The “cloud” is the presence of God.

²² **2 Kings 15:4** Incense enjoyed a resurgence of popularity in the Sixties, as pot smokers started to use it to mask the pungent aroma when they were in “the high places.”

²³ **Isaiah 6:4** In the Sixties, smoking marijuana to reach the “high places” became as socially acceptable as drinking alcohol. But the experience was very different. Rather than just hold one’s own glass, pot smokers passed a joint as a shared ritual. Getting stoned tended to make users mellow and insightful, rather than loud and aggressive as alcohol often did. Of course, many young people combined both marijuana and alcohol, as well as other drugs, for an even more intense and pleasurable high.

²⁴ **Isaiah 56:12** In “Getting Better,” the Beatles announce that “it’s getting better all the time.” An optimistic attitude keeps us in alignment with our true self. William James: “Pessimism leads to weakness, optimism to power.”

²⁵ **Acts 2:13**

²⁶ **Proverbs 20:1**

“For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither like the green herb.²⁷ If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him; for God’s temple is holy, which you are.”²⁸

So the steward took away their dainties, and the wine that they should drink, and gave them pulse.²⁹ He called the porters; and they told it to the king's household within.³⁰

The disciples of John told him about all these things.³¹ He cried with a loud voice, as a lion roars. When he cried, the seven thunders uttered their voices.³² “Have we no right to eat and to drink?”³³ For these aren't drunken, as you suppose, seeing it is only the third hour of the day!³⁴

“A feast is made for laughter, and wine makes the life glad; and money is the answer for all things.³⁵ Give strong drink to him who is ready to perish; and wine to the bitter in soul.”³⁶

“God said, ‘Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree, which bears fruit yielding seed. It will be your food.’³⁷ Every moving thing that lives will be food for you. As I gave you the green herb, I have given everything to you.”³⁸

²⁷ **Psalm 37:2** [*“Herb” is slang for marijuana*]

²⁸ **1 Corinthians 3:17** Anonymous Anti-drug slogan: “The only Pot you should be looking for is at the end of the rainbow.”

²⁹ **Daniel 1:16** “Dainties” are rich, tasty delicacies. “Pulse” is simple, cooked seeds.

³⁰ **2 Kings 7:11**

³¹ **Luke 7:18** Disciples” are followers of a group or an individual

³² **Revelation 10:3**

³³ **1 Corinthians 9:4**

³⁴ **Acts 2:15**

³⁵ **Ecclesiastes 10:19**

³⁶ **Proverbs 31:6** Frank Sinatra: “Alcohol may be man’s worst enemy, but the Bible says love your enemy.”

³⁷ **Genesis 1:29** Willie Nelson: “I think people need to be educated to the fact that marijuana is not a drug. Marijuana is an herb and a flower. God put it here. If He put it here and He wants it to grow, what gives the government the right to say that God is wrong?”

³⁸ **Genesis 9:3** Carl Sagan: “The illegality of cannabis is outrageous, an impediment to full utilization of a drug which helps produce the serenity and insight, sensitivity and fellowship so desperately needed in this increasingly mad and dangerous world.”

“God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, a sixth day.”³⁹

Afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the book of the law.⁴⁰

The book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He opened the book, and found the place where it was written,⁴¹ “And behold, joy and gladness, killing cattle and killing sheep, eating flesh and drinking wine: *Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we will die!*”⁴²

The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!”⁴³ But they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and rushed at him with one accord.⁴⁴ “He who loves pleasure shall be a poor man. He who loves wine and oil shall not be rich.”⁴⁵

But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you don't know about.”⁴⁶ There is nothing better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and make his soul enjoy good in his labor. This also I saw, that it is from the hand of God.”⁴⁷

³⁹ **Genesis 1:31** The Buddha: “If we could see the miracle of a single flower clearly, our whole life would change.”

⁴⁰ **Joshua 8:34**

⁴¹ **Luke 4:17**

⁴² **Isaiah 22:13** “Dig it, dig it, dig It,” John tells us in “Dig It.” His advice is just to enjoy everything.

⁴³ **John 7:46**

⁴⁴ **Acts 7:57**

⁴⁵ **Proverbs 21:17**

⁴⁶ **John 4:32**

⁴⁷ **Ecclesiastes 2:24** John once said: “I’ve always needed a drug to survive.” Drugs, mainly speed, marijuana, and LSD, had a big influence on the Beatles music, philosophy and lifestyle. And in turn, their use and implicit endorsement of those same drugs, especially marijuana and LSD, affected society itself. Before the Sixties were over, the influence of drugs was everywhere.

Even the interest in new and different spiritual practices that began during this period was inspired in part by the use of mind altering drugs. Robin Richman wrote in *Life Magazine*: “In many ways the counterculture was about altered states of consciousness, which really meant drugs. That led to a number of changes in the sixties.”

He told them a parable. "See the fig tree, and all the trees."⁴⁸ The trees said to the vine, "Come and reign over us."⁴⁹ The vine said to them, "Should I leave my new wine, which cheers God and man, and go to wave back and forth over the trees?"⁵⁰

"Go your way--eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted your works."⁵¹

He received a cup, and when he had given thanks, he said, "Take this, and share it among yourselves."⁵² Be no longer a drinker of water only, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities."⁵³

He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave to them, saying, "All of you drink it."⁵⁴ Whether therefore you eat, or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God!"⁵⁵

Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared; for today is holy to our Lord. Don't be grieved; for the joy of Yahweh is your strength."⁵⁶

"Let us lift up our heart with our hands to God in the heavens."⁵⁷ Oh clap your hands, all you nations. Shout to God with the voice of triumph!"⁵⁸

⁴⁸ **Luke 21:29**

⁴⁹ **Judges 9:12**

⁵⁰ **Judges 9:13**

⁵¹ **Ecclesiastes 9:7**

⁵² **Luke 22:17** "Take a drink from his special cup," John recommends in "Doctor Robert." "Doctor Robert" was an actual physician practicing in Manhattan who gave injections of speed to his affluent clients. The Doctor "helps you to understand." His prescriptions "pick you up," make you "a new and better man," and leave you "feeling fine."

⁵³ **1 Timothy 5:23**

⁵⁴ **Matthew 26:27**

⁵⁵ **1 Corinthians 10:31**

⁵⁶ **Nehemiah 8:10** All of the Beatles experimented with LSD.

[John] "God isn't in a pill, but LSD explained the mystery of life. It was a religious experience." [Paul] "I don't recommend it. It can open a few doors, but it's not any answer. You go out and get the answers yourself." [George] "LSD isn't a real answer. It doesn't give you anything. It enables you to see a lot of possibilities that you may never have noticed before, but it isn't the answer." [Ringo] "I think it was very important at the time. I'm glad I took it. I don't ask anyone else to take it because I took it- because that's the problem we have."

⁵⁷ **Lamentations 3:41**

⁵⁸ **Psalms 47:1**

Chapter 11

We're Sorry But It's Time To Go

BIBLE

All the assembly worshiped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded; all this [continued] until the burnt offering was finished.¹

When they had finished offering, the king and all who were present with him bowed themselves and worshiped.² The four living creatures said, "Amen!" The elders fell down and worshiped.³

John answered, "A man can receive nothing, unless it has been given him from heaven.⁴ Therefore do what we tell you. We have four men who have taken a vow.⁵ But I hope that you will know that we aren't disqualified!"⁶

The elders have ceased from the gate, the young men from their music.⁷ They loaded their donkeys with their grain, and departed from there.⁸

All the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.⁹ They broke down the pillar of Baal, and broke down the house of Baal, and made it a latrine, to this day.¹⁰

COMMENTARY

¹ **2 Chronicles 29:28**

² **2 Chronicles 29:29**

³ **Revelation 5:14** [*The "four living creatures" are the Beatles*]

⁴ **John 3:27**

⁵ **Acts 21:23**

⁶ **2 Corinthians 13:6** At the end of the Beatles legendary rooftop concert John declares "Thank you on behalf of the group and I hope we passed the audition!" Despite not having played together before a live audience for almost two and a half years, the Beatles performance that day was so good that three of the songs were recorded intact and later used for the *Let it Be* studio album.

⁷ **Lamentations 5:14**

⁸ **Genesis 42:26**

⁹ **Nehemiah 8:12** George: "The world used us as an excuse to go mad."

¹⁰ **2 Kings 10:27** "Baal" represents the belief that our source of supply is in the *out-er* world, the world we can see with our senses. After hearing the life changing message from the angels that God is our source, the people have decided the "house of Baal" is no longer needed, and have converted it into an *out-house*.

They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.¹¹ How attractive and beautiful they will be! Grain will make the young men thrive, and new wine the young women.¹²

They all ate, and were filled. They took up seven baskets full of the broken pieces that were left over.¹³ So the people rested on the seventh day.¹⁴

After the seven days, the floodwaters came on the earth.¹⁵ However the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.¹⁶

Then Israel sang this song: “Spring Up, Well! Sing To It,”¹⁷ a prayer of Habakkuk, the prophet, set to victorious music.¹⁸ Those who sing as well as those who dance say, “All my springs are in you.”¹⁹

When the ark of Yahweh’s covenant came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang again.²⁰

The whole assembly took counsel to keep another seven days; and they kept another seven days with gladness.²¹

¹¹ **Daniel 5:4**

¹² **Zechariah 9:17** “How does it feel to be one of the beautiful people?” John asks in “Baby You’re A Rich Man.” “The beautiful people” were supposedly enlightened young people who dropped out of conventional society in the Sixties. Their lifestyle was fueled in part by the music that the Beatles and their contemporaries were creating.

¹³ **Matthew 15:37**

¹⁴ **Exodus 16:30**

¹⁵ **Genesis 7:10**

¹⁶ **2 Kings 12:3** In the Sixties, many young people experimented with mind altering drugs as a way to reach the “kingdom within” and experience, at least temporarily, a deep sense of inner joy, peace and oneness. The connection between going to the “high places” and reaching higher consciousness is undeniable. Teachers recommend, however, that at some point a seeker abandon the use of drugs as a spiritual tool, because of their adverse side effects and also the fact that the person is relying on something outside of himself to achieve a natural internal state.

¹⁷ **Numbers 21:17**

¹⁸ **Habakkuk 3:1**

¹⁹ **Psalms 87:7**

²⁰ **1 Samuel 4:5** The “ark of the covenant,” a sacred and holy thing, represents the Divine spark in man.

²¹ **2 Chronicles 30:23**

Chapter 12

Trouble With The Elders

BIBLE

Then rose up certain of the elders of the land, and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying:¹
“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves.”²

“It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.”³

“Thus says the Lord Yahweh, Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!⁴
Behold, these are the wicked. Being always at ease, they increase in riches.”⁵

“For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as Christ’s apostles.”⁶ The harp, lyre, tambourine, and flute, with wine, are at their feasts; but they don’t respect the work of Yahweh, neither have they considered the operation of his hands.”⁷

COMMENTARY

¹ **Jeremiah 26:17**

² **Matthew 7:15** David J. Stewart: “The Beatles deceitfully came to America as decent looking young men, but then led a generation of America’s youth to become hippies, drug addicts, rebels, sexual degenerates and God-haters.”

³ **Ecclesiastes 7:5**

⁴ **Ezekiel 13:3** [*The “foolish prophets” are the Beatles*]

⁵ **Psalms 73:12**

⁶ **2 Corinthians 11:13**

⁷ **Isaiah 5:12** The Sixties was a decade of great social change. The innovative music that the Beatles and their peers created helped to inspire a spirit of rebellion from young people. Musicians became spokespersons for a whole new way of thinking. “We were all on this ship- a ship going to discover the New World, and the Beatles were in the crow’s nest,” John recalled. Not everyone was on board however. Many of the “elders,” including parents, teachers, government leaders, and religious authorities, condemned what they saw as excess and felt that society was headed in the wrong direction. They urged a return to more traditional values.

“Though they say, ‘As Yahweh lives;’ surely they swear falsely.⁸ Many will follow their immoral ways, and as a result, the way of the truth will be maligned.⁹

“It will happen in that day, that the prophets will each be ashamed of his vision, when he prophesies; neither will they wear a hairy mantle to deceive.¹⁰

“Now therefore, behold, Yahweh has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these your prophets; and Yahweh has spoken evil concerning you.¹¹

“Because you have burned incense, and because you have sinned against Yahweh, and have not obeyed the voice of Yahweh, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil has happened to you, as it is this day.¹²

“To what then will I liken the people of this generation? What are they like?¹³ They are all grievous rebels, going about with slanders; they are brass and iron: they all of them deal corruptly.¹⁴

“These are wells without water, clouds driven by a storm; for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved forever.¹⁵ These have one mind, and they give their power and authority to the beast.¹⁶

⁸ **Jeremiah 5:2**

⁹ **2 Peter 2:2**

¹⁰ **Zechariah 13:4** [“*The prophets are the Beatles*”]

¹¹ **2 Chronicles 18:22**

¹² **Jeremiah 44:23**

¹³ **Luke 7:31** The “baby boomer” generation is generally described as including anyone born between 1946 and 1964. The Beatles, who were all born between 1940 and 1943, were like cool, older brothers to the baby boomers. They helped to foster their growing irreverence and distrust of authority.

¹⁴ **Jeremiah 6:28** Robert Bork, from *Slouching Towards Gomorrah* (1996): “Every new generation constitutes a wave of savages who must be civilized by their families, schools, and churches. An exceptionally large generation can swamp the institutions responsible for teaching traditions and standards...The baby boomers were a generation so large that they formed their own culture rather than being assimilated into the existing one.”

¹⁵ **2 Peter 2:17** William Rusher: “The young have always had, and probably will always have, a natural hankering for a less demanding, more accommodating world - a world in which the charms of irresponsibility are not so harshly penalized.” (*Natl. Review*)

¹⁶ **Revelation 17:13**

“If a man walking in a spirit of falsehood lies: ‘I will prophesy to you of wine and of strong drink’; he would be the prophet of this people.¹⁷

“These are they who cause divisions, and are sensual, not having the Spirit,¹⁸ whose end is destruction, whose god is the belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who think about earthly things.¹⁹

“There is a generation that curses their father, and doesn’t bless their mother.²⁰ There is a generation that is pure in their own eyes, yet are not washed from their filthiness.²¹

“For some of these are people who creep into houses, and take captive gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts.²² For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.²³

“Their wine is the poison of serpents, The cruel venom of asps.²⁴ The wild donkeys stand on the bare heights, they pant for air like jackals; their eyes fail, because there is no herbage.²⁵

¹⁷ **Micah 2:11** Jack Newfield, from an article in *Nation* (1967): “The hippies will not change America because change means pain, and the hippie subculture is rooted in the pleasure principle.”

¹⁸ **Jude 1:19**

¹⁹ **Philippians 3:19**

²⁰ **Proverbs 30:11** The baby boomer generation had such an impact that, in 1966, they were named Time Magazine’s “Man Of The Year.”

²¹ **Proverbs 30:12** David Farber, from *The Sixties: From Memory to History* (1994): “Many protesters in the Sixties shouted and claimed the right to speak for all. They often revealed contempt for working people.”

²² **2 Timothy 3:6** Camille Piglia: “My generation of the Sixties, with all our great ideals, destroyed liberalism, because of our excesses.”

²³ **Proverbs 4:17**

²⁴ **Deuteronomy 32:33** Politician Gary Bauer: “[The decade] was a disaster for our core social values. The growing embrace of moral relativism led to increasing rates of out of wedlock births, marital break-up, venereal disease, etc.”

²⁵ **Jeremiah 14:6** Conservative author Craig Shirley: “So many of the libertine attitudes about abortion, illicit behavior, homosexuality, and drug use find their seeds in the sixties.”

“Yet in the same way, these also in their dreaming defile the flesh, despise authority, and slander celestial beings,²⁶ being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, malice; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil habits; secret slanderers,²⁷ backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents.²⁸

“Let them be disappointed and dismayed forever. Yes, let them be confounded and perish.²⁹ For it is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the law of Yahweh.³⁰

“Cut off your hair, [Jerusalem], and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on the bare heights; for Yahweh has rejected and forsaken the generation of his wrath.³¹

“Wake up, you drunkards, and weep! Wail, all you drinkers of wine, because of the sweet wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.³²

“Isn't your wickedness great? Neither is there any end to your iniquities?”³³

The apostles and the elders were gathered together to see about this matter.³⁴

²⁶ **Jude 1:8** Richard Rovere, *NY Times Magazine* (1969) “It has been an awful decade...a slum of a decade.”

²⁷ **Romans 1:29** Former Senator Rick Santorum: “You can tell if you were a liberal or a conservative if you thought the Sixties were a good or a bad decade.”

²⁸ **Romans 1:30** David Chalmers, from *And The Crooked Places Made Straight* (1991): “The 1960’s was particularly marked to the extent by which this strategy [of raising people’s consciousness to effect social change] emerged as the chosen path.”

²⁹ **Psalms 83:17**

³⁰ **Deuteronomy 32:5**

³¹ **Jeremiah 7:29** Ralph Gleason, from a 1968 article in *Ramparts*: “At no time in American history has youth possessed the strength it possesses now. Trained by music and linked by music, it has the power for good to change the world.”

³² **Joel 1:5**

³³ **Job 22:5** Henry Steele Commager: “America was born of revolt, flourished in dissent, became great through experimentation.”

³⁴ **Acts 15:6** Abbie Hoffman: “Sure we were young. We were arrogant. We were ridiculous. There were excesses. We were brash. We were foolish. We had factional fights. But we were right.”

Chapter 13

Away From The Noise Of Your Songs!

BIBLE

It happened in the morning, that their rulers, elders, and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem.¹

“My son, listen to your father's instruction, and don't forsake your mother's teaching.² You shall observe to do all the statutes and the ordinances which I set before you this day.³

“He who keeps the commandment keeps his soul, but he who is contemptuous in his ways shall die.⁴ An evil man seeks only rebellion; therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.⁵

“Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those who exist are ordained by God.⁶

“Whoever despises instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command will be rewarded.⁷

“Children, obey your parents in all things, for this pleases the Lord.⁸ Servants, be in subjection to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the wicked.⁹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 4:5** Salman Rushdie: “Rock and roll music – the music of freedom frightens people and unleashes all manner of conservative defense mechanisms.”

² **Proverbs 1:8**

³ **Deuteronomy 11:32** Timothy Leary: “Think for yourself and question authority.”

⁴ **Proverbs 19:16**

⁵ **Proverbs 17:11**

⁶ **Romans 13:1**

⁷ **Proverbs 13:13** Respect for authority, purity, and loyalty are the most important moral values for Christians who interpret the Bible literally, according to a 2015 study published in the journal *Personality and Individual Differences*. The same study found that Christians who interpret the Bible metaphorically however are more likely to place a higher priority on values such as fairness and care.

⁸ **Colossians 3:20** Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: “There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings.”

⁹ **1 Peter 2:18** The Dalai Lama: “The ultimate authority must always rest with the individual's own reason and critical analysis.”

“In all hard work there is profit, but the talk of the lips leads only to poverty.¹⁰ By the sweat of your face will you eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For you are dust, and to dust you shall return.¹¹

“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps.¹²

“Wives, be in subjection to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.¹³ For man is not from woman, but woman from man.¹⁴ A wife is bound by law for as long as her husband lives; but if the husband is dead, she is free to be married to whoever she desires, only in the Lord.¹⁵

“Now she who is a widow indeed, and desolate, has her hope set on God, and continues in petitions and prayers night and day.¹⁶ But she who gives herself to pleasure is dead while she lives.¹⁷

“Let a woman learn in quietness with all subjection.¹⁸ If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home, for it is shameful for a woman to chatter in the assembly.¹⁹ But I don't permit a woman to teach, nor to exercise authority over a man, but to be in quietness.²⁰

¹⁰ **Proverbs 14:23**

¹¹ **Genesis 3:19** The belief that we have to be miserable first before we can be happy is just another idea that has been forced upon us by our conditioning. In “Girl” John questions whether this belief has any validity: “Was she told when she was young that pain would lead to pleasure. Will she still believe it when he's dead?” John: “[I was] trying to say something or other about Christianity...I was just talking about Christianity in that- a thing like you have to be tortured to attain heaven.”

¹² **1 Peter 2:21** Pain can help motivate us to look for relief, but this is not the only way to become enlightened. Suffering can be part of our spiritual path, but so can joy.

¹³ **Colossians 3:18** The Beatles, with their music and philosophy, helped to promote the cause of women and minorities, who were starting to demand more freedom and rights in the Sixties. This was a challenge to those in authority who wanted to protect the status quo.

¹⁴ **1 Corinthians 11:8**

¹⁵ **1 Corinthians 7:39**

¹⁶ **1 Timothy 5:5**

¹⁷ **1 Timothy 5:6**

¹⁸ **1 Timothy 2:11**

¹⁹ **1 Corinthians 14:35**

²⁰ **1 Timothy 2:12**

“In the same way, that women also adorn themselves in decent clothing, with modesty and propriety; not just with braided hair, gold, pearls, or expensive clothing.²¹

“A woman shall not wear men's clothing, neither shall a man put on women's clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to Yahweh your God.²²

“I desire therefore that the men in every place pray, lifting up holy hands without anger and doubting.²³ Neither shall they shave their heads, nor allow their locks to grow long; they shall only cut off the hair of their heads.²⁴

“Flee sexual immorality! Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.²⁵

“Know this for sure, that no sexually immoral person, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and God.²⁶

²¹ **1 Timothy 2:9** The Beatles had a tremendous influence on fashion and hair styles, challenging existing ideas of what was appropriate. They inspired young people to grow their hair longer and wear more colorful and expressive clothing, first with their mod suits and Prince Valiant hairdos, then later in the decade with their hairy, bearded, more casual “hippie” look.

²² **Deuteronomy 22:5** John’s “Polythene Pam” is “good looking but she looks like a man.”

²³ **1 Timothy 2:8**

²⁴ **Ezekiel 44:20** When young men started to wear their hair longer, many parents considered this a sign of disobedience.

²⁵ **1 Corinthians 6:18** The Beatles helped to bring about the “sexual revolution” that began in the Sixties. People started to reconsider what was morally and socially acceptable. More conservative members of society did not welcome this discussion, and often used the Bible itself to argue for maintaining existing standards of behavior.

²⁶ **Ephesians 5:5** English poet and philosopher Herbert Read: “Morality, as has often been pointed out, is antecedent to religion-it even exists in a rudimentary form among animals.”

“If a man lies with a male, as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.”²⁷

“Or don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's Kingdom? Don't be deceived. Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor male prostitutes, nor homosexuals,²⁸ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor slanderers, nor extortioners, will inherit God's Kingdom.”²⁹

“Don't be drunken with wine, in which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.”³⁰ Prostitution, wine, and new wine take away understanding.³¹

“Woe to him who gives his neighbor drink, pouring your inflaming wine until they are drunk, so that you may gaze at their naked bodies!”³²

“Woe to those who rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; who stay late into the night, until wine inflames them!”³³ Let burning coals fall on them. Let them be thrown into the fire, into miry pits, from where they never rise.³⁴

“Take away from me the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps.”³⁵

²⁷ **Leviticus 20:13** Trevor D.

Richardson: “How can we pick and choose which parts of the Bible to follow? One thing is God's will and another is just cultural differences? What if it's all cultural? What if homosexuality or saving yourself for marriage is as outdated as women staying silent in church or Leviticus forbidding tattoos?” (From *Dystopis Boy: The Unauthorized Files*)

²⁸ **1 Corinthians 6:9** Conan O'

Brien: “Rev. Pat Robertson says that if more states legalize gay marriage, God will destroy America. He did say that afterwards, gays will come in and do a beautiful renovation.”

²⁹ **1 Corinthians 6:10** H.L. Mencken: “Puritanism – the haunting fear that someone, somewhere may be happy.”

³⁰ **Ephesians 5:18**

³¹ **Hosea 4:11** Many blamed the Beatles for much of the increase in drug use by young people in the Sixties.

³² **Habakkuk 2:15** David Horowitz: “The sixties are responsible for the AIDS epidemic.”

³³ **Isaiah 5:11** Don Irvine: “[The Sixties] tore the fabric of America with this drug culture and the free love stuff... We're still fighting a lot of these moral issues today.”

³⁴ **Psalms 140:10**

³⁵ **Amos 5:23**

Chapter 14

Paul Responds To The Elders

BIBLE

Paul stood in the middle of the Areopagus, and said, “You men of Athens, I perceive that you are very religious in all things.¹ What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”²

“Open your hearts to us. We wronged no one. We corrupted no one. We took advantage of no one.³ For you remember, brothers, our labor and travail; for working night and day, that we might not burden any of you, we preached to you the Good News of God.”⁴

“We are therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.⁵ Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all wrongs.”⁶

They listened to him until he said that; then they lifted up their voice, and said, “Rid the earth of this fellow, for he isn't fit to live!”⁷

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 17:22** Paul, compared to John, tends to be more sensible, agreeable, optimistic, and light hearted. He is sensitive to the emotional needs of other people, but unlike John has a tendency to repress his own feelings.

² **Romans 8:31** Paul: “I am the eternal optimist. No matter how rough it gets, there's always light somewhere. The rest of the sky may be cloudy, but that little bit of blue draws me on.”

³ **2 Corinthians 7:2** Paul: “I do have a belief in goodness, a good spirit. I think what people have done with religion is personified good and evil, so good's become God with ‘o’ out, and evil's become Devil with a ‘d’ added. That's my theory of religion.”

⁴ **1 Thessalonians 2:9** In “A Hard Days Night,” the Beatles have been “working like a dog.”

⁵ **2 Corinthians 5:20** To do something “on behalf of Christ” means to do it in love, in the awareness of the Christ spirit.

⁶ **Proverbs 10:12** In “Here, There and Everywhere,” Paul reminds us that “love is to share” and that “love never dies.”

⁷ **Acts 22:22**

Likewise the chief priests also mocking, with the scribes, the Pharisees, and the elders, said⁸ “Doesn't even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him?”⁹

But Paul said, “I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city. I beg you, allow me to speak to the people.”¹⁰ We are of God. He who knows God listens to us. He who is not of God doesn't listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.”¹¹

All who sat in the council, fastening their eyes on him, saw his face like it was the face of an angel.¹² However they did not listen, but they did what they did before.¹³

They asked him, “Tell us: by what authority do you do these things? Or who is giving you this authority?”¹⁴ He asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, “His name is John.” They all marveled.¹⁵

⁸ **Matthew 27:41**

⁹ **1 Corinthians 11:14**

¹⁰ **Acts 21:39** Timothy Leary once described the mission of Paul and the Beatles like this: “Put yourself, if you will, in God's place. Christ! What a mess down there. Time for another avatar. Another Divine intervention to loosen things up and restore the beauty and laughter and harmony of the natural order. You gotta come back down and cool off the feverish planet.”

¹¹ **1 John 4:6** Timothy Leary: “I declare that the Beatles are mutants. Prototypes of evolutionary agents sent by God, endowed with a mysterious power to create a new human species, a young race of laughing freemen... Joyful young messiahs who dispel our fears and charm us back into the pagan dance of harmony... Holy minstrels. Electronic instruments of the divine current... Wise, slick Divinity agents who come along exactly when we need to be reminded about what's happening.”

¹² **Acts 6:15**

¹³ **2 Kings 17:40**

¹⁴ **Luke 20:2**

¹⁵ **Luke 1:63** John, the founder and original leader of the group, was the one individual in the band that all of the other members looked up to.

Chapter 15

John Responds To The Elders

BIBLE

In those days, John the Baptizer came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying¹ “Jerusalem, wash your heart from wickedness, that you may be saved. How long shall your evil thoughts lodge within you?”²

Then the earth shook and trembled. The foundations of heaven quaked and were shaken, because he was angry.³

He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts. For that which is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.”⁴

“How long will you speak these things? Shall the words of your mouth be a mighty wind? ⁵You offspring of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.”⁶

“You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit! As your fathers did, so you do.”⁷ You received the law as it was ordained by angels, and didn’t keep it!⁸

COMMENTARY

¹ **Mathew 3:1**

² **Jeremiah 4:14** The “baptizer” washes away “evil thoughts” (wrong thinking) so that we may be “saved” (rescued from the human condition).

³ **2 Samuel 22:8**

⁴ **Luke 16:15** John: “If someone thinks that love and peace is a cliché that must have been left behind in the Sixties, that’s his problem. Love and peace are eternal.”

⁵ **Job 8:2** John could be very kind and thoughtful, and he promoted a message of peace and love. But when his pain and insecurity got the best of him, he was often angry and abusive, lashing out at anyone he felt threatened by.

⁶ **Matthew 12:34** John’s songs often sent a message to those whom he felt were not as aware or as intelligent as he was. “You don’t get me,” he bemoans in “And Your Bird Can Sing.” “Can you see me at all?” he asks in “Nowhere Man.”

⁷ **Acts 7:51** In “Baby You’re A Rich Man,” the overly cautious are “tuned to a natural E, happy to be that way.” A natural E is one of the easiest notes to play in music.

⁸ **Acts 7:53**

“So then, have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?⁹ Don't rejoice against me, my enemy. When I fall, I will arise. When I sit in darkness, Yahweh will be a light to me.¹⁰

“Show me your ways, Yahweh. Teach me your paths.¹¹ The proud have smeared a lie upon me. With my whole heart, I will keep your precepts.¹²

“I understand more than the aged, because I have kept your precepts.¹³ I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation.¹⁴

“Depart from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my God.¹⁵ Don't think that I came to send peace on the earth. I didn't come to send peace, but a sword.¹⁶

“Why don't you understand my speech? Because you can't hear my word.¹⁷ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of my mouth.¹⁸

“Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees, and to the writers who write oppressive decrees;¹⁹ to deprive the needy from justice, and to rob the poor among my people of their rights, that widows may be their plunder, and that they may make the fatherless their prey!”²⁰

⁹ **Galatians 4:16** In “Strawberry Fields Forever” no one has John's level of understanding : “No one I think is in my tree.”

¹⁰ **Micah 7:8**

¹¹ **Psalms 25:4**

¹² **Psalms 119:69**

¹³ **Psalms 119:100** Merle Steir, *Advertising Age* (1967): “Youth *has* won. Youth must *always* win. The new naturally replaces the old.”

¹⁴ **Psalms 119:99** Edmund Burke: “The arrogance of age must submit to be taught by youth.”

¹⁵ **Psalms 119:115**

¹⁶ **Matthew 10:34** John, like Jesus, certainly wanted peace on earth, but knew that this would not come about until there was a fundamental change within the heart of man. With their “sword,” these prophets sharply divided beliefs and attitudes into two groups; those that are empowering, and those that are not part of God's best plan.

¹⁷ **John 8:43** “You've heard every sound there is... but you can't hear me,” John laments in “And Your Bird Can Sing.”

¹⁸ **Revelation 3:16**

¹⁹ **Isaiah 10:1**

²⁰ **Isaiah 10:2** Martin Luther King, Jr.: “In any civilized society, it is every citizen's responsibility to obey just laws. But at the same time, it is every citizen's responsibility to disobey unjust laws.”

He said, “Woe to you lawyers also! For you load men with burdens that are difficult to carry, and you yourselves won’t even lift one finger to help carry those burdens.”²¹

“The proud and haughty man, ‘scoffer’ is his name; he works in the arrogance of pride.²² He is conceited, knowing nothing, but obsessed with arguments, disputes, and word battles, from which come envy, strife, insulting, evil suspicions.”²³

“Listen to me, you stout-hearted, who are far from righteousness.”²⁴ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is in your own eye?²⁵ But oh that God would speak, and open his lips against you.”²⁶

He said, “Most certainly I tell you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.”²⁷ The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim release to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, to deliver those who are crushed.”²⁸

“For this, I was appointed as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles,”²⁹ although I was before a blasphemer, a persecutor, and insolent. However, I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.”³⁰

²¹ **Luke 11:46** John: “Our society is run by insane people for insane objectives.”

²² **Proverbs 21:24** The unconventional way that John was raised was crucial in forming the rebellious side of his personality and led him to question those in authority. His father left the family when John was a baby, and his mother Julia sent him to live with his aunt Mimi when he was five years old. Julia was killed in an auto pedestrian accident when he was 17, just as the two of them were starting to bond in a special way. John told an interviewer in 1980 that “the fact that I wasn't with my parents made me see that parents are not gods.”

²³ **1 Timothy 6:4** In “Nowhere Man,” the alienated “nowhere man” is “sitting in his nowhere land.”

²⁴ **Isaiah 46:12** “Nowhere man please listen,” John preaches in “Nowhere Man.”

²⁵ **Matthew 7:3** The close-minded “nowhere man” “just sees what he wants to see” in “Nowhere Man.”

²⁶ **Job 11:5**

²⁷ **Luke 4:24**

²⁸ **Luke 4:18**

²⁹ **2 Timothy 1:11**

³⁰ **1 Timothy 1:13** John is saving souls in “The Word”: “Now that I know what I feel must be right, I mean to show everybody the light.”

As he said these things, all his adversaries were disappointed, and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.³¹

Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. They told to all the people, saying, "Behold, the king is sitting in the gate." All the people came before the king. Now Israel had fled every man to his tent.³²

The king said to the man of God, "Come home with me, and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward."³³

The man of God said to the king, "Even if you gave me half of your house, I would not go in with you, neither would I eat bread nor drink water in this place."³⁴ Better is a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who doesn't know how to receive admonition anymore!"³⁵

When the multitudes heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.³⁶

Now Paul and his company set sail from Paphos, and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John departed from them and returned to Jerusalem.³⁷

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.³⁸ It's also written in your law that the testimony of two people is valid.³⁹

³¹ **Luke 13:17** John's friend Pete Shotton: "Everyone was interested in John, because even as a kid he had a great awareness about everything going on about him. He had an amazingly quick wit, a great sense of humor, an ability to turn serious situations upside down on their head and transform them into surrealistic plays."

³² **2 Samuel 19:8**

³³ **1 Kings 13:7** [*John is "the man of God"*]

³⁴ **1 Kings 13:8** In late 1969, John protested Britain's involvement in the Vietnam War by returning his MBE award to the Queen.

³⁵ **Ecclesiastes 4:13** John, in a 1970 interview with Rolling Stone: "I always wondered, 'why has nobody discovered me?' Didn't they see that I'm cleverer than anybody in this school? That the teachers are stupid, too? That all they had was information that I didn't need. I was different. I was always different. Why didn't anybody notice me?"

³⁶ **Matthew 22:33** John: "I'm cynical about things that are taken for granted: society, politics, newspapers, government; but I'm not cynical about life, love, goodness, death."

³⁷ **Acts 13:13**

³⁸ **Ecclesiastes 4:9** Paul: "John and I were on fire every time we sat down to write."

³⁹ **John 8:17**

Chapter 16

Magical Mystery Tour (Part 1)

BIBLE

After this, I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth, or on the sea, or on any tree.¹

They went about from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people.² They swore to Yahweh with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets.³ They went out and preached that people should repent.⁴

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue.⁵ There they preached the Good News.⁶

Yahweh spoke by his servants the prophets, saying:⁷ “Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see.”⁸ Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!⁹

“Yahweh of Armies is with us. The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.”¹⁰ It shall be, if you go with us, yes, it shall be, that whatever good Yahweh does to us, we will do the same to you.¹¹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Revelation 7:1** [*The “four angels” are the Beatles*]

² **1 Chronicles 16:20** The Beatles launched major world tours in 1964, 1965 and 1966. Their final scheduled appearance before a paid audience was on August 29, 1966 in San Francisco.

³ **2 Chronicles 15:14**

⁴ **Mark 6:12** To “repent” is simply to change your mind for the better, to come up higher, to “re(turn) to the pent(house).”

⁵ **Acts 17:1**

⁶ **Acts 14:7**

⁷ **2 Kings 21:10** [*The “prophets” are the Beatles*]

⁸ **Isaiah 42:18** Colin Campbell and Allan Murphy, *Things We Said Today* (1976): “Repeatedly, the Beatles urge us to simply relax and let our senses work, unhindered... so that we might see, hear and feel the world directly.” In “Penny Lane,” the Beatles have their senses fine tuned: “Penny Lane is in my ears and in my eyes.”

⁹ **Matthew 3:2** “Without looking out of your window, you can know the ways of heaven,” the Beatles preach in “The Inner Light.”

¹⁰ **Psalms 46:7**

¹¹ **Numbers 10:32**

“We will not return to our houses, until the children of Israel have each inherited their inheritance.”¹²

They came to the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, to the land of Gilead, and they spoke with them, saying,¹³ “Yahweh bless you, and keep you.”¹⁴

“Yahweh has done great things for us, and we are glad.”¹⁵ Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say, Rejoice!¹⁶

“We are bound to always give thanks to God for you, brothers, even as it is appropriate, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of each and every one of you towards one another abounds.”¹⁷ We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you both do and will do the things we command.”¹⁸

Then all the assembly answered with a loud voice, “As you have said concerning us, so must we do.”¹⁹ For what thanksgiving can we render again to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sakes before our God?²⁰

“You are the most excellent of the sons of men. Grace has anointed your lips, therefore God has blessed you forever.”²¹

¹² **Numbers 32:18** Russell M. Nelson: “We are children of God. Our potential is unlimited. Our inheritance is sacred.”

¹³ **Joshua 22:15**

¹⁴ **Numbers 6:24**

¹⁵ **Psalm 126:3** “You know you should be glad,” the Beatles remind us in “She Loves You.” Much of our suffering in life is a result of resisting what is and labeling everything as being either good or bad, right or wrong, important or not important. Instead, we should just be glad!

¹⁶ **Philippians 4:4** Being joyful connects us to our Higher Self. Dalai Lama: “The purpose of our lives is to be happy.”

¹⁷ **2 Thessalonians 1:3** “We’d like to thank you once again,” the Sgt Pepper band tells their audience in “Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band [Reprise].” Being grateful lifts us up in consciousness and improves our well being.

¹⁸ **2 Thessalonians 3:4**

¹⁹ **Ezra 10:12**

²⁰ **1 Thessalonians 3:9** Melody Beattie: “Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.”

²¹ **Psalm 45:2**

When they had preached the Good News to that city, and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch,²² confirming the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that through many afflictions we must enter into God's Kingdom.²³

"Trust in Yahweh, and do good. Dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture,²⁴ above all taking up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil one."²⁵

"Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, proof of things not seen.²⁶ For we walk by faith, not by sight."²⁷

They taught in Judah, having the book of the law of Yahweh with them; and they went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught among the people.²⁸

They read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly; and they gave the sense, so that they understood the reading:²⁹ "Hear the word which Yahweh speaks to you, house of Israel!"³⁰

"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success."³¹

²² **Acts 14:21**

²³ **Acts 14:22** To live our best life, we not only need faith in God, we also need faith in ourselves and faith in others.

²⁴ **Psalm 37:3** Martin Luther:

"All who call on God in true faith, earnestly from the heart, will certainly be heard, and will receive what they have asked and desired."

²⁵ **Ephesians 6:16** Martin Luther King, Jr.: "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

²⁶ **Hebrews 11:1** The Beatles have faith in "There's A Place":

"There'll be no sad tomorrow, don't you know that it's so."

²⁷ **2 Corinthians 5:7** Paul, on the success of the Beatles: "There was a lot of faith involved in everything that we did. And the people around us had to share that faith or it wouldn't have worked. Brian [manager Brian Epstein] had to have faith in us. [Producer] George Martin had to have faith in us. This is how it was for the Beatles. You had to have faith. We had to have faith in each other."

²⁸ **2 Chronicles 17:9**

²⁹ **Nehemiah 8:8**

³⁰ **Jeremiah 10:1**

³¹ **Joshua 1:8** Swami Kriyananda:

"The more regularly and the more deeply you meditate, the sooner you will find yourself always acting from a center of inner peace."

“Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness.”³²

From there they traveled to Gudgodah; and from Gudgodah to Jotbathah, a land of brooks of water.³³ The Lord’s word was spread abroad throughout all the region.³⁴

God’s sons saw that men’s daughters were beautiful, and they took any that they wanted for themselves as wives.³⁵ They ravished the women in Zion, the virgins in the cities of Judah.³⁶

They traveled from Alush, and encamped in Rephidim, where there was no water for the people to drink.³⁷ In that day the beautiful virgins and the young men will faint for thirst.³⁸

³² **2 Timothy 3:16** Studying and then applying spiritual principles such as those found in the Bible will help us to gain trust in ourselves and in our Creator. In “Rocky Raccoon,” the main character checks into his hotel room, “only to find *Gideon’s Bible*,” left there “no doubt to help with good Rocky’s revival.” The first Gideon Bibles were placed in the rooms of the Superior Hotel in Superior, Montana, in 1908.

³³ **Deuteronomy 10:7**

³⁴ **Acts 13:49**

³⁵ **Genesis 6:2** [“*God’s sons*” are the *Beatles*] John: “The Beatles’ tours were like Fellini’s *Satyricon*... Wherever we went there was always a whole scene going...If we couldn’t get groupies, we would have whores and everything, whatever was going.”

³⁶ **Lamentations 5:11** The word *virgin* in the Bible can simply refer to a young, unmarried woman, regardless of her sexual history.

³⁷ **Numbers 33:14** Oscar Wilde: “The only difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future.”

³⁸ **Amos 8:13** Camille Paglia: “If you live in rock and roll, as I do, you see the reality of sex, of male lust and women being aroused by male lust. It attracts women. It doesn’t repel them.”

They took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who lived in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.³⁹ They passed there to the hill country of Ephraim, and came to the house of Micah.⁴⁰

Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.⁴¹ They called to Lot, and said to him, "Where are the men who came in to you this night? Bring them out to us, that we may have sex with them."⁴²

Lot went out to them to the door, and shut the door after him.⁴³ Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.⁴⁴ Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dances.⁴⁵

The men sampled their provisions, and didn't ask counsel from Yahweh's mouth.⁴⁶ As they cried out, and threw off their cloaks, and threw dust into the air,⁴⁷ they lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"⁴⁸

The sun rises, and they steal away, and lay down in their dens.⁴⁹ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.⁵⁰ From there they traveled, and encamped in the valley of Zered.⁵¹

³⁹ **Genesis 14:12** "Lot" is part of the road crew for the group. The road crew (or *roadies*) make sure that all of a band's needs are met while they are on tour. Mal Evans and Neil Aspinall were both members of the Beatles inner circle who began their careers as roadies for the band.

⁴⁰ **Judges 18:13**

⁴¹ **Acts 21:9**

⁴² **Genesis 19:5**

⁴³ **Genesis 19:6**

⁴⁴ **Matthew 25:7**

⁴⁵ **Exodus 15:20**

⁴⁶ **Joshua 9:14** [*"The men" are the Beatles*] George Eliot: "The important work of moving the world forward does not wait to be done by perfect men."

⁴⁷ **Acts 22:23**

⁴⁸ **Luke 17:13**

⁴⁹ **Psalms 104:22**

⁵⁰ **Matthew 26:30**

⁵¹ **Numbers 21:12** Jon Pompia, *Pueblo Chieftan*: "The Beatles were selected by destiny, or fate, or God, if you will, to bring to a planet sorely in need of hope and happiness the greatest and most enduring collection of songs of all time. In a short seven years, John, Paul, George and Ringo forever changed music, style, culture, fashion and the world itself, becoming along the way a chapter in modern world history."

They went to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have come from a far country. Now therefore make a covenant with us.⁵² Pray for us, for we are persuaded that we have a good conscience, desiring to live honorably in all things.”⁵³

“We are all one man’s sons; we are honest men. Your servants are not spies.⁵⁴ Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than he who is perverse in his lips and is a fool.”⁵⁵

They said to Joshua, “We are your servants.” Joshua said to them, “Who are you? Where do you come from?”⁵⁶

The man who stood among the myrtle trees answered, “They are the ones Yahweh has sent to go back and forth through the earth.⁵⁷ These are the two olive trees and the two lamp stands, standing before the Lord of the earth.⁵⁸ They are free from burdens of men, neither are they plagued like other men.”⁵⁹

So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away; and they went to their tents.⁶⁰ They stayed there with the disciples for a long time.⁶¹ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.⁶²

⁵² **Joshua 9:6**

⁵³ **Hebrews 13:18**

⁵⁴ **Genesis 42:11** Colin Campbell and Allan Murphy, *Things We Said Today* (1976): “In the very best of the Beatles songs the most striking quality is the honesty, the authenticity of feeling, that sense of being absolutely true to emotional experience.”

⁵⁵ **Proverbs 19:1**

⁵⁶ **Joshua 9:8**

⁵⁷ **Zechariah 1:10** Alexander, in *The Alexander Journal*, describes the mission of John, Paul, George and Ringo like this: “An agreement was formed before their births to blend their disparate energies into a unified gestalt serving as the primary revolutionary trigger for the Sixties...the need was urgent for an irresistible force to wrest young people away from the values of their elders and larger culture... Western society's core value of *separation* violates natural law and must lead to cultural disintegration.”

⁵⁸ **Revelation 11:4** Olive trees and lamp stands represent peace and illumination, attributes of the Divine. The Beatles offered to us a more peaceful, more enlightened approach to life.

⁵⁹ **Psalms 73:5**

⁶⁰ **Joshua 22:6**

⁶¹ **Acts 14:28**

⁶² **Acts 13:3**

When they had accomplished all things that were according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth.⁶³

A very great multitude spread their clothes on the road. Others cut branches from the trees, and spread them on the road.⁶⁴

The singers went before, the minstrels followed after, among the ladies playing with tambourines.⁶⁵

They sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are your works, Lord God, the Almighty! Righteous and true are your ways, you King of the nations."⁶⁶

They cried with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation be to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"⁶⁷ Be exalted, Yahweh, in your strength, so we will sing and praise your power."⁶⁸

The whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense.⁶⁹ There are sixty queens, eighty concubines, and virgins without number.⁷⁰

By the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. They were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.⁷¹

⁶³ **Luke 2:39**

⁶⁴ **Matthew 21:8**

⁶⁵ **Psalm 68:25** Beethoven:

"Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy."

⁶⁶ **Revelation 15:3** Augustine: "He who sings prays twice."

⁶⁷ **Revelation 7:10** Robert G.

Ingersoll: "Music expresses feeling and thought, without language; it was below and before speech, and it is above and beyond all words."

⁶⁸ **Psalm 21:13** Frederick

Nietzsche: "Without music, life would be a mistake."

⁶⁹ **Luke 1:10** Gottfried Leibniz:

"Music is the pleasure the human mind experiences from counting without being aware that it is counting."

⁷⁰ **Song Of Solomon 6:8** *Rolling*

Stone founder Jan Wenner: "Rock and roll offers hope and passion and joy and courage and love, a way to understand the world around us, and for so many of us, a way of life."

⁷¹ **Acts 5:12** [*The "apostles" are the Beatles*]

Don McLean: "Do you believe in rock n roll, can music save your mortal soul?" ("American Pie")

John Sebastian: "Believe in the magic of rock and roll, believe in the magic that can set you free." ("Do You Believe In Magic")

Multitudes also came together from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing sick people, and those who were tormented by unclean spirits: and they were all healed.⁷²

Behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and she was bent over, and could in no way straighten herself up.⁷³ Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.⁷⁴

Following Paul and us, she cried out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us a way of salvation!"⁷⁵

"Praise Yah! Praise, you servants of Yahweh, praise Yahweh's name⁷⁶ with the ten-stringed lute, with the harp, and with the melody of the lyre!"⁷⁷

The disciples were filled with joy with the Holy Spirit.⁷⁸ They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and prayer.⁷⁹ God has gone up with a shout, Yahweh with the sound of a trumpet.⁸⁰

More believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.⁸¹ However the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.⁸²

⁷² **Acts 5:16** Beatles press agent Derek Taylor, describing what it was like when the Beatles toured: "The routes were lined solid, cripples threw away their sticks, sick people rushed up to the car as if a touch from one of the boys would make them well again...The only thing left for the Beatles is to go on a healing tour."

⁷³ **Luke 13:11**

⁷⁴ **Mark 5:29**

⁷⁵ **Acts 16:17**

⁷⁶ **Psalm 113:1** John Sinclair: "Rock and roll is the great liberating force of our times."

⁷⁷ **Psalm 92:3** Elton John: "Music has healing power. It has the ability to take people out of themselves for a few hours."

⁷⁸ **Acts 13:52** Henry Giles: "A song will outlive all sermons in the memory."

⁷⁹ **Acts 2:42** Paul, describing what it was like to perform at the famous Royal Albert Hall in the early days of Beatlemania: "We felt like gods! We felt like fucking gods!"

⁸⁰ **Psalm 47:5** Berthold Auerbach: "Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life."

⁸¹ **Acts 5:14** Thomas Carlyle: "Music is well said to be the speech of angels, in fact nothing among utterances allowed to man is felt to be so divine. It brings us near to the infinite."

⁸² **2 Kings 14:4**

Chapter 17

Magical Mystery Tour (Part 2)

BIBLE

They departed, and went throughout the villages, preaching the Good News, and healing everywhere.¹ They arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee.²

Then Paul took the men, and the next day, purified himself and went with them into the temple, declaring the fulfillment of the days of purification, until the offering was offered for every one of them.³

He came out, and went, as his custom was, to the Mount of Olives. His disciples also followed him.⁴ He sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.⁵

The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.⁶ Out of his nostrils a smoke goes, as of a boiling pot over a fire of reeds.⁷

His mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue freed, and he spoke, blessing God.⁸

COMMENTARY

¹ **Luke 9:6** [*“They” are the Beatles*] Ashley Kahn: “The true and endearing worth of the Beatles was not their commercial achievements but the life lessons in the songs that have yet to diminish in value.

Lessons in acceptance and tolerance and compassion and positive belief in the future that even a wide-eyed seven year old could grasp.”

² **Luke 8:26** John: “The whole Beatle idea was to do what you want, right? To take responsibility, do what you want and try not to harm other people, right? *Do what thou wilt*, as long as it doesn’t hurt somebody.”

³ **Acts 21:26** Gandhi: “Always aim at complete harmony of thought and word and deed. Always aim at purifying your thoughts and everything will be well.”

⁴ **Luke 22:39**

⁵ **2 Kings 16:4**

⁶ **Revelation 8:4** Paul, on the “high places”: “Marijuana started to find its way into everything we did. It colored our perception and we started to realize there weren’t as many barriers as we thought.”

⁷ **Job 41:20**

⁸ **Luke 1:64**

“There is no one like you, Yahweh; you are great, and your name is great in might.⁹ Let my prayer be set before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands like the evening sacrifice.”¹⁰

Turning to the disciples, he said, “All things have been delivered to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is, except the Father, and who the Father is, except the Son, and he to whomever the Son desires to reveal him.”¹¹

The disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom he spoke.¹² Then he opened their minds, that they might understand the Scriptures.¹³

“Behold, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.¹⁴ This mystery is great, but I speak concerning Christ and of the assembly.¹⁵

“The mystery which has been hidden for ages and generations. But now it has been revealed to his saints,¹⁶ to whom God was pleased to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is *Christ in you, the hope of glory*.¹⁷

⁹ **Jeremiah 10:6**

¹⁰ **Psalms 141:2** Incense is used in many of the world religions. The “holy smoke” as it rises is considered symbolic of prayers reaching upward to Heaven.

¹¹ **Luke 10:22** The Son is the Christ, our true spiritual self. The Father and the Son are one.

¹² **John 13:22**

¹³ **Luke 24:45** Psychoactive drugs can open the mind to new and different ways of understanding things. Paul describes this in “Got To Get You Into My Life,” a song of his that he once called “an ode to pot.” “I was alone, I took a ride, I didn’t know what I would find there,” he tells us. What he is looking for, he shares, is “another road, where maybe I could see another kind of mind there.”

¹⁴ **1 Corinthians 15:51** “Roll up for the mystery tour,” Paul announces in “Magical Mystery Tour.”

¹⁵ **Ephesians 5:32** “Christ,” the title given to Jesus of Nazareth, means “perfect man.” It is our higher self, the God within, the lord of our being. It is *not* the last name of Jesus.

¹⁶ **Colossians 1:26**

¹⁷ **Colossians 1:27** Waking up to our own Christ nature and living life as a spiritual being gives us our best hope for a fully realized life. Christ sets us free from toxic emotions.

“If Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins.¹⁸ The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly corrupt: who can know it?¹⁹

“But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.²⁰

“But we have this treasure in clay vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves.²¹ We are pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not to despair;²² pursued, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed.²³

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.²⁴ For you are all children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus,²⁵ and you are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s.²⁶ Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts.²⁷

¹⁸ **1 Corinthians 15:17** Christ is our hope of glory, but it has to be raised up in us. If Christ has not been raised, we will still be in our “sins,” separate from God and His best plan for us. We will be like the frustrated young woman in “She’s Leaving Home” who had “something inside that was always denied for so many years.”

¹⁹ **Jeremiah 17:9**

²⁰ **1 Corinthians 1:24**

²¹ **2 Corinthians 4:7**

²² **2 Corinthians 4:8**

²³ **2 Corinthians 4:9**

²⁴ **Galatians 6:2**

²⁵ **Galatians 3:26**

²⁶ **1 Corinthians 3:23**

²⁷ **Galatians 5:24** Christ consciousness means living by spiritual principles rather than by what our feelings tell us. We don’t ignore our feelings but we don’t let them take control of us. Ken Keyes, Jr., *Handbook to Higher Consciousness*: “As you grow toward higher consciousness, you begin to realize that all of the fear, grief, and anger that you experience is simply a teaching that the world is offering you to help you free yourself from this hollow dance you are doing. The world is giving you the experience that will help you develop an insight into the mechanical way you are acting out various addictive roles.”

“So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.²⁸ But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, confined for the faith which should afterwards be revealed.²⁹ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.³⁰

“But we know that the law is good, if a man uses it lawfully.³¹ So that the law has become our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.³²

“But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.³³ For Christ is the fulfillment of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.³⁴

“Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and don’t be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.³⁵

²⁸ **Romans 10:17** Understanding and incorporating the Christ principle into our daily lives increases the faith we have in ourselves and in our Creator.

²⁹ **Galatians 3:23** Being “under the law” is being obedient to a set of external rules. Until we learn to have faith in Christ, or the God within, we are dependent on following specific instructions if we want to grow spiritually.

³⁰ **Galatians 5:18** In “Getting Better,” Paul pokes fun at those who pay more attention to the letter of the law than the spirit of the teaching: “The teachers who taught me weren’t cool, holding me down, turning me round, filling me up with your rules.”

³¹ **1 Timothy 1:8**

³² **Galatians 3:24**

³³ **Galatians 3:25** From the *Tao Te Ching*, Verse 18: “If you need rules to be kind and just, if you act virtuous, this is a sure sign that virtue is absent. Thus we see the great hypocrisy.”

³⁴ **Romans 10:4**

³⁵ **Galatians 5:1** Christ consciousness sets us free to willingly and instinctively follow spiritual principles. We align ourselves with the Divine naturally without having to force ourselves to obey rules and regulations that we may not even understand.

“For the commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not covet,’ and whatever other commandments there are, are all summed up in this saying, namely, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’³⁶ Love doesn’t harm a neighbor. Love therefore is the fulfillment of the law.”³⁷

“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on to perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith towards God.”³⁸

They, when they heard it, glorified God. They said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law.”³⁹ Your words have supported him who was falling, You have made firm the feeble knees.”⁴⁰

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it.⁴¹ They said therefore to him, “What must we do, that we may work the works of God?”⁴²

He said to them, “Wherever you enter into a house, stay there until you depart from there.”⁴³ Don’t turn aside to go after vain things which can’t profit or deliver, for they are vain.”⁴⁴

³⁶ **Romans 13:9**

³⁷ **Romans 13:10** The Christ spirit of love and forgiveness taught and modeled by Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament system of laws and commandments. The Ten Commandments are not disproven, they are just made redundant.

Anytime we want to change our attitude or behavior, there is always an initial process of following rules and instructions, and doing specific things that others have found useful in the past. Then at some point, if we are successful, a light bulb goes on, and we begin to grasp the true spirit of the teaching. We identify with this underlying spirit, we agree with it, we approve of it, and we try to emulate it in all that we do, think, and say. At this point, all those rules, instructions, and techniques are not even needed.

³⁸ **Hebrews 6:1** Eckhart Tolle: “Never personalize Christ.”

³⁹ **Acts 21:20** Being “zealous for the law” is an important part of our spiritual path. Enthusiasm, which derives from the Greek “en theos” or “in God,” connects us to Spirit and keeps things fresh on our long and winding road.

⁴⁰ **Job 4:4**

⁴¹ **Mark 4:33** [*“He” is Paul*]

⁴² **John 6:28**

⁴³ **Mark 6:10**

⁴⁴ **1 Samuel 12:21**

They weren't able to withstand the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.⁴⁵ But he said to them, "Not all men can receive this saying, but those to whom it is given."⁴⁶

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be healthy, even as your soul prospers."⁴⁷ Serve Yahweh with gladness. Come before his presence with singing!"⁴⁸

The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How does this man know letters, having never been educated?"⁴⁹

When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke with other languages and prophesied.⁵⁰

They said to him, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at your right hand, and one at your left hand, in your glory."⁵¹ The entrance of your words gives light. It gives understanding to the simple.⁵²

"Now he who establishes us with you in Christ, and anointed us, is God."⁵³ Praise Yah! Praise God in his sanctuary! Praise him in his heavens for his acts of power!"⁵⁴

⁴⁵ **Acts 6:10**

⁴⁶ **Matthew 19:11**

⁴⁷ **3 John 1:2**

⁴⁸ **Psalm 100:2** Aristotle: "Happiness is the meaning and the purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence."

⁴⁹ **John 7:15** None of the Beatles had much formal higher education. Fortunately, they were all blessed with above average intelligence and tremendous curiosity, in addition to their musical talent.

⁵⁰ **Acts 19:6** John Tamny, *Forbes* magazine: "The amazing story of the Beatles reminds us that economic freedom beats classroom learning when it comes to getting a leg up by many miles. Schooling was never going to represent the way up and out for the Beatles, but freedom to do that which most ignited their passions was, and did."

⁵¹ **Mark 10:37** Paul: "If you love your life, everybody will love you too."

⁵² **Psalm 119:30**

⁵³ **2 Corinthians 1:21** Paul: "Life is quite mysterious and quite miraculous. Every time I come to write a song, there's this magic little thing where I go, 'Ooh, ooh, it's happening again.' I just sit down at the piano and go, 'Oh my God, I don't know this one,' and suddenly there's a song."

⁵⁴ **Psalm 150:2**

Chapter 18

Warm Below The Storm

BIBLE

When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.¹ Surely the Lord Yahweh will do nothing, unless he reveals his secret to his servants the prophets.²

When they had gone through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia.³ When they had come opposite Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit didn't allow them.⁴

However boats from Tiberias came near to the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks.⁵ When the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to shore.⁶

When much time had passed and the voyage was now dangerous, because the Fast had now already gone by, Paul admonished them⁷ and said to them, "Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives."⁸ Therefore let him who thinks he stands be careful that he doesn't fall!"⁹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 14:25** [*"They" are the Beatles*]

² **Amos 3:7**

³ **Acts 16:6**

⁴ **Acts 16:7** Sometimes we just have to try something that seems reasonable and then find out afterwards that this particular course of action is not part of God's best plan. Perhaps Spirit wants us to learn how to take a step forward, make a mistake, and then get back on course.

⁵ **John 6:23**

⁶ **Acts 27:13** The Beatles have two songs with a "nautical" theme, both sung by Ringo: "Octopus's Garden" and "Yellow Submarine." Metaphorically, when we are underwater, "below the storm," things are calm and we are resting safely in the peace of God. We're enjoying life and not taking ourselves too serious, sailing in our yellow submarine with all our friends aboard, or singing and dancing around in the octopus's garden.

⁷ **Acts 27:9**

⁸ **Acts 27:10**

⁹ **1 Corinthians 10:12** "Falling, yes I am falling," Paul sings in "I've Just Seen A Face."

A big wind storm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so much that the boat was already filled.¹⁰

Nevertheless the men rowed hard to get them back to the land; but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them.¹¹ They reel back and forth, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.¹²

Then they cry to Yahweh in their trouble, and he brings them out of their distress.¹³

Yahweh, who makes a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters says:¹⁴ "You afflicted, tossed with storms, and not comforted, behold, I will set your stones in beautiful colors, and lay your foundations with sapphires."¹⁵

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."¹⁶ He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."¹⁷

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.¹⁸ Everyone helps his neighbor. They say to their brothers, "Be strong!"¹⁹

¹⁰ **Mark 4:37**

¹¹ **Jonah 1:13**

¹² **Psalms 107:27**

¹³ **Psalms 107:28** To "cry to Yahweh" is to pray, aligning ourselves in consciousness with the higher nature within ourselves.

Ralph Waldo Emerson: "The wise man in the storm prays God not for safety from danger but for deliverance from fear."

¹⁴ **Isaiah 43:16** "I'd like to be under the sea" Ringo tells us in "Octopus's Garden."

¹⁵ **Isaiah 54:11** Ringo was inspired to write "Octopus's Garden" after he found out that octopuses go around the seabed finding shiny stones and colorful objects to build a garden in front of their cave with. Ringo: "I thought this was fabulous, because at the time I just wanted to be under the sea too."

¹⁶ **Revelation 1:8**

¹⁷ **Exodus 33:14** Ringo and his friends are "resting our head on the sea bed" in "Octopus's Garden."

¹⁸ **Acts 2:4** [**"They" are the Beatles**] The group's prayer has been answered. They are filled with the Holy Spirit and are lifted up in consciousness.

¹⁹ **Isaiah 41:6** After praying, the group is now prepared to take positive action and help each other out of a difficult situation.

Yahweh is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knows those who take refuge in him.²⁰ He makes the storm a calm, so that its waves are still.²¹

God gives them security, and they rest in it. His eyes are on their ways.²² He has responded to the prayer of the destitute, and has not despised their prayer.²³

Then they are glad because it is calm, so he brings them to their desired haven.²⁴ Happy are the people who are in such a situation. Happy are the people whose God is Yahweh.²⁵

So when they got out on the land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread.²⁶ But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand.²⁷ However he shook off the creature into the fire, and wasn't harmed.²⁸

But they expected that he would have swollen or fallen down dead suddenly. But when they watched for a long time and saw nothing bad happen to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.²⁹

²⁰ **Nahum 1:7**

²¹ **Psalm 107:29** “We lived beneath the waves,” Ringo tells us in “Yellow Submarine.”

²² **Job 24:23** George, on “Octopus’s Garden,” which he helped Ringo with: “For me, you know, I find very deep meaning in the lyrics, which Ringo probably doesn’t see, but all the things like ‘resting our head on the sea bed’ and ‘We’ll be warm beneath the storm’ which is really great, you know. Because it’s like this level is a storm, and if you get sort of deep in your consciousness, it’s very peaceful. So Ringo’s writing his cosmic songs without noticing.”

²³ **Psalm 102:17** Our faith in God calms the storms in our life.

²⁴ **Psalm 107:30** In “Octopus’s Garden,” everyone is glad: “Oh what joy for every girl and boy, knowing they’re happy and they’re safe.”

²⁵ **Psalm 144:15** In “Octopus’s Garden,” people are happy with their situation: “We would be so happy you and me, no one there to tell us what to do.”

Esther Hicks: “The greatest gift you can ever give another person is your own happiness.”

²⁶ **John 21:9**

²⁷ **Acts 28:3**

²⁸ **Acts 28:5**

²⁹ **Acts 28:6**

They talked with each other about all of these things which had happened.

³⁰ Amazement took hold on all, and they glorified God. They were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen strange things today.”³¹

“It is a good thing to give thanks to Yahweh, to sing praises to your name, Most High;³² to proclaim your loving kindness in the morning, and your faithfulness every night.”³³

“For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat, when the blast of the dreaded ones is like a storm against the wall.”³⁴ You rule the pride of the sea. When its waves rise up, you calm them.³⁵

“So we, your people and sheep of your pasture, will give you thanks forever. We will praise you forever, to all generations.”³⁶ Be exalted, God, above the heavens! Let your glory be above all the earth!³⁷

“Sing to Yahweh! Bless his name! Proclaim his salvation from day to day!”³⁸ Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat, and celebrate.”³⁹

They rose up early on the next day, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.⁴⁰

³⁰ **Luke 24:14**

³¹ **Luke 5:26** “Fear” in this sense means awe.

³² **Psalm 92:1** Dietrich Bonhoeffer: “In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.”

³³ **Psalm 92:2** Starting and ending the day with gratitude and joy attracts people and circumstances that keep us in that state of consciousness throughout the day.

³⁴ **Isaiah 25:4** In “Octopus’s Garden,” Ringo is safely “below the storm” and “in the shade.”

³⁵ **Psalm 89:9** Meister Eckhart: “If the only prayer you said in your whole life was ‘thank you’, that would suffice.”

³⁶ **Psalm 79:13** Willie Nelson: “When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around.”

³⁷ **Psalm 57:5** Oprah Winfrey: “Be thankful for what you have; you’ll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will never, ever have enough.”

³⁸ **Psalm 96:2** In “Birthday,” “we’re going to a party party.”

³⁹ **Luke 15:23** “You can celebrate anything you want,” John reminds us in “Dig A Pony.”

⁴⁰ **Exodus 32:6** John: “Greet the brand new day...come out to play” (“Dear Prudence”)

Chapter 19

The Fool On The Hill

BIBLE

They turned and went up into the hill country, and came to the valley of Eshcol, and spied it out.¹ As they went up the ascent to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said to them, “Is the seer here?”²

Behold, an old man came from his work out of the field at evening. Now the man was from the hill country of Ephraim, and he lived in Gibeah; but the men of the place were Benjamites.³

When a great multitude came together, and people from every city were coming to him, he spoke by a parable.⁴ The old man said, “Peace be to you; however let me supply all your needs. Just don’t sleep in the street.”⁵ A senseless man doesn’t know, neither does a fool understand this.⁶

“Let no one deceive himself. If anyone thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, that he may become wise.”⁷

“For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, ‘He has taken the wise in their craftiness.’⁸

COMMENTARY

¹ **Deuteronomy 1:24** [*“They” are the Beatles*]

² **1 Samuel 9:11**

³ **Judges 19:16** [*The old man, the seer, is “The Fool On The Hill”*]

The main character in this gem by Paul is actually wise, but people can’t see that because they are blinded by their prejudices. The “fool on the hill” represents anyone who is brilliant and unique but shunned by those who are narrow minded and not ready to hear what he has to say. It has even been suggested that this could describe Jesus, and that the hill is Calvary.

⁴ **Luke 8:4**

⁵ **Judges 19:20**

⁶ **Psalms 92:6**

⁷ **1 Corinthians 3:18** Even though he is perceived otherwise, the fool is very wise and makes perfect sense: “The man of a thousand voices is talking perfectly loud.”

⁸ **1 Corinthians 3:19** The “wisdom of the world” comes from the ego, the false self. It encourages us to look outside of ourselves for validation. It tells us that we are never quite good enough, and that having more money, power and status is what will make us happy and successful.

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”⁹

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who is wise listens to counsel.”¹⁰ Don’t judge according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment.¹¹

“The wise man’s eyes are in his head, and the fool walks in darkness—and yet I perceived that one event happens to them all.”¹² Whoever seeks to save his life loses it, but whoever loses his life preserves it.”¹³

But certain worthless fellows said, “How could this man save us?” They despised him, and brought him no present. But he held his peace.”¹⁴

Of the angels he says, “Who makes his angels winds, and his servants a flame of fire?”¹⁵

They said to him, “Please ask counsel of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.”¹⁶ He answered, “Don’t be afraid; for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”¹⁷

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia. From there they sailed to Cyprus.¹⁸

⁹ **James 3:17**

¹⁰ **Proverbs 12:15**

¹¹ **John 7:24** The critics of the “fool” would be wise not to judge him based on appearances. They need to get past his “foolish grin” and hear what he is saying.

¹² **Ecclesiastes 2:14** The wise “fool” is aware and observant. The “eyes in his head see the world spinning round,” and “he sees the sun going down.”

¹³ **Luke 17:33** Whoever loses their tendency to identify with the ego, and surrenders their human consciousness to the Divine, finds real life. Self improvement is helpful here, but self awareness is life changing.

¹⁴ **1 Samuel 10:27** Despite the wisdom of the “fool,” others “don’t like him.” “They can see that he’s just a fool...nobody listens to him.” Nonetheless, the “fool” holds his peace (he’s “keeping perfectly still.”) Regarding his detractors, he “knows that they’re the fools” but he ignores their criticism (“he never listens to them” and “never shows his feelings”).

¹⁵ **Hebrews 1:7** [*The “angels” are the Beatles*]

¹⁶ **Judges 18:5**

¹⁷ **2 Kings 6:16**

¹⁸ **Acts 13:4** Sergio Mendes and Brasil ‘66 had a top 10 hit single in 1968 with their bossa nova version of “The Fool on the Hill.”

Chapter 20

Ask And It Will Be Given

BIBLE

They therefore, when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the Good News to many villages of the Samaritans.¹

When they had arrived, and had gathered the assembly together, they reported all the things that God had done with them, and that he had opened a door of faith to the nations.²

When they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were gathered together. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.³

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."⁴ God, having raised up his servant Jesus, sent him to you first to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your wickedness.⁵

"Be sober and self-controlled. Be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, walks around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."⁶ Because we wanted to come to you--indeed, I, Paul, once and again--but Satan hindered us.⁷

COMMENTARY

¹ **Acts 8:25** [*"They" are the Beatles*]

² **Acts 14:27**

³ **Acts 4:31** As the group prays, they are lifted up in consciousness so that the power of God can express itself through them. Kahlil Gibran: "What is prayer but the expansion of yourself into the living ether?"

⁴ **Acts 16:31** We are "saved" when we believe in the teachings of Jesus, in the life that he demonstrated for us, and in the way that he approached his own death, showing us that there is nothing to fear in dying since we are eternal spiritual beings. We can live our best life when we live it according to spiritual law, aligning ourselves with the Christ presence.

⁵ **Acts 3:26** Jesus came first to bless us with his example and his teachings. This is the religion *of* Jesus. The religion *about* Jesus, his sacrificial atonement, came later. Jesus never asked us to worship him.

⁶ **1 Peter 5:8** "Take a good look around you," Paul advises us in "Martha My Dear."

⁷ **1 Thessalonians 2:18** "Satan" is a state of mind, the belief that we are sufficient apart from our Source.

“Don't be deceived, my beloved brothers.⁸ Let your eyes look straight ahead. Fix your gaze directly before you.⁹ Be subject therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you.¹⁰

“Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.¹¹ And the God of peace will quickly crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.¹²

“Don't be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.¹³

“Now God raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up by his power.¹⁴ Such confidence we have through Christ toward God.¹⁵

“All things, whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.¹⁶ Pray without ceasing.¹⁷ And the prayer of faith will heal him who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.¹⁸

“Hezekiah prayed before Yahweh, and said, ‘Yahweh, the God of Israel, who sit above the cherubim, you are the God, even you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth.’¹⁹ Yahweh listened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.²⁰

⁸ **James 1:16**

⁹ **Proverbs 4:25**

¹⁰ **James 4:7** When confronted with something that has the potential to arouse strong emotions in us, the key is not to resist, because that only gives the situation more power. What we resist persists. What we do resist, however, is a habitual pattern of wrong thinking, “the devil.”

¹¹ **Romans 12:21** We don't overcome “evil” by resisting it. Instead, we keep our focus on God, on the principle of goodness. When we live in spirit, evil (“live” spelled backwards) has no power over us.

¹² **Romans 16:20**

¹³ **Luke 12:32** The Universe is set up in our favor, biased for our good.

¹⁴ **1 Corinthians 6:14**

¹⁵ **2 Corinthians 3:4** Christ is our higher self, our connection to God.

¹⁶ **Matthew 21:22** The success of the Beatles was itself an answered prayer. John: “When I was a Beatle, I thought we were the best goddamn group in the world. And believing that was what made us what we were!”

¹⁷ **1 Thessalonians 5:17** To “pray without ceasing” means to remain in alignment with the Christ.

¹⁸ **James 5:15**

¹⁹ **2 Kings 19:15**

²⁰ **2 Chronicles 30:20** Mahatma Gandhi: “If your wishes are pure, then they become true.”

“Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, ‘Oh that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my border! May your hand be with me, and may you keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!’ God granted him that which he requested.”²¹

“Also delight yourself in Yahweh, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”²² Ask, and it will be given you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened for you.²³

“You ask, and don't receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it for your pleasures.”²⁴

²¹ **1 Chronicles 4:10** This verse was the basis for the hugely successful book *The Prayer of Jabez: Breaking Through to the Blessed Life* (Bruce Wilkinson)

²² **Psalm 37:4** Paul: “One sweet dream came true today.” (“You Never Give Me Your Money”)

²³ **Matthew 7:7** As Eric Butterworth points out in his classic *Discover the Power Within You*, the word “ask” has multiple meanings, such as to demand, request, inquire, or claim. For example, when you ask the valet for your car as you leave an establishment, you are actually *claiming* it since the vehicle is already yours. Effective prayer is *claiming* our Divine nature rather than *requesting* things that we don't have. When we ask for qualities such as wisdom, peace, prosperity, strength, health, or joy, we are actually claiming what is already ours. And since we are seeking first the kingdom within, then the *things* we want will be added to us. But if we ask for the *things* first (as in “Please God, give me a new car”), our prayer may go unanswered.

²⁴ **James 4:3** When we ask with wrong motives, we are out of alignment with our sacred self, and Spirit will not be able to fully express itself through us. We will be limited in what comes back to us from the Universe.

“But you, when you pray, enter into your inner room, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.²⁵

“In praying, don't use vain repetitions, as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their much speaking.²⁶ Therefore don't be like them, for your Father knows what things you need, before you ask him.²⁷

“Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father, who is in heaven, may also forgive you your transgressions.²⁸

²⁵ **Matthew 6:6** The inner room is the secret place within our own mind where we experience the presence of the Divine, where we align with the Christ. The universal prayer ritual of placing our hands together and pointing them upwards is a physical alignment that can remind us that the purpose of prayer is spiritual alignment.

²⁶ **Matthew 6:7** Soren Kierkegaard: “The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.”

²⁷ **Matthew 6:8** The Father, or the God within, knows what we need before we ask because what we are asking for is already ours. It is the Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom.

²⁸ **Mark 11:25** For our prayer to work, we have to align ourselves in consciousness with God. For instance, praying for prosperity will not work if we are habitually engaged in affirmations of lack such as “I am always broke” or “I could never afford that.”

Prayer *is* alignment. If we are harboring unforgiveness against someone, we are out of alignment, and as a consequence we will be unable to feel God's love in our heart. God is not punishing us, we are simply in a lower state of consciousness.

“Pray like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.’²⁹ Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth.’³⁰ Give us today our daily bread’³¹

“Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors.’³² Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.’³³

“Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, even as also with you.’³⁴

“For this cause, we also, since the day we heard this, don’t cease praying and making requests for you, that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.’³⁵ We will triumph in your salvation. In the name of our God, we will set up our banners. May Yahweh grant all your requests.’³⁶

“Therefore seeing we have this ministry, even as we obtained mercy, we don’t faint.’³⁷ Through God, we will do valiantly. For it is he who will tread down our enemies.’³⁸

²⁹ **Matthew 6:9** The Lord’s Prayer is a powerful series of affirmations that we can use to bring us into alignment with who we really are. This verse affirms that God is holy: perfect, good, whole and complete.

³⁰ **Matthew 6:10** This verse affirms our intention to follow God’s will.

³¹ **Matthew 6:11** In this verse, we are not reminding the Divine that we need something to eat each day. We are affirming that God provides all that we need at all times.

³² **Matthew 6:12** This verse affirms God’s unconditional love and expresses our intention to let His presence flow through us as we love and forgive others. When we forgive, we feel forgiven. Everything is happening simultaneously: we receive forgiveness in the act of forgiveness.

³³ **Matthew 6:13** This verse affirms that God is forever wanting to lift us up in consciousness away from our own misguided thoughts. Years later, as a solo artist, Paul was still praying for deliverance in “Hope Of Deliverance”: “We live in hope of deliverance from the darkness that surrounds us.”

³⁴ **2 Thessalonians 3:1**

³⁵ **Colossians 1:9**

³⁶ **Psalms 20:5**

³⁷ **2 Corinthians 4:1**

³⁸ **Psalms 108:13**

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, in the power of the Holy Spirit.³⁹

“Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who hope in Yahweh.⁴⁰ Yahweh takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his loving kindness.⁴¹

“Working together, we entreat also that you not receive the grace of God in vain.⁴² For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.⁴³

“You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections.⁴⁴ Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking lies.⁴⁵

“Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praises.⁴⁶ Sing praise to God, sing praises. Sing praises to our King, sing praises.”⁴⁷

They, being sent on their way by the assembly, passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles. They caused great joy to all the brothers.⁴⁸

They went out, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word by the signs that followed. Amen.⁴⁹

³⁹ **Romans 15:13** Real joy and peace is found simply in believing. This means knowing who we really are, knowing that we are part of a greater whole, knowing that the Universe is set up in our favor to give us what we want. Getting what we want, however, does not provide real happiness, because the satisfaction is short lived. Once we get what we want, we are happy for a little while, then we just want something else. Success is not getting what we want; rather it is earning the right in consciousness to get what we want.

⁴⁰ **Psalm 33:18** (Anonymous) “Don’t lose hope. You never know what tomorrow may bring.”

⁴¹ **Psalm 147:11** Fyodor Dostoevsky: “To live without hope is to cease to live”

⁴² **2 Corinthians 6:1**

⁴³ **Ephesians 2:8** Our Divinity is a gift of God, we should celebrate it!

⁴⁴ **2 Corinthians 6:12**

⁴⁵ **Psalm 34:13**

⁴⁶ **James 5:13** When we are suffering, praying is more effective than focusing on the problem itself. Oswald Chambers: “We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties.”

⁴⁷ **Psalm 47:6** Augustine: “He who sings prays twice.”

⁴⁸ **Acts 15:3** [*“They” are the Beatles*]

⁴⁹ **Mark 16:20**