

## 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.<sup>1</sup>

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

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

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

“Yahweh of Armies is with us. The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.”<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup>

#### COMMENTARY

<sup>1</sup> **Revelation 7:1** [*The “four angels” are the Beatles*]

<sup>2</sup> **1 Chronicles 16:20** The Beatles launched major world tours in 1964, 1965 and 1966.

<sup>3</sup> **2 Chronicles 15:14**

<sup>4</sup> **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).”

<sup>5</sup> **Acts 17:1**

<sup>6</sup> **Acts 14:7**

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

<sup>8</sup> **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.” *Sensory grounding* is a powerful technique for connecting with the here and now through the senses. In “Penny Lane,” the Beatles have their senses fine tuned: “Penny Lane is in my ears and in my eyes.”

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

<sup>10</sup> **Psalms 46:7**

<sup>11</sup> **Numbers 10:32**

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

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,<sup>13</sup> “Yahweh bless you, and keep you.”<sup>14</sup>

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

“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.”<sup>17</sup> We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you both do and will do the things we command.”<sup>18</sup>

Then all the assembly answered with a loud voice, “As you have said concerning us, so must we do.”<sup>19</sup> 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?<sup>20</sup>

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

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

<sup>13</sup> **Joshua 22:15**

<sup>14</sup> **Numbers 6:24**

<sup>15</sup> **Psalms 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!

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

<sup>17</sup> **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.

<sup>18</sup> **2 Thessalonians 3:4**

<sup>19</sup> **Ezra 10:12**

<sup>20</sup> **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.”

<sup>21</sup> **Psalms 45:2**

When they had preached the Good News to that city, and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch,<sup>22</sup> 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.<sup>23</sup>

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

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

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.<sup>28</sup>

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

"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."<sup>31</sup>

<sup>22</sup> **Acts 14:21** [*"They" are the Beatles*]

<sup>23</sup> **Acts 14:22** To live our best life, we need faith in God, faith in ourselves and faith in other people.

<sup>24</sup> **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."

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

<sup>26</sup> **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."

<sup>27</sup> **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."

<sup>28</sup> **2 Chronicles 17:9**

<sup>29</sup> **Nehemiah 8:8**

<sup>30</sup> **Jeremiah 10:1**

<sup>31</sup> **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.”<sup>32</sup>

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

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

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

<sup>32</sup> **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.

<sup>33</sup> **Deuteronomy 10:7**

<sup>34</sup> **Acts 13:49**

<sup>35</sup> **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.”

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

<sup>37</sup> **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.”

<sup>38</sup> **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.<sup>39</sup> They passed there to the hill country of Ephraim, and came to the house of Micah.<sup>40</sup>

Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.<sup>41</sup> 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."<sup>42</sup>

Lot went out to them to the door, and shut the door after him.<sup>43</sup> Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.<sup>44</sup> 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.<sup>45</sup>

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

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

<sup>39</sup> **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.

<sup>40</sup> **Judges 18:13**

<sup>41</sup> **Acts 21:9**

<sup>42</sup> **Genesis 19:5**

<sup>43</sup> **Genesis 19:6**

<sup>44</sup> **Matthew 25:7**

<sup>45</sup> **Exodus 15:20**

<sup>46</sup> **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."

<sup>47</sup> **Acts 22:23**

<sup>48</sup> **Luke 17:13**

<sup>49</sup> **Psalms 104:22**

<sup>50</sup> **Matthew 26:30**

<sup>51</sup> **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.”<sup>52</sup> Pray for us, for we are persuaded that we have a good conscience, desiring to live honorably in all things.<sup>53</sup>

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

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

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

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

<sup>52</sup> **Joshua 9:6**

<sup>53</sup> **Hebrews 13:18**

<sup>54</sup> **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.”

<sup>55</sup> **Proverbs 19:1**

<sup>56</sup> **Joshua 9:8**

<sup>57</sup> **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.”

<sup>58</sup> **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.

<sup>59</sup> **Psalms 73:5**

<sup>60</sup> **Joshua 22:6**

<sup>61</sup> **Acts 14:28**

<sup>62</sup> **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.<sup>63</sup>

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

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

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."<sup>66</sup>

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

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

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.<sup>71</sup>

<sup>63</sup> **Luke 2:39**

<sup>64</sup> **Matthew 21:8**

<sup>65</sup> **Psalm 68:25** Beethoven:

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

<sup>66</sup> **Revelation 15:3** Augustine: "He who sings prays twice."

<sup>67</sup> **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."

<sup>68</sup> **Psalm 21:13** Frederick

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

<sup>69</sup> **Luke 1:10** Gottfried Leibniz:

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

<sup>70</sup> **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."

<sup>71</sup> **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.<sup>72</sup>

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.<sup>73</sup> Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.<sup>74</sup>

Following Paul and us, she cried out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us a way of salvation!”<sup>75</sup>

“Praise Yah! Praise, you servants of Yahweh, praise Yahweh’s name<sup>76</sup> with the ten-stringed lute, with the harp, and with the melody of the lyre!”<sup>77</sup>

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

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

<sup>72</sup> **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.”

<sup>73</sup> **Luke 13:11**

<sup>74</sup> **Mark 5:29**

<sup>75</sup> **Acts 16:17**

<sup>76</sup> **Psalm 113:1** John Sinclair: “Rock and roll is the great liberating force of our times.”

<sup>77</sup> **Psalm 92:3** Elton John: “Music has healing power. It has the ability to take people out of themselves for a few hours.”

<sup>78</sup> **Acts 13:52** Henry Giles: “A song will outlive all sermons in the memory.”

<sup>79</sup> **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!”

<sup>80</sup> **Psalm 47:5** Berthold Auerbach: “Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.”

<sup>81</sup> **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.”

<sup>82</sup> **2 Kings 14:4**