

Destiny Newsletter

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No Crestfallen Christians Allowed

Amazingly, in the world of our time, there seems to be an increasing number of people--Christian people--who are succumbing to sorrow, doubt and fear. The cares of life somehow crash upon them, leaving in their wake tired, defeated, hapless people who fail to attain the splendor and victory that should by all rights be theirs.

What can we do to assure that our bright Christian destiny is all that it can be?

A short contemplation of the simple facts of Christianity should be enough to instantly transport us up from ordinary ideas and any tepid notions which we may be entertaining. Trivial attitudes and small thoughts are forbidden to enter into the presence of God and should be forbidden entrance into the mind of any Christian. They will produce boredom, cynicism, limp-headedness, and finally, yawning depression.

*Every believer,
possessing the Holy
Spirit, can never be
ordinary again.*

“STAND IN AWE!”

It is time to stand in awe! In awe of who God is and who we are. Admittedly, all moments cannot be epiphanies, but some can be serious. A few should touch us with awe at things eternal and the mysteries of which we are a part.

We should stand in awe, first of all, because we are saved. The victory of the titanic battle which was fought on a hill called Calvary has become yours and mine today. Having believed in Jesus Christ and His saving work on the cross, we are now “saved to the uttermost.” A Christian, though he stand in the midst of flaming worlds, will never perish. One thought about salvation should cause us to stand in stunned silence, amazed that we have become heirs of eternal life.

We should stand in awe because we are endowed with the Holy Spirit. Yes, the God who made the universe has taken up His residence within us. The knowledge of this fact, the essence of Christianity, should every moment inspire us with the joys of heaven. Every believer, possessing the Holy Spirit, can never be ordinary again.

We should stand in awe because we are wonderfully gifted of God. Each Christian has been given an ability, a talent, a certain wonderful “something,” whereby he can do things which are beyond any human ability. The gifted Christian is a wonder to the world. He is, in fact, the kind of person whom the world cannot do without.

We should stand in awe because we are alive in such a time as this. In these days, empires are on the move again, new leaders are emerging with clever, unheard-of ideologies. Indeed, the surging tides of history are causing new colossi to mount into towering existences before our very eyes. That we should live in these last days is a privilege in which we should not under-rejoice.

We should stand in awe because we are put in trust with the Gospel. Each child of God is a conduit of the grace of Jesus Christ to a lost humanity. We are put in trust with the message, the full and true Gospel, that “*Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day.*” Daily, therefore, we are lifted by a motivation greater than our fears or our weaknesses--that motivation is knowing that the sweet ambrosia of heaven, the Gospel which we bear, will make new creatures of all who believe. We are the light of the world, representing mankind’s only hope.

We should stand in awe because we are guaranteed the triumph of the faithful. Our early leader, the Apostle Paul, said, “*Thanks be to God, which always causes us to triumph in Christ, and makes manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place*” (II Cor. 2:15). When we are faithful, we are in

a no-lose situation. The cause which is our life, the Savior who is our commander, cannot finally be thwarted. When we sing, *"Hallelujah for the cross, It shall never suffer loss,"* we mean it!

Let us then be done with lesser things. Too many of us are successful in accomplishing those things which simply are not worth doing. What is money worth which is not used to serve the Savior? Why fight for a reputation which cannot produce leverage for the Lord? Is not knowledge merely a trivial pursuit which does not produce biblical expositors and argument winners for the Lord? Why own a fine car which goes nowhere for Christ? What wisdom is there in ecclesiastical activities

which minimize or mummify the Gospel. God may soon strike the somnambulist among us with a new vision of His glory. One wonders if their sedated constitutions will stand the shock.

"God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind"

Christian realities are, in fact, to be viewed with awe and then with commitment, for they are the ultimate truths of the universe. We presume, therefore, to offer a word of advice to all who would pursue the mission glorious of living for Him.

First of all, don't be afraid.

God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Especially, don't be profligate. The Christian who drops into silly sensualism is not only a sinner but a fool.

Finally, remember the judgment seat of Christ. We must all appear before that magnificent throne and participate in an interview that will be awesome indeed. There, the bits and pieces of our past titillations will be consumed in the fire. There, it is the gold, silver, and precious stones of a faithful life that will count. Stand, therefore, in awe of that moment...and of this moment.

Taken from the writings of
Dave Breese with Dave Weeden



As we move towards Thanksgiving...we are reminded that we are not only to live our lives in awe of what God has done for us, but in appreciation of His blessing as well.

The pilgrims in colonial America knew this more than most. When they ordained a day of thanksgiving, they were thankful for their very lives. They knew that the good providence of God had delivered them from starvation and death. Therefore, their thanksgiving was often lifted with tears of joy as well as totally sincere gratefulness within the heart.

Often we are so easily captured by the cares of life that we neglect to take the time to cherish the marvelous gifts of God. Every day is a gift. Each person who positively touches our life does so as a reflection of the love that God has for us.

We are not in this mortal battle alone. We have an Ally, a Protector, a Friend who is greater than all our needs and more powerful than any of our problems. If we look in the dark corners of life, He is there! If we are frightened by the shadows of the night, we can rest assured, because He is there!

As we stand in awe of what God has done on our behalf this Thanksgiving, let us express our thanks to God by living a life of tender commitment and service to Him. Thankfulness to God should surely be one of the first marks of a Christian.

THE TIDE OF OUR TIMES

THIS CHALLENGE WAS GIVEN to worshippers at the Christian Booksellers Association Convention in Orlando by author Rick Warren: "In the next 365 days, 2.3 million Americans and 54 million people around the world will die without knowing Christ. Is anybody going to heaven because of you?"

On Mission Magazine Sept/Oct 2003

"TWO ROMANIAN ASTRONOMERS CLAIM to have pinpointed the exact time and date of the crucifixion of Jesus. According to Liviu Mircea and Tiberiu Oproiu of the Astronomic Observatory Institute in Cluj, Romania, Jesus died at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 33 A.D. According to their reading of the New Testament data, Jesus was crucified on the day after the first night with a full moon after the vernal equinox. If the Crucifixion took place some time between the years 26 A. D. and 35 A.D., this could mean either Friday, April 7, 30 A.D., or Friday, April 3, 33 A.D. But it was only in the latter year that astronomy records show a solar eclipse as having occurred in Jerusalem ('And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour,' according to Mark 15:33). The two astronomers had also timed the Resurrection precisely as having occurred at 4 a.m. the following Sunday, April 5."

Crosswalk.com

"REVOLVE' IS THE NEW TESTAMENT in the New Century Version--geared toward a fifth-grade reading level--with added magazinelike features. It's the latest hip effort to reach teenage girls, with Scriptures sculpted to look like a magazine anyone can stuff in her backpack...

Does it sell? 'Not really,' said the saleswoman at a local Family Christian Bookstore that stocks the item. 'People really don't know what it is.'

But Thomas Nelson Publishers, the Nashville, Tenn.-based company that produces 'Revolve,' says more than 40,000 copies have been shipped and 50,000 more have been printed since July. On Labor Day weekend, it was No 47 on the Amazon.com list.

'The market is not your traditional evangelical teenager,' spokeswoman Laurie Whaley said. 'Girls are buying this who have no former affiliation with the Bible. They find it fascinating that something seemingly archaic can be so relevant and modern.'" For information call 1-800-777-8806.

by Julia Duin, The WashingtonTimes

"IN AN ANNUAL REPORT issued by the U.S. Commission on Religious Freedom, a commission formed by Congress in 1998, Saudi Arabia has been named the world's top violator of religious rights. Commission Chairman Felice Gaer stated after the release of the report, 'It's time to apply the same standards to Saudi Arabia that are applied elsewhere.'" Elwood McQuaid, Israel My Glory

JOSH McDOWELL recently presented some "startling statistics that bear out a troubling truth: Christian teens are abandoning the concept of 'absolute truth.'

In 1991, 52% of our born-again church kids said there is no absolute truth." By 1994, that

percentage had risen to 62%. In 1999, it was 78%. In 2002 it was a staggering 91% of church kids who "said there is no absolute truth."

McDowell added: "The very basis on which we build our faith is truth--and when we allow truth to erode, we gut the faith."

While values drive a young person's behavior, McDowell said, it is beliefs that form their values...

Relationships can reverse this decline, he added. 'We are losing our kids--not because they're not hearing the truth, but because we're not building loving, intimate, caring relationships with them,' McDowell said." Agape Press



"CHRISTIANITY IS EXPLODING IN CHINA... It is estimated that 10,000 to 25,000 people accept Christ as Savior every day in China...

Jerry Dykstra, a spokesman with Open Doors USA...says the situation in China presents a paradox. 'The good news is that people are finding the Lord Jesus as their Savior. The sad news is that we can't get God's Word to them fast enough...'"

REVIVAL'S GOLDEN KEY: Official Training Manual For End-Time Believers, by Ray Comfort with Kirk Cameron

Although prayer is without question a great key to revival, this 236-page *book* is not about prayer. It's about a key that much of the Church doesn't even know exists. It was lost around the turn of the twentieth century (keys have a way of getting lost). All who truly yearn for revival and have a burden for the lost must rediscover this God-given key. This book tells you how to do that. See order form.

THE AUTUMN MESSAGE



*The harvest is past and summer is gone,
A blast from the north tells that winter comes on,
The snows from the mountains course down through the vale,
Sculpting the landscape, obscuring the trail,
Drifting the fields in layers of white,
Sedating the world for the long winter's night.*

*What now of the planting in summer delayed?
What of the sowers who lingered and played?
What of the harvest that hence will be lost?
What of the fruit that succumbs to the frost?
What of the bounty that now cannot be?
What of the largess we never shall see?*

*Whence now comes the food for the family, the friend?
Whence comes the help we intended to send?
Whence comes the fuel to cheer and to warm?
Whence comes the shelter from threatening storm?
What of the lost, the stranger, the poor,
Gleaning no longer with ice on the moor?*

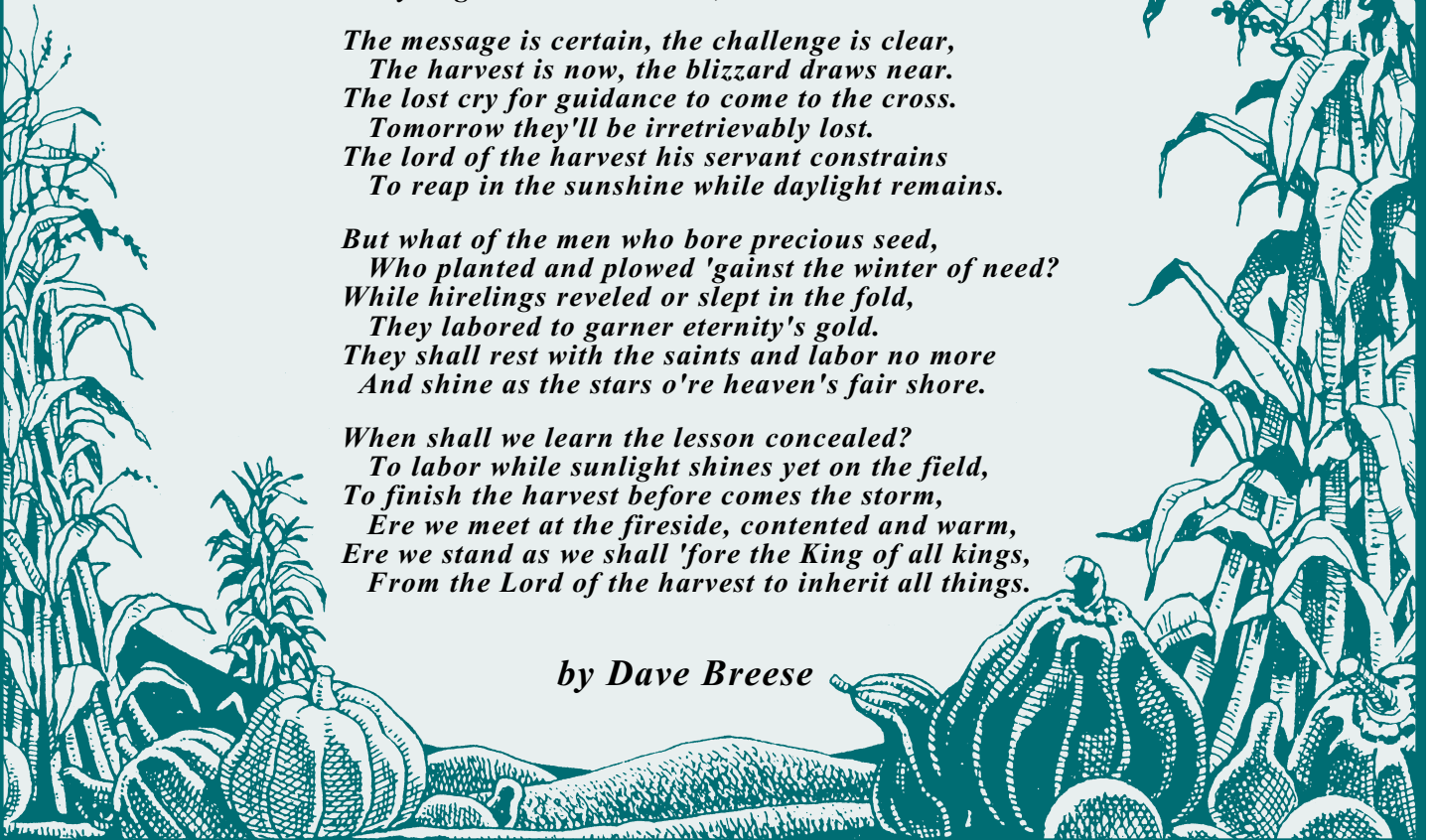
*Herein is a spiritual lesson disclosed;
When harvest is past, a chapter is closed.
The lost remain lost in the winter of sin.
The future is less than anon it had been.
The neglect of today brings tomorrow's sad lot;
Joy might have blossomed, alas it will not.*

*The message is certain, the challenge is clear,
The harvest is now, the blizzard draws near.
The lost cry for guidance to come to the cross.
Tomorrow they'll be irretrievably lost.
The lord of the harvest his servant constrains
To reap in the sunshine while daylight remains.*

*But what of the men who bore precious seed,
Who planted and plowed 'gainst the winter of need?
While hirelings reveled or slept in the fold,
They labored to garner eternity's gold.
They shall rest with the saints and labor no more
And shine as the stars o're heaven's fair shore.*

*When shall we learn the lesson concealed?
To labor while sunlight shines yet on the field,
To finish the harvest before comes the storm,
Ere we meet at the fireside, contented and warm,
Ere we stand as we shall 'fore the King of all kings,
From the Lord of the harvest to inherit all things.*

by Dave Breese



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



WORTH QUOTING

“So, at 23 here I am. Not by any means an apologist or scholar. Yet God was calling me to ministry in Counter Cults. I spent weeks pouring through books and websites. It just left me frustrated.

Then one night at church, I felt the Lord asking me to look through our modest library. There I found your simple but powerful book [**The Marks of a Cult**]. I read it that next day and was completely blessed. I passed it on to others in these ministries and they in turn were blessed with a fresh outlook on this battle that is only God’s to win. I wanted to thank you for listening to the Lord in this and let you know how excited I am to go through it with the churches in Belize.”

– Pleasanton, CA

“You can tell everyone in the office that we still talk about our time with them also. That was a really special day and we truly loved each person in your office. You are blessed to have such a staff.”

– Tampa Bay, FL

“We are extremely grateful that we continue to be enlightened and blessed by his teachings in **Destiny Newsletter** – it would be a shame if his works were to be locked away in some storage cabinets somewhere gathering dust. His vital ministry will continue to point us to Christ long after his departure from this earth. The name Breese is added to the list of uncompromising expositors who poured out their lives in service to the living God – they understood their calling and desired an abundant harvest of souls for Christ Jesus. How we long for the day when we will join that great company of believers as we bow before the throne of our living God and Savior and sing His praises. Please convey our love to Carol and thank her for her unstoppable passion for Christ and His work.”

– Dayton, OH

“‘What can I do today that will be a credit to Christ and a threat to the Devil’ – a motto your dear husband often expressed. I’ll add my voice to that too!

I am approaching 90 years of age and do more talking than walking. The older I get the more grateful I am for the love of our Lord and the marvelous way He ‘steers’ us thru each day. It’s marvelous and exciting! May God continue to bless your ministry!”

– Estes Park, CO

“Thank you for continuing to send me the Destiny Newsletter. The September issue with the article titled ‘Creation vs. Evolution’ from Dave’s writing was excellent.

May God guide you and bless you as you serve Him.”

– West Lafayette, IN

“Please send me the free book *Can America Survive The Prophetic Wars*. I learned a lot from watching **The King is Coming** and Dr. Breese’s teachings. I am glad God has used this man to help and teach so many people including myself. Bless you all!”

– Scott Depot, WV

“After reading the doctrines of Plato, Socrates, and Aristotle, we feel the specific difference between their words and Christ’s is the difference between and inquiry and a revelation.” --Joseph Parker

“I search in vain in history to find the similar to Jesus Christ, or anything which can approach the Gospel.” --Napoleon Bonaparte

“If some great Power would agree to make me think always what is true and do what is right on condition of being turned into a sort of a clock, I would instantly close with the bargain. The only freedom I care about is the freedom to do right; the freedom to do wrong I am ready to part with.”

--Thomas Henry Huxley

(But, of course, Tom, God makes no such arrangement with men.)

“The greatest gift which God in His bounty bestowed in creating, and the most conformed to His own goodness, and that which He prizes the most, was the freedom of the will, with which the creatures that have intelligence, they all and they alone, were and are endowed.”

-- Dante Alighieri

“All things are ordered by God, but His providence takes in our free agency, as well as His own sovereignty.” --Tyrone Edwards

*But especially,
“Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:4-7).*

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



Q: What kind of a body will I have in heaven?

A: This is a question of which we should all be curious. The Scripture says that *“For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”* (II Cor. 5:1) which God has prepared for us. I assure you it will be wonderful indeed. At the resurrection, we will be reunited with the bodies which we had on earth but they will be glorified. Consequently, our spirit, soul, and body will be in heaven.

Q: Where do I get wisdom?

A: Thankfully, James tells us *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all men liberally, and upbraids not, and it shall be given him* (James 1:5). Of course, we are invited to cooperate with that program. Paul says, *“Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”* (II Tim. 2:15).

Q: How can I have confidence in a frightening world like this?

A: I recommend a verse which I have chosen as my life verse. The Psalms say, *“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom*

shall I be afraid?” (Psalm 27:1). The Apostle Paul uses this very word saying, *“Being confident of this very thing, that He which has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ”* (Phil. 1:6). Confidence comes from a knowledge of the Word of God and the earnest desire to do what the Word of God recommends.

Q: Why was polygamy allowed in the Old Testament but not in the New Testament?

A: I have thought much about this and my answer is this. Marriage in the Old Testament was solemn, but it was strictly marriage. In the New Testament, it is equally solemn--and then more so because it is used as an illustration of the relationship of Christ and the Church. A broken marriage tends to suggest that the relationship between the believer and Christ, which is eternal life, can be broken. It cannot be broken because Jesus promises, *“I give to them eternal life; and they shall never perish”* (John 10:28). The believer and his Lord have an indissoluble relationship, and Christian marriage was ordained to be an illustration of this sublime union.

Q: Why do there seem to be so many cases of spiritual fatigue in our churches?

A: In running a race or playing in any sport, fatigue sets in when we forget the goal or it seems to be too far away. As we grow near the goal and realize that we may be

winners, we get an exhilarating case of “second wind.” Too many Christians have settled down to ordinary, banal living even though they are in sight of the goal. We will be energized greatly when we can say with the Apostle Paul, *“I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”* (Phil. 3:14). Spiritual fatigue should never be. The goal is straight ahead.

Q: What happens when a Christian marries an unbeliever?

A: The Bible says, *“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”* (Amos 3:3). It says, *“Come out from among them, and be ye separate”* (II Cor. 6:17). An unbeliever is dead in transgressions and sins whereas the believer is alive in Jesus Christ. These are two conditions that simply will not mix, no matter how hard we try. Even Christian marriage has many problems, but they become intolerable unless we have the Lord to help us in all of the circumstances of life.

Q: How can I successfully resist temptation?

A: We become strong against temptation when we fortify ourselves by a knowledge of the Word of God. This being the case, the only thing to do is to endure. The Scripture says, *“Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him”* (James 1:12).

THINKING TOGETHER

GOD'S LITTLE MACHINE SHOP?

There is a very basic question that has to do with the essential nature of things which is a most serious matter in these days. The issue is with us because, in the theology of many, God is running a little machine shop which is life and the universe. The message is that everything is mechanized by the divine engineer called "God."

In this view, what we know as "human beings" and even those beings called "ourselves," are really robots, mechanical things. The relationship between this God and those mechanized beings is that of a lever puller, a switch turner, it is as between the controller and the controlled. The fact is that most Christians, an outsized majority, believe in some kind of mechanics as the determinism which makes the world the way it is and their lives the way they are.

In this view, then, God becomes the wizard in heaven which not only makes the sun shine (which He does) and the mists arise (which He does), but the cosmic master who ordains and controls all "human" belief and action (which He does not). Nothing, to those who hold this view, is worth saying, except, "God controls it all, and the will of man is of no consequence and does not, for all practical purposes, really exist. God runs His little machine shop and that's it. All deeds, all loves, all hates, all goodness, all badness, all events, and all implications are but the charade-like outworking of the mechanized will of God. They are but sparks or shavings from the machine shop in the

sky. The machines whir and clank by divine preordination, starting and stopping for no other reason than the action of the unseen switchman, and there's nothing else to be said."

Yes, there are those, there are many religious people and leaders, perhaps most, who hold a view of the relationship between God and man which is simply mechanistic. They apply this view in many areas of life. The first and most serious area is that of salvation.

Salvation, in this view, comes not to "whosoever will," but to only those who are the object of "unconditional election." By this, they mean that the divine choice is the only factor in one's personal salvation. The individual makes no choice, bears no responsibility, and is not consulted in his own salvation. Salvation is alone by divine fiat and all outcomes are mechanistically predetermined by God. God will save the heathen if He chooses, or not, should He so choose. For this view, Supralapsarianism is the name.

If this be true, it is also true that God chose that man should sin, that he ordained the fall of man. One catches his breath at the implication of such theology, making God the author of sin. The moral instructions given to Adam and Eve are, therefore, a pointless speech given to automatons who had no choice but to sin. Really, one wonders, how can an automaton commit a sin?

The "machine shop universe" also, as it must, applies to all

other things. For, of course, free or even partially free human wills and universal automation cannot exist in the same universe at the same time. Therefore, (we use the word "therefore" carefully, meaning "as a precise consequence"), all other things, events, attitudes, etc...are but mechanical arrangements which come out of God's little machine shop. There is no escaping it. Whether carnality or spirituality, godliness or humanness, all are things not to be credited to industry, intrepidity, or even consecration on the part of any individual. Whether we love or hate, we are but machines. Therefore, "love" and "hate" are but sounds called "words," formed as when the engineer blows the whistle, presumably for his own amusement.

Infinitely more could be said, like, "All is chemistry," or "Biology is destiny." But, of course, even saying these things is a totally nugatory activity. This because all sayings, agreements, conclusions, and thoughts are foreordained. Thinking by robots is a self-contradiction, and to speak intelligently of interaction between various robots or between them and God is simply silliness. By this very common theology, man, as we know him (a living, willing creature), ceases to exist, and God is but a self-amusing tyrant.

All ways by which man relates to God, by this system, dissolve into nothingness. Like praise to God, which is constantly invoked in Scripture. If man is a machine, praise to God is also a

meaningless activity. It is as if God spoke praises to Himself into a tape recorder and then played the tape back to Himself. What kind of God is this, that master of the machines? The question is foolish, for the very question and the answer must also have been previously dictated by God. How terribly absurd!

But, absurd or not, this “theology” is creeping into the Church in strong fashion in our time. Worse than that, churches and whole denominations have been formed and continue to form with this view as their core theology. New books are now appearing which push these mechanistic views in an increasingly extreme form (although each mechanistic view is totally extreme, for it must disallow all causes, save that of the engineer in heaven).

While there is yet time, this “theology” must be rejected. The wooden statues or small metal monsters called “human beings” must be rescued back into humanity. Unless they are, soon they will die after never having lived. Yes, but for that rescue, soon the world will die, never having lived. There is no tragedy for real machines not to have lived. But when living, acting, breathing human beings are theologically hypnotized into believing themselves to be non-volitional life, this is tragedy indeed.

No, the universe is not God’s little machine shop. We are not clanking gears and wheezing valves, controlled by remote switches in a buzzing and creaking place called heaven. Rather, we are creatures made in the image of God. We are required and enabled to be responsible choosers, deciders

between the options of life. When we believe in Christ, we then become the sons of God. As such, we are given “the dignity of causality” to a higher degree than anyone has doubtless realized. As sons of God, we are decidedly not robots, marionettes, puppets--we are not even channels. We are beings who have been set free to live the great adventure.

How sad that there are those, even those who call themselves theologians, who should suggest otherwise. Against these we must be resolute in our rejection of the doctrine of divine automation--lest we find ourselves children of a lesser god. *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”* This is the advice of

the Apostle Paul to the easily-subvertible Galatians. In this, he was warning them of the possibility of being kidnapped by one of the first corruptions of Christianity to break on the scene--the idea that man is not free. To such there are many “leaders” who would impose a yoke of bondage.

Man, as a worker together with God, can exercise a vast spiritual initiative. The exercising of such initiative can lead to accomplishments unimaginably great. We must be careful of the theology that says, “Let us wait for God to work.” God has worked in producing a titanic victory for us at Calvary. It is now our responsibility to bring that message of glorious liberty to all mankind. *“If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.”*

Taken from the writings of Dave Breese

FINALLY

Dear Friend of Christian Destiny,

In the ministry of Christian Destiny, we rejoice in the annual support that has come during the holiday season. We invite you to be among those who remember this ministry with a special, generous contribution. This outreach for Christ is made possible because of those who pray and those who contribute to the ongoing of the Gospel.

Once again I wish to say a most heartfelt thanks to you for your prayers and for your support during this wonderful year of opportunity. In the midst of these challenging times, we have been very conscious of your earnest prayers.

Sincerely,

Carol Breese
Christian Destiny, Inc.