This lesson will explain why true Christianity is the only religion which is not a religion but “life”, and God’s solution to our sorrows, our pain and suffering and our problems which seem to be unsolvable. Are you aware of the fact that the Bible is our foundation of truth and our road map back to God? And also that without the Holy Spirit in our life interpreting and leading and guiding us on our journey, the Bible is just another book?

The Holy Spirit is the life of the one true God. And the Holy Spirit, when he comes into your life will always bear witness of Jesus Christ, even though he comes as “John the Baptist”, a lesser light. When the Holy Spirit comes in the light of Jesus, the baptizer of fire, He will be the truth, the way and the life. The dead church has only met John the Baptist who baptizes in water only; therefore they know not “the truth”.

Only with the Holy Spirit can any of the scriptures be fulfilled. He is the catalyst that changes our carnal mind into the mind of Christ. He is the one who causes us to decrease and He increases, He is the comforter and the chastiser. If we obey and humble ourselves the Holy Spirit will take us on a journey from pride and arrogance to humility, from being conformed to a sick world called hell to being conformed to a new world called heaven. He will lead us from acting and vanity to being and reality. He will lead us into a state of peace and rest.

However there is one experience that is a must — a bridge from one world to another, from hell to heaven, where even our ability to do things for Him is not needed. The following scriptures allude to this experience we all must go through if we are to complete what God has started in developing the human race. He began creating the human race without our help, then we became a partner working with Him, leaving all to follow Him — and now I am about to describe the experience that makes null and void even the good things we did for and with Him.

The cocoon, cross or crisis is the experience that not only makes Christ real and makes Christianity different than any other religion, but it is the experience that bears the reproach of Christ. And without the reproach of Christ you will never understand the human race with all of its sorrow. In the cocoon one does not belong to the world in which it was born nor is it born again in the new world, therefore it is seemingly a misfit.

Read carefully the following scriptures as they are descriptive of our cocoon stage, our crisis stage, our cross where we give up the ghost, our change so we can rise from the dead.

Matthew 24:38 — “They were eating, drinking, marrying and giving in marriage until the day that Noah entered the ark.” I will describe later the ark experience.

John 12:24 — “Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone.” Let me paraphrase — it cannot live.

Romans 12:2 — “Be ye not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the metamorphosis of your mind.”
Mark 15:34 — “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

Psalm 23:4 — “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...”

John 16:7 — “It is expedient for you that I go away — I will not sup with you again until I sup with you in the kingdom.”

These are but a few of the scriptures I would like to use to describe the indescribable.

Let us check out Matthew 24. The entire chapter is on what is known in Christianity as “the second coming of Christ”. Now, mind you, the disciples were talking to Christ. Mind you, they made it very plain that His coming was “their leaving” or the end of their world as they knew it. The entire chapter is awesome. However, the most important verse is the above scripture which infers they were carrying on as usual, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage until the cocoon season came. Does it not infer that all of these main things of life came to an end, even the pastoring, the evangelism, the prophesying????? As in the days of Noah, all flesh is destroyed. All relationships are destroyed, families torn apart. Where you once could converse, now there is strife.

So now our journey takes us into the dark night of the soul — alone we go into this cocoon, or this crisis experience. Without this experience Christ has come in vain as we end up the same as if we had never met Christ. We now become a pompous “come to Jesus” Christian, ever learning but never coming to the reality of the truth. However, in this cocoon, we, like the worm begin to die out to all we ever knew. The God we knew is gone for we had a small image of who we thought God is. I can fully understand Jesus saying, “My God, why hast thou forsaken me?” His image of God in His worm stage was the center of His small world. Now all of this had to give way to a change so drastic — like from sleep to awake — from a child of the night to a child of the day.

Now, can we plan our suffering?? Of course not. Can we decide when it is our turn to have our metamorphosis?? Of course not. Can we however, obey God in the elementary things and be ready when our day of change comes? “Therefore, be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the son of man cometh.” (Matthew 24:44)

I am going to tie Romans 12:1 with 1 Corinthians 15, as they both allude to the death to the old and being born anew.

Romans 12 begins with, “…that ye present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.” Then the scripture goes on to say, “This is but a reasonable sacrifice.” After we do that step of obedience, then God does His bit by allowing us to go into the cocoon and change from a carnal mind conformed to the evil world called hell into the glorious mind of the peace that passes all understanding. All fears gone, all strife gone, all disappointments gone — at rest with our Lord. Please remember this as we will be talking about overcoming death in a future scripture. “To be carnally minded is death.” So Jesus said He came to take us out of this present evil world by a metamorphosis, not by physically dying but by dying spiritually with a metamorphic change.

Now, seeing as how our inner man is made up of spirit, soul and body and we cannot see it or touch it — and seeing as how all we do comes from that inner man — all of our reasoning, our thinking, our hates and loves, our sorrows, etc. — and seeing as how our outer body that we can see, feel and touch is subject to that inner body, we can only purpose to give up the things that rule over our physical bodies, like fucking — excuse me, “making love” — drinking and taking drugs, overeating or the control of our eating. We can purpose to make “seeking first the kingdom of God” our goal, our priority in life. Our spirit is more intelligent than our mind which has been conformed to the evil world with all of its education, its demonic wisdom, so it is aware of how sincere we are in giving our bodies and our ways and our time to God. We can play games with God but we will never fool Him.

Now in 1 Corinthians 15:51 the Holy Spirit gives a perfect picture of what happens in our being once we enter the ark and are cut off from one world and being prepared to live in another. He calls this a mystery, which indeed it is. He says we are all asleep until we enter the ark. That means all the super spiritual leaders we have had so far are sound asleep, blind, with no vision and they, my dear reader, are the leaders of Christianity. That includes Billy Graham. Remember, He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; He is a God of the living. And my dear friend, they are all gone physically.

“The Cocoon...” – 2
The Holy Spirit demands change. I mean change from doing our own thing which seems so right in our eyes. I mean change of our speech which is baby talk even if you are the Pope. The more eloquent our speech, the harder time we will have relinquishing our prideful use of words. Consider Moses and what he had to go through and then had to have Aaron as his spokesman. I knew a so called charismatic prophet, college educated, as a matter of fact a professor in a college. He had an unbelievable grasp of truths and prided himself in his use of vocabulary. He has since gone by the wayside.... a shooting star that led the people nowhere. The voice from hell is called childish... no matter how eloquent.... I mean a change in our thinking and our understanding. I mean a change in our relationships..... I mean a change in our world.

1 Corinthians 15 says, “We will not a sleep but we will all be changed. In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet; for the trumpet shall sound and the dead will be raised incorruptible — the mortal will put on immortality.”

Now, the Holy Spirit goes on to tell about the metamorphosis. “In a moment.” That word “moment” in Strong’s Concordance means to cut, the indivisible (atom of time). In other words the mind has subdivided down to ground zero and cannot be divided any more. The atom here refers to time and I find it quite interesting that the scriptures tell us to use our time wisely and to redeem the time... could the using of our time wisely coincide with the subdivision that ultimately brings us into the resurrection?? There are some things we can do while in our cocoon that lead us into the next world. Now to go on with the scripture, “In the twinkling of an eye.” The word “twinkling” means to hurl suddenly, to smite with the palm of the hand (like a baby being born), to throw. Does that not describe the emergence of a butterfly or a new creation that now lives in another world??? In the world but not of it?? Now get this: eye here means envy, the jealous side glance. Another reference — the new vision, our eyes of the Spirit being open. This ends all jealousy.

Now the word the “trumpet”..... means reverberation, quake, quavering — yes, the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, the mortal body shall give way to immortality. My friends, this is a mystery that one has to experience to solve the mystery. It is the only heaven there is — it is the only real Christianity there is — it is the only reality there is.

Now let us delve into the over-recited, underrated 23rd Psalm; it also has another description of the cocoon experience that leads from one world to another.

It begins with, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Now, if you can be shepherded or discipled, come let us journey on to heaven. Can you imagine a state of being where all our wants are taken care of by the Shepherd of our life?? Soooo the Psalm begins with a promise and then tells us what we must go through to get from the wantng, envious, jealous, striving world into the world of peace and fulfillment. In this new world are the still waters, the restoration of the soul, the righteousness of God — heaven, if you will.

The valley of the shadow of death is the cocoon we must go through to overcome the last enemy called death. If the scriptures here were referring to physical death and heaven if we die and the riddance of all pain, why is death called the last enemy to overcome???? “Seek him that turneth the shadow of death into morning, the Lord is his name.” We are commanded to be obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, another name for the cocoon. Overcoming our old life is so excruciatingly painful it is likened to a woman giving birth. Jesus referred to it as the worst happening to mankind since the beginning of time. So in this Psalm He comforts us with the “I will fear no evil”. Is this because He shows us our own evil so we see for a surety that “there is only one who is good and that is God”, as was uttered by our Savior?

The rod that continues to prod us on and the staff we lean upon are the only reality of the Christ we met at the door and we so eagerly followed. It is in the cocoon we see the evil side of the tree that Eve saw as good and she so eagerly partook of it, that caused our death. We seem to be swallowed up in evil on all sides and in the midst of this filth He prepares a table in the presence of our enemies.

Ahhhh, I see the light at the end of the dark night. Where there was sorrow now there is joy; where there was mourning, now there is laughter. Where there once was frivolity now there is soberness and sincerity; where once I believed a lie now the truth is my mainstay; where there was the God that used His rod and was a taskmaster that forced me to change, now there is a God
of mercy. Yes, my dear sojourner, when the cocoon days end — and as they began, they will surely end. Our cup runneth over. Our tomb days are over. The word tomb is memory. With our memory gone we become like little children leaning on our Lord to bring to remembrance what we need. The memory that had stored up eons of hurt is all gone. He wipes away all tears. Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and what’s more we who go through this mystery shall live in the house of the Lord forever — get it — forever and ever, Amen.

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