



### ***Shhh...It's a Secret God Told Me to Tell You!***

*"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law. (Dt. 29:29)*

As the Preacher has already told us, *"There is nothing new under the sun"*. (Ecc. 1:9) So why should we be surprised that yet *another* person has been the exclusive recipient of yet *another* "secret" from God and, for the first time in the history of the world, is making it known to us? For some reason, instead of writing it down in one of the original languages of the Bible and making it freely available to all like the original Prophets of old, this time around God chose to have it printed in English and sold for \$16.99 (\$9.00 on the Kindle). For a fee, the "prophet" will come and speak about it. False teaching disguised as "revelation" like Jonathan Cahn's *The Harbinger* have been around since handwriting was invented and such will, no doubt, persist until the Lord returns. Please do not buy it or even bother reading a friend's copy; why should you take away time from your personal meditation in Scripture, the only *true* source of revelation? But such things keep coming up, so I keep going back to the above verse.

- Fact 1: God has not revealed everything to us, *nor will He*.
- Fact 2: He has *already* revealed everything we need to know in His Word. There is no room for new books in The Book.
- Fact 3: If we cannot be obedient to what has already been revealed, there is no "new" or further revelation coming.

In addition to outright false teachers and false prophets who teach error, there are also those who, *"...speak a vision of their own imagination, not from the mouth of the LORD"*. (Jer. 23:16b) In either case, it is to be rejected just the same.

The sad thing is that I cannot even report this to be the most egregious attempt to deceive the Elect in this age-old genre of claiming something never-before-revealed. There seems to be a whole "Bible codes" industry built on individuals and movements

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who purport to be the first ones in history whom God allowed to figure out these “secrets”. On the most shallow, surface level of this nonsense, why does it not bother anyone with a grade school education that the Lord has allowed all of the apostles, pastors and scholars throughout the whole of history up this point to have miscalculated, mistranslated, or just plain mishandled the Word except these chosen few whom God waited until now to reveal it to? Why is it that we so rarely see these “gifted” individuals living like a *true* apostle or prophet, much less a faithful rank-and-file believer? Why does God choose for them to personally profit so greatly from this particular revelation when this was anything but the case for those through whom the true, written Word of God was previously given? (Prophets from biblical times must be jealous of profits in modern times—pun intended.) Why should I even attempt a scriptural response when the argument is won and lost without ever leaving the arena of common sense?

For the uninitiated, the name of the last book of the Bible, in Greek, is “*Apokalypsis*”. It describes an unveiling, something that becomes clearer and clearer as you get nearer to it, and the veil which you can already partially see through is finally lifted out of the way. The truth is that if we would just trust the timing and direction of the Holy Spirit through Whom we obtain the only guidance that can explain God’s Word, ***there are no*** remaining “secrets”. At present we can already see the outline of them all, so it is really a case of God’s timing as to when we will be brought close enough and the veil fully removed so that what has been there all along comes into our clear, earthly view. Such are not “secret” things, but a test of faith to see if we will obey all that we have already been given while we wait for His timing when it comes to the rest. Beware of those who claim they are the only ones who can explain what is behind the curtain, especially if it costs \$16.99.

But I have to say that it amazes me how poor the so-called “Christian” con-artists and counterfeiters are at their work! We could never find an unbelieving con-man or counterfeiter producing obvious imitations and cheap knock-offs that would not fool anyone. They have much more pride in their work than the Christian con-artists! The professional thief at least does their homework, pays attention to all the tiniest details and makes it the most difficult possible to see any difference between the fake and authentic. At least *their* fake diamond is so good, only the most well-equipped and knowledgeable expert can tell the difference so that they really do fool the mark. All

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Christian con-artists seem to need to do is produce something sparkly and pretty which only *they* would have the audacity to call a “diamond”, and there is *no end* of takers who are fooled! They do not have to make any effort whatsoever beyond simply calling it a “diamond” and, unlike a wiser person of the world, their marks simply take their word for it. Unlike the world’s counterfeits, it is so obviously something of little resemblance to the real thing that it should never have fooled anyone to begin with.

One would think that these charlatans would spend at least a *little* time studying how an authentic, biblical prophet lives, speaks and acts. Or that they would carefully craft their wares to be as indistinguishable as possible from the authentic. Or that they would try to imitate the original right down to the worn out sandals. Why is it that Christians will accept an obvious imitation which any non-believer with bad eyesight and a poor sense of smell would recognize in ten seconds? Why is it that every modern-day false prophet fills the exact mold Jesus identified as producing something obviously false?

*“But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ palaces! (Matthew 11:8)*

How did John’s appearance and stature reveal he was anything but someone who called a king’s palace a home? He first and foremost looked and lived the part.

*Now John himself had a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)*

And what was John’s accompanying message? What did he *say* to do about the impending arrival of the Messiah, the greatest literal “revelation” of all time?

*“Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; (Matthew 3:8)*

Everyone *then*, just as today, knew that the Messiah was coming soon. The real prophet did not reveal a new “secret”, did not dazzle them with something only he had, but called them back to the most basic thing they knew all along because it had been drilled over and over again through all the previous prophets and God’s Word predicting His arrival: repent of sin and put the Word of God as already given into practice so you will be able to handle the coming revelation.

*“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law. (Deuteronomy 29:29)*

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And what is even more incredible is that the Messiah **DOES** come, the Messiah fulfills more than three hundred twenty prophecies in the Old Testament, and the vast majority completely miss the “revelation” of the Messiah’s first coming! Why? Instead of doing what John said, they kept following and seeking after those who dangled something *else* in front of them. How much more authentic can it get than to have the Messiah, in person, right there in front of you and instead giddily run after the cheap, sparkly imitation that “looks pretty” over there? No, the problem *then* is the same as it is *now*: a lack of obedience to what God has *already* revealed, a population that can be deceived because they are not prepared for something “new” because they never truly believed the “old”.

Do I believe that there are “deeper” truths to be gleaned from the Word than are obvious at first glance? Of course, but there is a basic rule of interpretation which tells us when the line has been crossed from “exegesis”—drawing out of Scripture what is there, and “eisegesis”—reading something into Scripture that was never there to begin with: Scripture *never* contradicts Scripture.

I have seen people use Gematria, where the letters of the Greek or Hebrew alphabet are assigned a number, to show that the Messiah to come was going to literally be named “Jesus”. If that is true, it is not actually something “new” or in conflict with the rest of Scripture, is it? Scripture confirms that the Messiah is indeed named “Jesus”. Within Scripture is a rich texture of patterns, allegories, parables and typology, all of which never form the *basis* for doctrine, but in every instance is confirmed elsewhere in Scripture by what is plainly stated. The “deeper” things reflect and provide a better understanding of the basic things. If someone offers something that cannot be confirmed and supported by Scripture, run far, my friend...run fast.

How does a real prophet handle God’s prophetic Word? Look at the guy through whom more “secrets” were revealed in the Old Testament than any other. No one has left us more Old Testament prophetic puzzles than Daniel. How did he handle the recognition of God’s revelation in his time?

*In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans— in the first year of his reign, **I, Daniel, observed in the books** the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely,*

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*seventy years. **So I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek Him by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed** and said, "Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances. (Daniel 9:1-5)*

Daniel is searching the Word which God has *already* given! Daniel, someone renowned for personal faithfulness to God's Word, discovers something no one else seems to be aware of which is *inside* the Word which God has already given! What does he do with this "secret"? Daniel begins by addressing the core issue of repentance of sin and obedience to the Word—that which has *already* been made known. He knows they are not going to get the greater fulfillment to come if they do not get what has already been revealed.

When faced with the imminent and inevitable fulfillment of God's prophetic Word, a *true* prophet first and foremost addresses the shortfall in living according to what God's people should already know. Daniel did not know how God would specifically fulfill the prophecies in Jeremiah, but he knew that it would be missed in whatever form it took by God's people if they did not repent and start living according to the Word *already* given to them. In other words, because people were not living according to the Word of God as already given, they were incapable of seeing what was *about to be* revealed in the prophetic Word of God! God is not going to reveal a "secret" to someone who is unwilling to obey the plain truth already provided. In fact, when Daniel was given an actual secret, he was told to *keep* it secret until God Himself would reveal it at God's appointed time. (Dan. 8:26-27)

Now here is an interesting supporting "revelation" from Scripture when it comes the unveiling of God's secrets. What would happen if God **DID** make one of His secrets known? How would we know for sure that this was authentically taking place?

*The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him,  
And He will make them know His covenant. (Psalm 25:14)*

It will only come to those who are obediently putting His Word into practice for the purpose of their *further* putting His Word into practice! Biblically speaking, "*those who fear Him*" is defined as someone who is intimately acquainted and so reveres the Lord

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that it is visibly proven by their obedience to His Word. This verse does not contradict the one previously quoted from Deuteronomy, but establishes what we know not only about every biblical prophet's ministry, but every sign and wonder recorded and still to come: it is *always* about obedience to the greater message of the Word. The Psalmist tells us that the end result is the deepest and most complete working of God's Word, to "*know His covenant*". This is the term which expresses having entered into a personal relationship with God based on the mutual terms of His Word. Authentic secrets from the Lord *confirm* His Word for those already in a right and obedient relationship in the most profound ways so that it has the greatest effect to reinforce obedience to His Word!

- We know some "secrets" to be bogus because God does not reveal secrets to someone living a life apart from His Word.
- We know some "secrets" to be bogus because they are not supported by nor conform to God's already provided Word.
- We know some "secrets" to be bogus because they try to introduce something "new" that cannot be found in God's written Word.
- We know some "secrets" to be bogus because they are so general, we do not know what to actually do with the information.

But we ultimately know to automatically reject *anyone* using the term "secret" without delving very deeply. Why?

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*"I have not spoken in secret, In some dark land;  
I did not say to the offspring of Jacob  
'Seek Me in a waste place';  
I, the LORD, speak righteousness,  
Declaring things that are upright. (Isaiah 45:19)*

What is here articulated through Isaiah in the Old Testament is expanded upon by Christ Himself:

*Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all*

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*the Jews come together; and **I spoke nothing in secret.**  
(John 18:20)*

Paul tells us that even when God reveals a mystery, it is verified by God's Word and those through whom His written Word was given, and that such is always freely and publicly revealed to the entire world and has as its ultimate purpose faithfulness to God's Word:

*Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to **the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;** to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen. (Romans 16:25-27)*

What is, has, and most certainly will come many more times in the form of those claiming to reveal something "secret" is probably best explained by Peter for what it really is:

*But **false prophets** also arose among the people, just as there will also be **false teachers** among you, **who will secretly introduce destructive heresies,** even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and **because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words;** their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. (2 Peter 2:1-3)*

Too many are so easily deceived because they spend absolutely no time in the Word, usually because to do so would mean having to address the persistent issues of personal sin in their life. They do not know what God's Word says, so they allow someone else to define it for them. It is like buying a diamond without ever actually knowing what a real diamond looks or feels like, so why not just take the salesman's word for it? But for those of us who strive to attain to being a Wise Virgin (Mt. 25:1-13) who remain committed to His Word in spite of the lateness of the hour, we have already been provided *everything* we authentically and literally need from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21. Everything else is an obvious and pale imitation.

In Him,

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