



Friends of the Jesus Revelation

as revealed through the writing servants and writing prophets Jakob Lorber and Gottfried Mayerhofer, the friends of the Jesus Revelation feel connected to all people worldwide as creatures and children of one and the same Heavenly Father. This Father, who incarnated approximately 2,000 years ago in Jesus Christ, acted as Redeemer and Teacher, sharing divine wisdom and love during three years of ministry from the age of thirty.

The spiritfriends of this Divine Revelation recognize in this eternal message a renewed and exalted expression of the Word of God, as also articulated in the Biblical Gospel of John. They seek a joyful and global exchange of insights and experiences surrounding this revelation.

SELF-REFLECTION – SELF-EXAMINATION

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In this issue:

The Lucifer issue

Peter Keune † ★

Readers' Reactions and Contacts



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The Lucifer issue

Peter Keune states: "We are discussing the existence of a fallen primordial spirit named Lucifer (Light Bearer), who was once created by God as a great spirit but failed to withstand the test of freedom and was therefore captured 'with his pack' and banished to the material realm."

Swedenborg wrote his works about the Lord "based on what he heard and saw," while Lorber received revelations (likely through the angel John, the former Biblical evangelist), who was commissioned by the Lord to write the New Revelations, resulting in the ten substantial volumes of "The Great Gospel of John."

The Lord first returned to Earth among humanity through Swedenborg (1688-1772) and a century later through Lorber (1800-1864), marking the most significant revelations since the dawn of human memory on Earth.

In the spiritual realm, the Lord called upon the fallen archangel Lucifer to undergo a transformation. - Lorber, Jacob: Bishop Martin, Chapter 119, Verses 1-10:

[1] "But I turn to the dragon, and My words are: 'Satan, how much longer will you seduce God, your eternal Lord? How long will your boundless arrogance persist? What do you hope to achieve against My infinite power, which can completely dissolve and destroy you at any moment? And even if it does not wish to, it can still eternally punish you in the strictest manner!

[2] You know that this time is your very last; during this time, you can either rise or fall forever! What will you do? My will is all too well known to you, and if it were not, you would have no sin at all for eternity. But since My will is known to you, along with both the reward and the punishment, say: What will you do?

[3] Behold, now everything rises up against you! All mountains are humbled, and the valleys will be filled. All the crowns and thrones of the Earth that you have established will be cast into the abyss! What will you do? You will never again be able to defy My power; nothing will be permitted to you! So speak, what will you do? Will you rise or will you fall?

[4] Behold, beneath you lies the eternal abyss - and behold, here I am, Father of all who love Me, and here is My table! - Choose now and withdraw quickly! So be it!

[5] Satan replies: 'Lord, I know You, I know Your power and my terrible powerlessness beside Your infinite, eternal power. But precisely because I perceive all this so deeply and feel my powerlessness so profoundly, I also see it as a triumph of my pride that I can defy You, yes, that I can oppose You! And I also realize that all Your power has no means to bend my spirit, to triumph over my will - except through my complete destruction, which you can never regard as a victory over me! For a spiritual victory in life is never based on the possible complete destruction of the infinitely weaker counterpart but on the wisest persuasion of what the complete freedom of both parties necessarily requires.

[6] But this persuasion is always based on the freely chosen assumption of the opposite. But this opposite is me, who never wants to realize what You rightly desire. And even if I do realize it, I still do not want to do it to show You that there is another will besides Yours, which Your omnipotence will never bend as long as You allow me to exist!

[7] For behold, it is easy to be free according to Your will. But to know Your eternal omnipotence and Your wrath, and in my own powerlessness to eternally

renounce all bliss, to defy You, the most omnipotent Spirit, in the greatest struggle for existence - behold, this is greater than all the greatness that Your all-seeing eye could ever behold!

[8] And behold, this is also the reason for my continued disobedience to You. In this disobedience, I see the greatest triumph of my powerlessness against Your omnipotence, for in this powerlessness, I always remain the voluntary victor over Your omnipotence, wisdom, and love, as well as over Your wrath, and You cannot bend me with all Your might, power, love, wisdom, judgment, and wrath!

[9] To be a Michael is not art, a Gabriel not a difficulty, an Uriel an easy task, a seraph, a cherub a heavenly game. But to be a L u c i f e r, a first, greatest spirit after You, who knows very well what endless bliss Your endless love offers and also what ever-increasing torment Your judgment of wrath entails! But at the same time, despising all bliss as well as all eternal torment, offering You from his own conscious powerlessness the most unwavering, eternal disobedience, without even the slightest prospect of ever gaining anything from it, but only endlessly losing forever! Behold, this powerless greatness of a creature's will is infinitely greater than all the greatness of Your divinity! And this realization makes me happier in my greatest suffering than You and all Your spirits and angels have ever been! Therefore, never ask me how long I will continue to defy You. My answer will always be the same: Forever, forever, forever! God will never bend me!

[10] I speak: 'O you blind, dark spirit, how great is your death in which you think you can defy Me! You revel in your delusions and do not realize that every true and even your false freedom, which you believe to be your own, must ultimately be subject to My will. Who has ever consulted with Me and discerned My ways? Do you not know whether it is not My secret will that you must be as you are? Do you not know whether I have not predestined you from the beginning to fall? Can the work ever dictate to the master how and for what purpose he must shape it?' (Bishop Martin 119)

Peter Keune writes: "To understand this scene, one must know that in the spiritual world, unlike the natural world, all outward phenomena such as landscapes, houses, animals, people, as well as scenes and situations, are reflections of the inner world of each spirit, similar to a dream - only much more realistic. To show someone their still-entrenched evil and wrongness, their dilemmas are presented to them by the Lord as if in a theater. The apparent environment of the individual is therefore a reflection of their respective inner state. In this respect, the grandiloquent Lucifer in the above citation has no other reality than to be an image of what unconsciously – and thus still unprocessed – lurks within Bishop Martin himself, thereby representing his own arch-enmity

and fundamental falsehood, personified in his Catholic-influenced image of a Lucifer."

Jesus Christ also presented Himself in the divine foundational beings during the great time of His spiritual return IN THE WORD, which the Bible also refers to as 'ON THE CLOUDS.' God returned out of LOVE through His WISDOM "in the clouds of heaven."

In fact, Swedenborg was initially the preparer of the GREAT REVELATORY WORKS to become acquainted with the GREATEST Works of Jacob Lorber for those who are READY for it.

Swedenborg writes: "But so that humanity no longer doubts that the Word is divine and holy in the highest degree, the Lord has revealed to me its inner meaning. It is spiritual in nature and dwells in the outer, natural sense, just as the soul dwells in its body. This sense is the spirit that animates the letter and can therefore testify to the divinity and holiness of the Word and even convince the natural man, if he only wishes to be convinced." (True Christian Religion 192)

Peter Keune: "The kingdom of heaven does not come freely to anyone, but it is like a field in which good seed (the Word) is sown and from which the ground must then be further cultivated."



Swedenborg states: "The doctrine of the Church must be drawn from the literal meaning of the Word and confirmed thereby, for the Lord is present in it, teaching and enlightening. For the Lord works nowhere else than in His fullness,

and the Word is in its fullness in its literal meaning. Therefore, the doctrine must be derived from this literal meaning." (True Christian Religion 229)

The soul of Lucifer is banished into matter and is rendered incapable of action; however, his mental state exerts a powerful influence on extreme worldly temptations.

Peter Keune notes: "Human souls that are still unfit for a spiritual life due to their overly material orientation are incorporated into other material schools of life (e.g., worldly bodies that allow for a lighter material 'envelope') until they are able to exist in the more spiritual essence of the world on the other side."

"Since the incarnation of the Lord, souls from nearly the entire material creation can also be incarnated on this earth if they wish to follow this path in the sense of following Jesus to enter into the sonship of God. This aspect is of great importance because the heavens have fundamentally changed since the 'time of times,' and only the path of humility through this earth leads to lineage. According to the New Revelation, there is a third group of souls that also wishes to come to earth — and possibly multiple times — to serve the Lord as teachers and pioneers of divine life."

We briefly discussed the soul. What is the soul? According to Swedenborg, the human soul is the inner essence of a person (the true life), which is perceived in the spiritual world as a spirit. "For the soul consists of a spiritual substance. The spirit creates without itself being a form. But once it has created forms, it can also act as a form within them." (Swedenborg, Heavenly Mysteries 1436)

The divine spark in humans can flow to wherever they carve a path or open a door. Swedenborg states, "The divine does not flow further inward than the person opens a way or a door," and elsewhere, "The divine influence is as great as the outflow."

Peter Keune explains: "The divine influence indicates how variable it can be in a person, depending on how they live, and thus it is contingent on their own capacity. This is precisely what the image of the spiritual spark signifies." Just like a fireplace, it must first be ignited by us: "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled!" (Luke 12:49).

The human soul can be understood as a fusion of an enormous number of soul or thought particles — originally independent of one another — that now together form a whole.



The Lord states in the book "Three Days in the Temple" by Lorber: "The soul in man is a spiritual product of matter, for within matter resides only a directed spirit seeking resolution, while the pure spirit is never directed, and each person possesses their own soul."

The "natural soul" of man is formed over long periods.

God has no beginning, and therefore there could never have been a first creation! Lorber refers to the infinite sequences as "creation periods." All matter, all planets, stars, and suns in the infinite universal order is subordinate to the Divinity. "Matter is the fixed and undirected medium that must undergo the test of free will to achieve true independence of life." (Great Gospel of John 6, 239,2)



Jesus spoke about matter: "You look at this Earth now and see nothing but matter that appears dead. I also see the forms of matter that seem dead; however, I perceive much more in them than you could ever see with your eyes. I see the banished spiritual things and beings within them, feel their striving, and see how they are constantly growing in inner formation and better and more solid shaping and unfolding of their appropriate forms. I see countless spirits and lesser spirits that are ceaselessly active in this realm... There is no question of rest, and the entire purposeful development of everything and every natural life is shaped by their unceasing activity." (Gr. Ev. Joh. 4, 57, 5)

Now, something about Lucifer. We make use of his sulfur almost daily (Lucifer as a matchstick, a little match! – the fireworks around New Year's!). Wherever sulfurous eruptions are found on Earth, his spiritual power is noticeable. In the Bible, Luz is mentioned in the Old Testament, primarily associated with the patriarch Jacob. Luz is the place where Jacob, while traveling to Haran, dreamed of a ladder reaching to heaven, with angels ascending and descending. This event is described in the Book of Genesis, chapter 28, verses 10-22. Humanity must reconnect with God and establish an Earth-to-Heaven bridge like a ladder.

The Lord describes through Leopold Engel in the eleventh part of the GJE about Lucifer: "[12] When I tell you that this first created spirit >Lucifer< (i.e., light bearer) was named as such, you will now understand why he was named so and not otherwise. He bore the Light of realization within him and could, as the first spiritual being, recognize the boundaries of the inner spiritual polarities well. He, equipped with My full power, now called other beings into existence that resembled him completely, who also felt the divinity within themselves and saw

the same Light of Realization burning within them, who also proved to be self-creating and were equipped with all the power of My Spirit. However, in them worked special forces of My original spirit, radiating outward; that is to say, their character corresponded to My seven main qualities, and therefore their number was seven.

[14] Lucifer, fully aware that he was supposed to represent the opposite pole of God within himself, believed that he could absorb divinity in a certain way and fell into the error of thinking he could absorb the infinity as a created and therefore finite being; for here too the law applied: No one can see God (the infinite) and at the same time retain their life, according to which he could feel the essence of the divinity, hear Her commands as long as he stood in the righteous center, but could never see Her personally...

"If Lucifer could, despite all warnings, fall into the delusion that he could absorb and conquer divinity, then he left the righteous standpoint and removed himself from the center of My heart. Thus, he left the righteous standpoint, distanced himself from the center of My heart, and fell more and more into the false desire to gather around him his creatures, which had emerged through him but through Me, in order to dominate the spaces populated with beings of all kinds.

[16] A schism arose, a separation of the parties, which eventually led to the power given to Lucifer being taken from Me, rendering him and his followers powerless and stripping them of their creative strength.

[17] The question naturally arose: 'What must happen to this army of fallen ones and those who seem dead, i.e., inactive?

[21] Thus, only the second way remained, which you have before you in the material creation.

[22] Imagine a person who refuses to acknowledge that the king of the land is a powerful ruler, as he has received all power and authority from him, yet has never seen him! He rebels against him and wants to become king himself. In order not to spoil his loyal subjects, the king seizes him, strips him of his jewels, takes away all his authority, and throws him into a strongroom until he comes to his senses, and the same is done with his followers. Depending on whether the followers express remorse and recognize their mistake, they will be freed and firmly adhere to the king, who has now also made Himself visible to them.

[23] This vague, earthly image shows you My act, for confinement is the material creation. However, you must awaken your spiritual feelings to understand it, for the human mind is too limited to grasp it.

[24] A soul consists of countless particles, each corresponding to an idea that comes from Me, and once they come together, they can no longer be anything other than what they are, as they then correspond to the character they have received...

[25] If a change needs to be made because the crystals have not become entirely pure, they must be dissolved by heat (love) and then re-crystallized when the warm water of love cools, which corresponds to the relinquishing of their will. Now new, beautiful crystals are formed again, and every careful chemist will know how to create crystals that are as beautiful, clear, and large as possible for his purposes.

[26] Look, I am such a chemist! I dissolved the impure crystals (Lucifer and his followers) in the warm water of love and now let these souls re-crystallize, so they become clear. You know that this happens by ascending through the mineral realm and the plant kingdom to humanity. But because the sea of Lucifer encompasses the entire material creation, it must also express itself in the form of humanity. Thus, all spiritual associations always unite in one person, who is expressed by the leader of this association and forms his so-called sphere. There is nothing comparable in the material world that clearly expresses this, which is why I said: Open your spiritual feelings!" (Gr. Ev. Joh. 11, 16/17)

Peter Keune: "In the texts of Gr. Ev. Joh. vol. 11, verses 11 - 26, it is about the soul of Lucifer as the basis for the formation of matter. It is also said that Satan and the devil judge worldly matter of all kinds and sorts. Here is another text:

[1] (The Lord:) "I once allowed Satan to appear to My first disciples in an appropriate image, and they were terrified of him. The same happened several times.

P.K: The ancient sages of this Earth (see Lorber, Jakob: Die Haushaltung Gottes, 3 volumes); but at that time, no literal explanation was given, as the ancients, wise in spirit, understood the figurative representation through inner correspondences and thus also said: 'It is terrifying to fall into the judgment hands of God, meaning: it is terrifying for a soul that has once fully achieved self-awareness to become trapped again by the unchanging judgment of the divine will in matter.' (Gr. Ev. Joh. 8, 35)

"But a certain personal prime Satan and personal prime devils have actually never existed anywhere else than only in the judged world matter of all kinds and sorts. However, the reason why Satan and the devils were depicted by the ancient philosophers in such terrifying images is so that the soul could form an idea of what hardships a free life must endure if it allows itself to be captured again by the judgment of matter." (Gr. Ev. Joh. 8, 34,21)

Peter K.: "Once again, we must seek the solution in the individual terms. The seven originally created 'spirits of God' should not be viewed as independent entities but, as already outlined, as forces and properties of the divine being. This particularly refers to the statement about Lucifer that he was the first created and highest spirit of the seven, but that he completely fell, while the other six did not fall. The first created spirit of this series was love, followed by wisdom, will, order, seriousness, patience, and mercy. Since love had turned into self-love, Lucifer is primarily understood as the personified self-love of humanity with all the consequences that follow." (Gr. Ev. Joh. 7:18)

Peter Keune asserts that Lucifer's fall should be assessed differently than, for example, the fall of Adam. The Lord explains this in Gr. Ev. vol. 2: [1] "The fall of the first created spirits or the free and animated ideas of God in infinite space is the great separation of which Moses says: 'Then God separated the light from the darkness!'

Peter K.: "While humanity on this Earth, as the end product of countless periods of development, is for the first time what God describes as a fully free 'you,' who can see God as outside themselves, Lucifer, who stands at the beginning of this process, is by no means what we imagine a 'person' to be in the conventional sense. This described spiritual force of the original creation was developed over endless long periods of time and ultimately fixed as matter. We remember that a spark of the all-encompassing power of God – also referred to as the spark of God – even has a materially solid point (nerve node) in our body, from which life pulses throughout the entire person. This point is located in the material heart and is the so-called affirming chamber of life. Right next to it is the denying chamber.

The Lord: [6] "Behold, that which matter contains in infinite space, that which is directed and thereby comes into being through the power of the 'Will of God'!... [7] God, however, has from eternity placed His thoughts, as it were, out of Himself and embodied them through His almighty will. However, these thoughts and ideas of God are not actual bodies, but they are directed spiritual beings and vessels for the emanation of a same Being. They are, therefore, beings destined to exist eternally, as from themselves and by their own power, alongside Me, the Creator who is visible to them.

[9] Under >Satan< is understood the entire material creation in general, and under >devil< the individual particulars thereof. [10] If someone lives in this world according to the recognized will of God, he thus elevates himself out of the creative captivity and enters into the uncreated freedom of God. [11] But someone who does not believe in God and therefore does not want to act according to His revealed will to humanity sinks more and more and deeper into the created matter and becomes spiritually impure, evil, and deemed evil and

thus a devil; for all that is purely created and deemed is, just like in the case of God, a devil. [12] But for God, there is nothing impure, nothing evil, and nothing bad; for to the pure, all is pure, and all that God has created is good, and before God, there is also no Satan, no devil, and thus no hell. Only the created in and for itself is all this as long as it is to remain a created and judged thing and ultimately wishes to possess free will, either to do good or evil." (Gr. Ev. Joh. 8, 34)

Note from Peter: The term "beings" does not refer to Lucifer but generally to the beings that were placed "outside" of God.

Swedenborg categorized the "devil," "Satan," and "Lucifer" as follows: "The devil and Satan are the hell, and under the devil is that hell which lies behind, where the worst are, who are called evil angels; and under Satan is understood that hell which lies in front, where the less bad are, who are called evil spirits; under 'Lucifer' are primarily understood those people who extend their dominion 'up to heaven.' They are the priests and teachers of the nations who first receive the divine word (hence also light bearers), but then distort and falsify the truth and goodness of the church for the sake of their dominion and advantage." (Heaven and Hell 543, 544)

Peter Keune: "The most important explanation on this subject can be found in the Revelation of John, which describes Lucifer being cast down from heaven to earth by Michael. - (Revelation of John 12:7) As we have said several times, we must separate the term 'spirit' from the term 'person' (in the usual sense). Here, the term is not used in the sense of a created personal being. Would the words 'the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him' (John 14:17) be understood as a personal spirit in human form, who is only invisible to us as long as we are worldly?

Peter: "According to various accounts in the New Revelation, no planet has 'fallen' as deeply as ours. This would, of course, have a plausible reason, as Lucifer has ultimately incarnated here. But there is another way to look at it. According to the Lord, it is His intention not only to nurture creatures but also children of His love. To achieve this goal, these latter must one day bear the highest power of God within themselves. Such steadfastness in the seven known attributes of God can, however, only be achieved if the corresponding opposite, namely the greatest possible aversion to God, is fundamentally also possible, so that humanity can remain in absolute spiritual free will. For this, the stimuli for disorder must have a correspondingly strong effect. Secondly, the Lord himself wanted to become human during this creation period on this Earth, which must therefore also form a correspondingly strong counterbalance."

"In Earth and Moon, it is said that the 'most evil spirit' is so malevolent that if you were to hear even a little of it, you would drop dead. This spirit would be trapped in the center of this Earth and express itself in an all-consuming sea of fire. Moreover, this spirit would be burned at the end of times in the wrath of God, and the remainder would be used as rubble for a new creation. At this point, it sounds as though we are talking about a real spirit that exists as such and is called Lucifer."

The truly satanic human spirits go, in accordance with their inclination towards their own kind, even to the lowest point of earthly matter, where they reside and wish to rebel and destroy. They are drawn there by their wicked love. There they form spiritually hellish spheres that are in direct correspondence with the center of the Earth.

Swedenborg: "I was not permitted to see the total form of hell; I was only told that just as heaven as a whole represents one man, hell as a whole also forms a devil and can therefore truly be depicted in the image of a devil." (Heaven and Hell, no. 415)

Matter is directed and solidified soul substance. The same applies to the hells. Satan is the sum of all matter and of its humanity... But as long as there was no human on a worldly body, there was also no personal devil on it, but only directed and unfermented spirits in the matter of a worldly body; but everything you perceive with your senses belongs to matter." (Gr. Ev. Joh. 8, 35)



In the next issue: another good thing to share with each other!

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