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**Subject:** The Idols we worship in Christianity (No. 1)

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Dear Saints

For the next few weeks to come we will be posting, in episodes, a number of "parables" that I've recently written. They are self-explanatory. If you are curious enough to want to read the entire story immediately, you can do so on our website: <http://trumpetcall.co.za/articles.php?id=35>

Enjoy!

Eben Swart

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## The Idols we worship in Christianity

### Introduction

The prophetic word is a curious thing:

If properly mandated by God,  
it strikes fear in the hearts of the worldly minded,  
delights the hearts of the godly  
and brutally consumes all unrighteousness which might dare to stand in its way.  
To the one it constitutes the fumes of death; to the other, the fragrances of life.  
It embarrasses the wicked and elates the prayerful.  
It exposes carefully obscured lies and confronts hidden sin.  
It is bold and explicit.  
To the proud it is gall and wormwood; to the humble it is honey and dew.  
The prophetic word is like a lion: You needn't feed it - it feeds itself.  
For a word to take effect it needn't be motivated; it needn't be defended.  
It may be attacked, but cannot be defeated.  
It may be denied, but never diminished.  
It may be criticized, but never scathed.

Once the prophetic word leaves the lips of the prophet,  
or once the ink of the full stop dries on his writing pad, nothing can stop it.  
It dashes through the cosmos in multi-dimensional waveform  
at the helter-skelter speed of white light,  
prying out its every target - be it natural or spiritual.  
Nothing can run from it, nothing can hide from it, nothing can overtake it.  
It destroys by fire the carefully constructed strongholds of the deceiver,  
whilst it hones the eternal purposes of God.  
Demons tremble; angels rejoice.

*Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?  
Jer. 23:29*

It infuses the discouraged;  
it strengthens the weak;  
it rips off blindfolds;  
it breaks chains of captivity and smashes prison doors of iron and steel.  
It lights up the darkness and brings hope to the downtrodden.  
It brings the purposes of God to manifestation  
and calls the things that are not as though they were.  
It creates new things and nourishes the old:

*As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish,  
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,  
**so is my word** that goes out from my mouth:  
It will not return to me empty,  
but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.  
You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and hills will burst into song before you,  
and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.  
- Is. 55:10 - 12.*

Having been in a prophetic ministry for many years, for the sake of survival I simply had to apply myself to the discernment of prophetic words. Usually, ninety percent and more would simply pass you by. But some strike like a sledgehammer. They hit you right between the eyes - in your "knower". At first they violently upset you, and clash with your frame of reference with metal-wrenching brutality. They eliminate and destroy the hearer's own ideas and arguments with surgical precision. They soften mental concrete blocks and rearrange them into God's order. They bring healing and wellness. I marvel at watching these words accomplish what God desires. I have developed a healthy awe for true prophetic words, and usually try to stay out of their way. Through the years, I've witnessed several ministries perish for lack of awe of prophetic words. Similar to the dread that the death of Ananias and Sapphira at God's

hand had struck, the perishing of these ministries has filled me with even greater awe than before.

I did get the message loudly and clearly: Don't mess with God. Don't do it YOUR way. Work WITH Jesus as a co-worker in the fields - not AGAINST Him! Align yourself and your ministry with HIS order - not your own, or the world's, or even the church's. He is God. Do as HE says.

In the following chapters I've attempted to make a compilation of words that I've received during the past years - which one could lump together under the heading "The Idols that we worship in Christianity". Most have come via others, and some directly to myself. Some came in the form of words, some were visions, some were dreams and most have been simple revelation.

I don't intend to relay them to you verbatim or literally. That would simply take up too much space and require too much explanation and interpretation. Rather, I'd attempt to relay them in parable style. This, of course, would "contaminate" them with my own humanity - which is a glaring reality. But in my simple humanity I don't know any other way to relay them to you. So please bear with me.

A couple of years ago I've done something similar on this forum (to church structures). What was said had shocked and upset some hearers to the degree that they had labeled this ministry to be "politically incorrect". But God isn't mocked. Most of those, if they were to be honest, have to admit today that time and reality have proved those words to be true and accurate. The unthinkable and impermissible of those times have become commonplace and widely accepted today.

When all is said and done, God's intervention remains the true vindication of any prophetic word. It originates with Him, is mandated by Him and vindicated by Him. Vindication is by manifestation, and manifestation does not allow for much protest. That's red face stuff!

Similarly, non-vindication and non-manifestation also allows for a red face - that of the prophet! And only time will tell the difference.

Jeremiah beautifully and soulfully expresses the prophet's dilemma:

*Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction.  
So the word of the LORD has brought me insult and reproach all day long.  
But if I say,  
"I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,"  
his word is in my heart like a fire,  
a fire shut up in my bones.  
I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.  
- Jer. 20:8 - 9.*

Over the years the Lord has granted me the privilege of experiencing a fraction of what Jeremiah is saying:

Personally, the Lord has never granted me pleasant, soothing words to tickle people's ears with. And, as with Jeremiah, it has brought me much insult and reproach. But, whenever I would decide "this is enough!", His word inside me would flare up like a fire blown by the wind - overpowering me. Over time I have learnt that I cannot fight against it - I am simply too feeble. I have to speak it out. And face the music afterwards. More often than not it makes me look like, and feel like a clumsy, indiscriminate fool. Hence, God's vindication does not result in triumphalism. It much rather evokes a deep sense of relief!

If you can by experience relate to what I've just said, you will most probably read the chapters to follow with much joy and inner witness. If not, those chapters might perhaps offend you deeply, since we will address idols that are so deeply imbedded in Christianity that we have come to love them dearly. Over many centuries they have been ingrained into the Christian psyche. So deeply that they have resulted in strongholds of the mind - the mind of collective Christianity.

The first one we'll be looking at is the issue of "Sugar!".

*To be continued ...*

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