

**Subject:** The Idols we worship in Christianity (No. 6)



Dear Saints

Last week, in his pursuit of Dr. Good jr, Con had encountered a noisy crowd, led by a loud man in a white suit, dancing and singing on green lawns. They were keen to check THE VOICE against their hoop. This is where we pick up the story ...

Enjoy!

Eben Swart

The women left a baffled Con behind as they rejoined the crowd.

"Well, I guess that leaves me with the hoops again," Con muttered to himself as he jumped the hoop and started off towards the fifth hoop.

"That really hurt" he thought to himself. "The jumping makes my whole body ache every time."

Then a short, insignificant-looking man in a black suit and tie, sitting flat on his bum on the short grasses came into view. The man looked despondent, resting his arm on his black briefcase.

"Is this the road?" he asked when Con reached him.

"I believe so," Con replied. "If you want to get to Dr. Good jr."

"Are you sure? There are many hoops in the world, you know."

Con grinned. "For sure there are many hoops in the world. Why?"

The short man put his black briefcase on his lap and slowly opened it. He took out a huge black hardcover book. "Have you seen this?" he asked.

He slowly opened the book and, taking his time, paged through the pictured pages until he found the one he was looking for. Every page had a picture of one of the hoops Con had come to know so well - camera shots from every conceivable angle.

"Have you seen this?" he repeated as he pointed at the picture.

Con kneeled down to see better. He recognized the hoop in the picture. It was the previous one he'd been to. The short man had his forefinger on a little sign at the bottom of the hoop.

"What is this?" Con asked.

"I'll show you," the short man replied, and turned the page to reveal a blown-up picture of the sign on the next page.

"Somebody had scratched this into the hoop with a sharp object - long ago," said the short man in a sad voice. "Can you see the arrow?"

"Yes, I do. And it points in a completely different direction than the perspex sign."

"You see, that's a BIG problem!" the short man lamented.

"But I guess that must have been just children playing?" Con objected.

"No, no, no. Look here!" The man paged through the book and triumphantly showed another picture of a hoop. "This one was found in Tibet. See? Exactly the same sign. And much older. And here's another one. From Egypt. Exactly the same. And another ... And another ..."

"So?" Con frowned.

"Well, it just comes to show you that you cannot simply follow the first sign that you see on a hoop!"

"But I won't follow any scratched signs. I follow the perspex signs! This is the road!" Con exclaimed.

"No, no, no. Look here." The short man paged further through the book. "See?" He pointed at a picture of yet another hoop that Con had never seen before. "That's the hoop that you find if you follow the scratched arrow! It took us years to discover that!"

"And does THAT hoop have a perspex sign on it?" Con was worried.

"For sure it does. And not one, but TWO scratched arrows. Each leading to another hoop."

"This man is dangerous - very dangerous." Con jumped as the thought struck his head. "Where did that come from?" Con was intrigued.

"What's your name? I need to hit the road." Con stretched out his hand.

"Theo Geek. You'll find my colleagues at the next hoop if you continue the way you came. Tell them you've spoken to me. They are even better qualified than I am, and will be able to help you even better. Remember the name: Theo Geek - Professor Theo Logi Geek from the Department of Hoop Science at the University of Doubtrecht. Here's my business card".

"You didn't help me much!", Con thought as he started walking again. "And you're downright dangerous!"

*To be continued ...*

Next week:

Con encounters Professor Wes Lee from the Hoopla Department at the University of Systems. He introduces Con to Hoopology and Hoopeutics ...

(If you are too curious to wait for next week, you may read the rest of the article on our website: <http://trumpetcall.co.za/articles.php?id=35>)

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