

**“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (JN 8:31-32)**

# **LIBERATING JESUS**

**by  
Roberta Grimes**

**Foreword and Chapter on Spiritual Growth**

**[RobertaGrimes.com](http://RobertaGrimes.com)**

**Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible<sup>®</sup>,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973,  
1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation  
Used by permission.” (www.Lockman.org)**

Thank you for reading this sample chapter from *Liberating Jesus!* As you will begin to see here, the Gospel teachings of Jesus are a universal philosophy that can help anyone of any religion to make the most spiritual progress in this lifetime. And since nearly two hundred years of afterlife evidence abundantly demonstrates that achieving more rapid spiritual growth is the purpose of human life on earth, the fact that such perfect teachings are readily available to us now is very good news indeed!

I hope you enjoy this taste of seeing Jesus as what in fact He is: humanity's perfect Teacher, and also the greatest exemplar of universal love and forgiveness in all of human history. With His guidance, the perfection that God asks of us is at last within our grasp! As Jesus says:

**“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect” (MT 5:43-48).**

## FOREWORD

### *Author's Personal Note*

Writing this book was not my idea. Telling you how it came to be written was the farthest thing from what I wanted to do, so the fact that I am sharing it with you and also telling you where it came from is testimony to the fact that I am convinced it was written at the Lord's direction. I am told that Jesus has chosen this moment, two thousand years after He last walked the earth, to shed what He calls a corrupted Christian wrapper and again reveal His teachings to the world.

If this isn't the Second Coming you were looking for, please understand that I share your confusion. Over decades, I have been dragged away from the Christianity that I loved and made to understand that my religion is so different from what the Lord intended that I would have to make a choice. I could be a Christian or I could follow Jesus. I chose Jesus. That was when things began to get interesting.

To answer what was my biggest question, so you might be wondering about it as well: yes. I have it on good authority that Jesus is related to God in a way that you and I are not, which is why in this book I have capitalized His pronouns. I am told that God

chose to incarnate as the physical Jesus in an effort to understand how allowing humankind to have free will could possibly have gone so wrong. God as Jesus told us how to put human life on a better track, and He gave us that wisdom in concepts so simple that even first-century people could understand them. Now Jesus is reiterating His Gospel teachings two thousand years later because the custodians of those teachings have encased them in an easy, but meaningless, shortcut.

The answer to what may be your second biggest question if you are a Christian is: no. This book about freeing the teachings of Jesus from their religious wrapper is not the work of Satan. I am confident of this fact because:

- 1) In more than a century of looking for it, no afterlife researcher of whom I am aware has found evidence for an actual Satan. Indeed, the consciousness-based physics that governs all of reality and will dominate the second half of this century seems to make it impossible for a powerful evil entity to exist.
- 2) In April of 2009, I gave my life to God. This is an exercise that I recommend, but I have found that very few will do it for fear that God might want them to do something unpleasant. Happily, that has not been my experience. Earnestly seeking and following God's guidance is the most fun I have had in my life.
- 3) If it actually is Satan's will that we free Jesus from the Christian wrapper and begin to follow His teachings perfectly, then you've got to think that maybe Satan isn't so awful after all. (I'm kidding! There is no Satan.)

Appendix V is the story of how this book came to be written. Here I will just say that apparently the civilization we are watching decline is on a course to disaster. Two

hundred years from now, a climactic religious war is slated to be started by people who call themselves Christians (believe it or not). Some of those who believe that the entire Christian Bible is the Inspired Word of God are looking even now for the unblemished red heifer, the Rapture, and the gathering of the End Times armies. Eventually, they will run out of patience and start Armageddon on their own.

I find this prediction unbelievable! For anyone who has read the Gospel words of Jesus to believe that the Biblical Book of Revelation is anything more than the ravings of a man driven insane by persecution defies common sense. The End Times, Armageddon, and the Final Judgment? All of that is anathema to Jesus. Read your Gospels! Jesus is the Prince of Peace. But unless we can move quickly to assist Him in spreading His Gospel teachings to the world, apparently there still will be people two hundred years from now who will think that in destroying God's creation, they will be fulfilling God's plan.

I am told that the Lord's twenty-first-century project of bringing His teachings to all of humankind is going to be the work of many willing people. He calls His teachings a philosophy. It is His intention to free us from religious superstitions and teach us to relate to God on our own. And His teachings are meant to be followed by every person on the face of the earth. If we can help everyone of every religion to understand that Jesus is not a religious figure, but rather He is our universal Teacher, then I have it on good authority that the predicted end-times war can be averted. Civilization can restore and perfect itself, and our grandchildren's great-great-great-grandchildren will be born into what we are promised will be a heaven on earth. It is those who are born in this century who will determine whether human life will be worth living in the twenty-third century. And even whether there will be a twenty-third century.

**If you are not a Christian,** you can skip the first four chapters. Simply read the rest of this book as the beautiful teachings of a Prophet who is augmenting whatever you already believe with a philosophy that can help you live your own best life both now and forevermore. And, not incidentally, if sufficient people will follow this philosophy, then your descendants can have descendants of their own.

**If you are a Christian,** I understand that I am giving you a lot to process. I urge you to do what I have done, and read the Gospel red letters repeatedly. Spend time on your knees with an open heart. The only thing that ever could have induced me to leave the religion I loved was the persistent call of the Lord Himself. If it is His will that you now join Him in His effort to enlighten the world, then I expect that He will call you, too.

I used to say that my boss was a Jewish carpenter. But now I realize that my Boss is considerably more important: He is the Son of Man, God's presence on earth in human form. Whether my Boss is going to be your Boss, or whether you will continue to believe that being religious works best for you, is a decision that only God can help you make.

## **CHAPTER NINE**

### **SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS THE PURPOSE OF HUMAN LIFE**

The dead tell us that our life on earth is a school where we learn to better love and forgive as we work toward greater spiritual growth. Learning these lessons is why we live in families, why we are crowded enough to have to deal with others, why some of those that we deal with do us wrong, and why bad things happen to good people. Every occurrence in your life is either love or a call for love, so no matter what the question might be, love will always be the answer.

Or you might think of this process in more contemporary terms. Coming into a body is like spending a tough afternoon in a gym, where each obstacle in your life – each job setback, each death of a child, each evil mother-in-law or nasty neighbor – is like a weight-training machine that helps you strengthen a targeted set of spiritual muscles. For you to remain in the perfection of heaven would be like lolling around on a spiritual couch. It is only when you come to earth and experience the trials of earth-life that you are able to achieve rapid spiritual growth.

And, make no mistake. When you are in what we call the afterlife levels and in active contact with the parts of your mind that you can't directly access when in a body, you crave spiritual growth like every craving you ever have felt in your life at once. Like food and drink and sex, like a baby in your arms or financial success, you pine for what the dead tell us is the greatest possible thrill: you yearn for more intimate communion with God. So, as much as you are thinking now that you never will choose to go through this again, inevitably you will want another earth-lifetime. Everyone does. Until we reach a level of spiritual fitness that will let us serve others while remaining in the afterlife levels as we continue to work toward our spiritual perfection, we eagerly line up for more time on earth.

### **The Kingdom of Heaven**

One thing that seems to confuse people is that Jesus refers to our need to do certain things or we will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. (The Kingdom of God might be an alternative term, but it seems to signal greater perfection so that is the interpretation that we will use here.) Does Jesus's telling us that our entry to the Kingdom of Heaven takes spiritual effort mean that not everybody goes to heaven?

Of course not. The afterlife evidence indicates that everyone who has lived a halfway reasonable life will wind up on at least the third afterlife level, which is the lowest of the beautiful Summerland levels. No worries! But Level Three is the floor. Jesus came to earth to tell us that we should be aiming for the ceiling, and to teach us the best way to hit that mark. A close examination of all His teachings suggests that what he means by the Kingdom of Heaven is something like Level Six, which is attainable only



by those who are quite spiritually advanced. And if He is making a distinction between terms, then the Kingdom of God would be Level Seven, the Celestial Level, a beyond-joyous return to our Source.

Achieving even the Kingdom of Heaven requires that we learn to love and forgive at a level that approaches perfection. It requires that we love and forgive so perfectly that we never again look at a human face without seeing the divinity of which we all are a part; that we never again feel a nudge of annoyance if someone deliberately does us wrong. And we can get there. It just takes work!

**“You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not commit murder’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court” (MT 5:21-22).**

**“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (LK 6:35-36).**

**“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not**

**even the tax collectors do the same? If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect” (MT 5:43-48).**

### **Reincarnation**

Jesus agrees with the dead in telling us that the standard for our spiritual growth is perfection. We are meant to become like God. **“You are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect” (MT 5:48).** Perfection is a difficult goal to achieve, and made more difficult by the fact that until we are fairly advanced beings, significant spiritual growth seems to happen only on this material plane. For nearly all of us, it requires many earth-lifetimes, each with its own set of basic lessons in ever more perfect love and forgiveness.

So reincarnation happens. And it is a good thing that we can keep coming back, since for us to build into a single lifetime sufficient lessons to achieve God’s perfection would be not only painful, but downright impossible. Why didn’t Jesus talk about reincarnation in the Gospels? He did talk about it, as you will see below. And there is evidence that He said more about it, but one of the early Church councils chose to remove from the Gospels what references it could find to reincarnation so people would believe they had just one lifetime and they would try their very best.

Pause and think about that. Just that single fact about those who put the Christian Bible together – the arrogance; the foolishness – tells you everything you need to know about how impossible it is for the entire Christian Bible to be the Inspired Word of God.

When you read about these early councils' deliberations, the debates and the arbitrary setting in stone of notions that should have been discovered as facts, you find yourself sympathizing with Jesus as perhaps you never have before. He brought to His first followers a philosophy directly from God that would at last enable people in bodies to achieve very rapid spiritual growth. And then He had to watch from the afterlife levels as people who didn't take His teachings seriously enough to want to keep them intact argued about His virgin birth and whether or not He was actually God. Poor Jesus! And poor us.

So nearly all references to reincarnation in the Gospels have been edited out, and those that remain have been interpreted by Christians in light of traditions that have no support in the afterlife evidence and have nothing to do with Jesus.

For example, "Jesus said, **'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.'**

"Nicodemus said to Him, **'How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?'**

"Jesus answered, **'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, "You must be born again." The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit'**" (JN 3:3-8).

This conversation refers to reincarnation. Jesus was telling Nicodemus that people need more than one earth-lifetime in order to advance spiritually to the point where they can enter the highest afterlife level, what Jesus refers to as the Kingdom of God. **“That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit”** refers to the fact that a body is only a fleshly vehicle for the precious part of Spirit that enters and briefly uses that body. Anyone who has witnessed a birth understands that being **“born of water and the Spirit”** would not be a bad description of it. And here is the most telling passage: **“The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”** This beautifully points to the fact that when our eternal minds are without material bodies between lives on earth, we are spirits that are free to move as we like and to contact those we love. They can hear us, but we are as invisible to them as the wind. If the Christian interpretations of this conversation were correct, then this important passage would be meaningless.

Christians, of course, have interpreted that exchange of Jesus with Nicodemus, the righteous Pharisee, to mean that baptism is required for entrance into heaven and that when we accept Jesus as our personal Savior, we are “born again.” Neither of these Christian beliefs is supported by either the afterlife evidence or the rest of the Gospels, but it is Christianity and not Jesus that is in error. As we can see, a plain reading of this passage shows it to be a reference to reincarnation that was obscure enough that the early Church councils overlooked it.

### **Humility is Essential for Spiritual Growth**

The dead tell us that our earth-status counts for nothing in the afterlife levels. Jesus agrees with them. **“Many who are first will be last, and the last, first”** (MK 10:31). **“The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted”** (MT 23:11-12).

Jesus uses children as exemplars for the attitude that we should have if we hope to achieve real spiritual growth. **“Whoever receives this child in My name receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me; for the one who is least among all of you, this is the one who is great”** (LK 9:48). **“Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all”** (MK 10:14-15).

We know little about those few people who have attained the Celestial Level of spiritual development, but we do know that they have managed to burn out their human egos altogether. Until we achieve the degree of childlike humility that is possible only when we are devoid of the petty demands of ego, and even if our managing that takes us beyond an eternity of time, we will not be able to enter Level Seven. We will miss out on the boundless joy of eventual reunion with our Source.

### **Spiritual Growth is Based in Love**

Spiritual growth is more complex than love alone, but loving God, ourselves, and all of humanity is its indispensable base. Until we have mastered universal love, no amount of meditation or self-mortification or religious practice or charitable giving or even every effort put together is going to avail us much in our efforts to grow spiritually.

Perfect universal love is not a rule to be mechanically followed. Rather, it is a way of thinking that must altogether fill our minds, so we never again have any thought nor do even the smallest thing that is not the fruit of a heart full of love.

**“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another” (JN 13:34).**

**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets” (MT 22:37-40).**

Jesus is telling us that if we hope to make spiritual progress, we must live by love, and only by love, in everything we do and no matter what anyone who is not governed by love might do to us. It’s a difficult standard! But our job as followers of Jesus is to learn perfect universal love, and to demonstrate His philosophy of perfect love as the greatest gift that we can give to a stumbling and despairing world.

### **Unless We Continue to Make Spiritual Progress, We Will Fall Backward**

Jesus says some things in the Gospels that seem incomprehensible and even cruel until we realize that what He is referring to is not earthly riches, but spiritual ones.

**“For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (MT 25:29-30).**

**“For nothing is hidden that will not become evident, nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light. So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him” (LK 8:17-18).**

Jesus isn't talking here about material wealth. He is referring to spiritual growth, which from His perspective is the one thing worth having. And these are not God's arbitrary rules. Rather, they are scientific precepts in a reality governed by the physics of consciousness. As inevitable as the tug of gravity and as inexorable as the temperature at which water freezes is the fact that if we stop making spiritual progress, we risk losing whatever spiritual growth we might already have attained.

**“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (MT 6:19-21).**

Jesus warns us often against being distracted and seduced by earthly baubles. This lifetime on earth will be over in no time! And when you are again entering the lowest level of the Summerland, glad to be returning to your true home, then all the wealth and power, fame and glory, and every conceivable material pleasure that you battled during your lifetime to possess will be revealed to have been dross. You will wish with all that is in you that you had spurned what has no spiritual value and invested your precious time on earth in wealth that you could take with you! Spiritual wealth is the only wealth there is. **“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon**

**finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it”** (MT 13:45-46).

And what is our eventual goal?

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven... Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God”** (MT 5:3, 8).

Some have asked what the words “poor in spirit” mean in this context. It’s clear from all the teachings of Jesus that “poor in spirit” means humble, gentle, loving, forgiving, and clear of ego-based complications. Once we have spiritually progressed that far, we can be comfortable at vibratory levels as high as Level Six of the afterlife. We are ready to begin to make progress toward what we are told is the greatest pleasure there is: sufficient purity of heart that we are capable of direct communion with God.

### **We Must Walk the Walk, Not Just Talk the Talk**

Jesus says, **“But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in the vineyard.’ And he answered, ‘I will not’; but afterward he regretted it and went. The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, ‘I will, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father? ... Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you”** (MT 21:28-31).

It is not enough to sit in church on Sundays. It is not enough to pray in the name of Jesus. And certainly it is not enough to claim that the death of Jesus has “saved” us. When it comes to our spiritual growth, good intentions amount to precisely nothing. Jesus



was massively frustrated to see his followers revering Him while ignoring His teachings. Imagine what He would say to us today!

**“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?” (LK 6:46).  
“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven will enter” (MT 7:21). Patiently he keeps on making it clear that, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free” (JN 8:31-32).**

### **We Are Meant to be Good Stewards of Our Own Spiritual Growth**

It isn't up to God to magically bestow upon us the gift of spiritual growth. Whether we make spiritual progress or not is entirely in our own hands. And it's not easy! There are no shortcuts. Jesus tells parables to help his followers grasp this essential point. He is talking here of our attainment of the Kingdom of Heaven, by which He means spiritual growth sufficient to let us reach the upper afterlife levels and live in joyous proximity to our Source.

**“For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. In the same manner the one who had received the two talents gained two more. But he who received the one talent went away, and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.**

**“Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’**

**“Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, ‘Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’**

**“And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’**

**“But his master answered and said to him, ‘You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my money back with interest. Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.’**

**“For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be**

**taken away. Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (MT 25:14-30).**

This is an important parable! Our spiritual nature is an extraordinary gift from God, but it is only the beginning of what is possible for us. Our task is to nurture our spiritual nature and build upon it throughout our lives, so when we graduate back to where we live eternally, we will have used whatever degree of spiritual development we might have carried into this lifetime to gain even much more spiritual growth. Then we will rejoice to hear those beautiful words: **“Well done, good and faithful servant!”**

The Lord persistently tells us that our spiritual growth is our own responsibility. No one else, and no religious shortcut, has the power to do it for us. But each of us has the personal power to advance spiritually, lifetime by lifetime. And the whole heavenly host is rooting for us. Jesus says, **“What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance” (LK 15:4-7).**

### **My Own Experiment**

I am not especially good. For most of my life I have been self-absorbed and heedless of the needs of others, to the point where my decision in 2009 to give the rest of

my life to God may have been rooted in my realization that it was time for me to clean up my act. As I wonder now about the astonishing events that I share with you in Appendix V, and why on earth I was chosen for this task and not someone who is a lot more perfect, it occurs to me that the fact that I am so flawed but I am attempting now to grow spiritually might make it easier for me to help you along the same path.

It was only about three years ago that I began to try to take the teachings of the Lord as seriously as He means them to be taken. And it was hard at first! You've got to keep squelching negative feelings by force and reminding yourself that, yep, even this or that venal nuisance of a human being also is a part of God. Fortunately, though, I have found that the process of following the Lord is self-reinforcing. Even now, I don't feel negative emotions as frequently or as deeply as I did before, and I find that with only minimal thought I can dispel them. They no longer take root. I have begun to feel lighter all the time, more deeply peaceful, more happily loving toward everyone on the face of the earth.

Already I feel amazingly different. Already. And I was old when I began this exercise! I can only imagine how much spiritually richer my whole life could have been if the religion to which I was so devoted had taught me from childhood how to follow my Teacher. If we do nothing more, it is essential that from this day forward we share the teachings of Jesus with the children!

### **When You Live the Lord's Teachings, Amazing Things Can Happen**

I have never been remotely psychic. For my whole adult life I have studied the afterlife and the greater reality to which we graduate at death from the viewpoint of the experiences of others, unable even to imagine what it would be like to communicate

directly with Spirit. Then one day my long-ignored spirit guide asked spiritual medium Susanne Wilson to arrange a meeting with me. In an amazing conversation through Susanne, Thomas told me some of his history. He talked about the effort now underway to raise the consciousness of the planet, and in furtherance of that goal he asked me to help him write a book about Jesus. Since he last had been in body in the 1800s, he said that he would give me the ideas. My job would be to tailor his message to better suit the modern world.

To be utterly non-psychic all your life and approaching seventy years of age when you are told that you are about to channel a book is a genuine giggle. Our primary spirit guides are so close to us that they nearly are aspects of ourselves, so when I started to help Thomas with his book it felt as if it was all my doing. The ideas just were forming easily. I felt of a sudden hugely smarter.

But my adventure into channeling my primary guide turned out to be just Spirit's test-drive. We were barely well started when one afternoon Susanne sent me an email saying that Thomas had seized her in a parking lot and given her a message for me. He had said, **"Please forgive the speed at which we are dictating, as your soul-ular self is working directly for the Master now, without benefit of the filters which would slow the transmission. And I hasten to add, you must please of course speak clearly should your physical suffer exhaustion."**

At two o'clock the following morning I woke up with a pressing need to write, and I sat down at my computer and began to channel Master Jesus. Working with Jesus was easier than you would imagine. His energy is that of the Source, but He toned it down a lot for me! He felt in my mind as if I had become of a sudden deeply calm and

wise. He was such an expert at what we were doing that He was using my body as a word-processor, supplying not just the ideas but also many of the words and phrases. And He never stopped! I wrote all that night and all the next day before I begged Him to please let me sleep. Jesus worked so fast that I was scarcely aware of what I was writing, and I had little time to go back and read; sometimes He would pull me back, though, and keep making me look at something I had written until I realized what it was that He wanted me to change. Then He let me return to where we had left off, and He returned to downloading. Together we wrote a forty-thousand-word book in only two weeks of work.

The thing about extraordinary experiences is that while they are happening you are too immersed in them to distance yourself enough to marvel at what is going on. I did know it was Jesus. You know that, while it's happening. I was too much in awe to say much to Him, but as He became more efficient at using me and the connection got stronger, sometimes I could hear Him talking to Himself. That part was amazing! It felt intimate, listening to the Lord's spoken thoughts. It made me sympathize deeply with Him, which is a word I never would have thought that you could find a reason to use for the Son of God. But He was asking to be listened to, asking to be understood, and that is such a deeply human need that hearing Him talk about it could make my eyes sting.

It was only when I woke up one morning bereft of Jesus that I knew that this book was finished. Within half a day my Thomas was back, and for two further months he had me tweaking and polishing what he and I both think of now as my beloved spirit guide's long-delayed book. Thomas and I did add a few things, especially in this chapter and the next, but we made no changes in the Lord's message. Most of what you hold in your hands is His work.

When you win the Lottery or you get into Harvard, you feel humbled. You might say, “Why me? When Jesus gives you a book to share with the world, that is something so far beyond humbling that I really never thought to ask, “Why me?” It was only when I sent Susanne Wilson the finished book because she is mentioned in it that her response made me realize the answer to the question I never had thought to ask. She sent me an email that said in part, **“I was amazed when Thomas jumped into my body to tell you, Roberta, that you are ‘now working directly for the Master.’ Even though I received the message loud and clear myself, it took my breath away. Why Roberta? Why now?”**

**“After much praying, I woke up the next morning with the answer. It's quite clear. The Creator wants to speak directly to anyone and everyone who's being obedient to His Law of Love. Jesus taught compassion in our thoughts, words, and actions. You are attuned to Him, Roberta. He wants all of us attuned. Your book will help fan the flame of His love that dwells within each of us. We are all one.”**

Her message made me realize that the primary reason I was chosen likely is a simple one. Jesus used me because for the previous few years I had been trying to attune my life to His teachings. There is no way to know what is going to happen in your own life once you make living the Gospels the center of it, but I can attest that whatever happens will be wonderful! Those moments of hearing Jesus in my mind as He expressed His human need to be heard I will hold forever in my deepest heart.

### **Our Religions Slight Our Spiritual Needs**

As they are practiced now, none of the great religions fosters our spiritual growth. Religions instill in us fear-based rules and irrelevant traditions. They create a template in our minds of acceptable behavior without giving us touchstones of truth against which to measure our thoughts and actions. They are mere form, meant just to mimic the appearance of spiritual growth. And they tend to make us judgmental and self-righteous, two human characteristics on heavy display among today's most ardent Christians that are the antithesis of spiritual growth.

**“When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you”** (MT 6:6). **“For nothing is hidden, except to be revealed; nor has anything been secret, but that it would come to light. If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear”** (MK 4:22-23). Each of us has by our very nature the most intimate possible relationship with God. God knows us to our deepest core. And God loves us, just as we are, much more than we can possibly imagine.

### **Jesus's Apparent Mission**

As I will tell you in Appendix V, I have it on good authority that Jesus actually is unique, so elevated that two thousand years ago God could walk the earth and look through His eyes to try to puzzle out how giving human beings free will could have gone so wrong. Beyond fact-finding, it was God's intention as Jesus to help us learn how to live our lives so we could at last begin to make optimal spiritual progress in each lifetime. As Jesus says, **“The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work”** (JN 14:10).



So the Gospel teachings of Jesus are a prescription directly from God for how we can make rapid spiritual progress. **“The word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me”** (JN 14:24). Jesus insists to us now that far from trying to establish just another religion, His mission was to abolish our need for religions by teaching us how to relate to God individually.

*The Gospel words of Jesus suggest that He had five educational objectives:*

First, He came to reveal to us the true nature of God.

Second, He came to show us how to relate to God individually.

Third, He came to teach us how to make the most spiritual progress while on Earth.

Fourth, He came to help us understand that our lives really are eternal.

And finally, He came to give us a taste of what the afterlife is like.

If these were His objectives, then His death and resurrection can be seen as a loving and joyous **“Ta-da!”** In rising spectacularly from the dead after a ghastly public execution, Jesus was demonstrating for simple people the fact that human lives are eternal. What looks like death isn’t death at all.