

Interview Regarding
Jesus' Gospel of God's Love
for The Criterion Reading Society (Tiffany Wilson, Moderator)

1. Every book has a story before it reaches readers. What personal journey, question, or experience ultimately led you to write *Jesus' Gospel of God's Love*?

This book is in some ways the culmination of my spiritual journey to this point. It shows my latest thinking and what presently resonates with me as the truth of our human potential and destiny.

My spiritual journey has been in some ways unique (of course, we all have unique journeys in our own ways), and I believe it has prepared me for where I am now. I spent about 30 years in a non-mainstream exclusive church which had a heavy Bible emphasis, as well as encouraging members to build an individual relationship with God through a discipline of twice daily prayer and daily spiritual reading. The church also felt that it had unique truths (many different from the orthodox beliefs) and hence regarded itself as a notch above other Christian groups.

After that, over the next two decades, I was led to slowly abandon my exclusive and limited thinking as I was exposed to other groups and ideas – both Christian and of other faiths. It wasn't just an intellectual pursuit for the sake of satisfying curiosity; it was an unmistakable guidance through life's circumstances. With this background I was then led (again, no doubt guided) to what this book is about – Jesus' gospel of God's Love.

About a decade ago, through a series of what I believe were guided circumstances, I came across a book under the title *Angelic Revelations of Divine Truth*. As I started reading, the information resonated with me. It spoke about God, Jesus, and human salvation from a different angle, and even though it challenged some of the traditional Christian ideas as well as several of my own beliefs, it made a lot of sense.

The book I found led me to confirm from another angle what I had realized before – the Bible contains intertwining ideas from various sources and not all of them correspond to the teachings of Jesus and the early Christians. There is still much truth in the Bible, but being both the inspired Word of God, as well as a compiled, edited and re-edited creation of men, there are errors and inaccuracies.

This book presents in a succinct way what I now see as closer to Jesus' original teaching regarding the Kingdom of God and salvation.

2. Was there a belief, misconception, or conversation surrounding Christianity that you especially hoped this book would address or challenge?

This book focuses on what was the message of salvation that Jesus' brought – the new birth accomplished through Divine Love imparted into one's heart/soul by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5). Other Bible writers refer to this process of transformation as becoming new creation (Paul), and partaking of divine nature (Peter).

3. While writing the book, did your own understanding of God's love change or deepen in any unexpected way? If so, how?

This book was the first of several addressing the Divine Love journey. Of course, one's understanding is always enhanced when formulating thoughts and putting them in writing.

4. Which chapter or section of the book feels the most personal to you, and why does it hold that significance?

Chapter 9 entitled "Divine Love in the Bible". This chapter contrasts two New Testament threads or "gospels" of and about Jesus, and lists the many references to the transformation of the heart/soul, becoming a new creature, acquiring divine nature, undergoing a New Birth, experiencing the Divine Love, and other related concepts.

5. If our readers could ask you only one question after finishing the book, what do you hope that question would be?

The question I would like people to ask me is: "How has this teaching worked in your life and what can I do incorporate it into mine?"

6. When readers finish the final page, what kind of reflection, conversation, or action do you hope continues beyond the book itself?

I have two companion books, *New Birth – Pathway to the Kingdom of God* and *Gospel of God's Grace and His Kingdom*, that address the same question of Jesus' gospel of salvation from different angles focusing on God's grace and the new birth. Since salvation and the continued life hereafter would have to be, or at least should be, the most important subject to be concerned about during this brief earthly existence, I would hope that readers reflect on how to achieve their full potential and destiny in and beyond this life.

7. Looking ahead, what subjects or ideas are you most excited to continue exploring in your future writing?

Jesus' Gospel of God's Love was the first on this subject and I have written several other books dealing with of Jesus' gospel and salvation. I have presently got in the works a book of a personal nature, something like a memoir.

8. Finally, is there anything you'd like our community to know about you or your book before the discussion begins?

As mentioned, the book takes a non-traditional, though Bible-based look at salvation. I would like to encourage readers to patiently consider if the ideas resonate with them and if it is something that they can adopt into their lives to reap the benefits here and hereafter.