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Friends of the Jesus Revelation through the writing servant and writing prophet Jakob Lorber feel connected to all people of the world as creatures and children of one and the same Father. This Heavenly Father embodied Himself in Jesus Christ about 2,000 years ago and did not manifest Himself as Savior and Teacher until age 30, for three years. The spirit friends of the Divine Revelation recognize in this eternal declaration a new and great Word of God and aim to achieve a joyful mutual exchange.

**SELF REFLECTION – SELF EXAMINATION** 

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## In this bulletin:

- Heavenly bread [Ingrid F. from NL]
- Jesus on Allowing Hardship and Disease [Mary from Italy].
- Thirteen questions and answers from the Swedenborg Scriptures.
- Digging up biblical knowledge! [Ten questions with answers!]





Gerard

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# **Contacts – News – Reactions**



#### Hans from the Netherlands

Hans sent me a message about how "Heavenly Bread" works. Sometimes I have wondered how and by whom these texts are received. Who is the one behind them? I decided to write to them and through Hans' mediation, I received the following message from the writer:

...'You ask in your mail how we get the information. Recently I received Hans de Heij's writing to you in reply, I don't think I can put it into words better than he did. It is an inner experience every day that I experience as very valuable and which I feel can help people with their life on earth and the questions they may have.'

'Sometimes there is someone who says that the text does not correspond to the texts in the books of Jakob Lorber, in that case, I do not know if the text has been understood as it was intended. Some people think that the texts should not be written in the "I" form. Everyone may think his or her own way, I write the texts from Him in my heart as I feel it, for those who can benefit from it, nothing more'.... Kind regards, Ingrid F.

Hans gave me some more information about her website, in which she introduces herself in general: On <u>hemelsbrood.nl</u> she writes:

'From childhood, I have realized in my heart: we have not just come to life, we are the life of our Creator. We live consciously of ourselves and He lives in our hearts. In our hearts, we can meet Him and exchange thoughts with Him. This has given me a lot. Every morning, I go to Him in my heart and every morning I write down what He lets me know in my heart. I feel His tremendous love for all people in that. For me, that has a value that I love to share with my fellow human beings. Because for me it is His love through which we live, that is how I recognize it in my heart. I grant it to everyone to also experience that love of His in their hearts. Perhaps, after reading the pieces, you will recognize what I mean. I hope so.'

Hans writes further, "Already from the beginning when I got to know these pieces of heavenly bread, they are all truth to me. My feeling always tells me: yes, yes, this is true! Never before have I been able to discover anything that contradicts the Teaching received by Jacob Lorber in the New Revelation. Moreover, I have regularly found that these pieces say the same thing, in different words admittedly, as Lorber in the N.R.'

See below for an example: [heavenly bread = the spiritual 'manna'!]



Manna

'I read that readers of the bulletin are often concerned with the destruction of this globe and the accompanying misery. There really is much and great suffering, life here on earth is becoming more and more difficult and now, many have also been told to be afraid(of covid), but in my opinion, the point is that man, yes all of humanity, learns to understand that all of our lives here on earth should be focused on learning to live with selfless and unconditional love. That in this we can truly trust God.

'Especially here on earth we can do that together, learn to be. But there are so many different views on the purpose of earthly life, that this view has fallen by the wayside. Most people think and believe, or are told, that they must look after themselves, save themselves, and take care of their own welfare and prosperity when there is nothing better than to support each other, and help each other for better or worse. For that is: Love God (Love Itself) above all else and your fellow man as yourself. This is what God has been teaching mankind for over 6200 years now.

We, you and I know that man creates misery here on earth by going against God's Teaching. If we humans only live according to HIS order (of love) for 50 years, all will be well!

### A quote from GGJ4-144:1:

The Lord: "I say this to you: Just live for fifty years always correctly respecting God's divine ordinances - and you will never again have to see, hear, taste, or endure any calamity! 02] I am telling you this: All calamities, epidemics, all manner of disease among humans and animals, bad weather, lean and unproductive years, devastating hailstorms, widespread destructive floods, gales, great storms, plagues of locusts, and the like are merely consequences of inappropriate behavior by mankind!

See also <u>HB 6582</u>, which says exactly the same thing. **[Heavenly Bread 6582]** 'What do you think the world would be like if no one lied, if everyone helped each other and if everyone shared everything with each other, if no one wanted more than another and if no one thought himself more important than another if there were no mutual struggles to be the best and get the honour.'

'What do you think society would be like if no one felt it necessary to be in charge of his fellow men, because all men had accepted Me as their leader if My love and its wisdom in all truth as the basis of My guidance were accepted by all and worked out the best for everyone together and every one personally? If everyone could be trusted, if no one demanded anything from another, if no one hurt another anymore, did not even think about it, if everything was done in peace with each other, everything needed and no one determined it first only for themselves, but rather for each other and with each other? If people chose their work from their talents and not from status and income, if every work was valued as equally important and there would be no more unimportant work? What would it be like on earth if everyone joyfully served each other and there were no different yardsticks, if everyone equally served the other? And all this not out of duty, out of reason, forced by rules and laws, but freely, from one's own will, from one's own choice?'

'I tell you, then there would be no more war, there would be no more misery, no more pain and sorrow, no sickness and loss, no worry and no need. But that would only be so if everyone in their freedom chose true love in truth and wisdom, chose My true selfless, unconditional, perfectly gentle love and its wisdom, out of their own conviction that that is the best thing to choose for all people and for themselves. And I tell you, that choice has been the best one from the beginning of man on earth, but still that is not clear to everyone. Not in such a long time yet. But do not give up with one another, for what is not yet now will come, the joy and gladness of that true love.

Editor: You can get more information [albeit in the Dutch language] via the homepage: <u>https://www.levendhart.nl/</u> and <u>https://hemelsbrood.nl/</u> [all from the same writer, who usually receives information from the Lord daily, and in the first instance is intended for herself and her family, but she may then 'distribute' it again to those, who also want to 'eat' from it.

#### \*\*\*\*

A beautiful follow-up to the above, **Maria from Italy** sent us last month:



Jesus about permitting need and sickness.

'And I said to you: How will I give you so many children and the dear land, the most beautiful inheritance among nations! And I said to you, You shall not depart from me. (Jeremiah 3:4)

'But the house of Israel did not respect me, as a woman does not respect her lover, says the LORD.' (Jeremiah 3:20)

'So whom I love, whom I rebuke and chastise; therefore be diligent and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and I knock: if any man shall hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in unto him, and I will supper with him, and he with me.' (Rev. 3:19-20)

[1] Since the sun had already set, I said to the Greeks: *"I let you completely free. If you want to find accommodation, you can stay in Nahim tonight, or you can also go home. Neither one nor the other will be to your disadvantage."* 

[2] The Greek, who was the father of the blind girl and the head of the Greek village said: "O Lord, Lord, Lord of eternity, it would be good to have accommodation here. Although we are with about 100 people, but with the happy widow we can and – with Your almighty help – we will all be able to find spacious accommodation here. If we may stay in Your company tonight, then we stay, even if tonight all our worldly stuff would go to ruin, because to hear 1 word from Your godly mouth is of a much greater value than all treasures on Earth and more than the sun, the moon and all stars. Therefore we will stay here. We have enough money with us to pay for the expenses in the inn, and even if it would cost us all our goods, then we still would stay with You, o Lord, Lord, Lord. For even if we would lose all our earthly goods for Your sake, but have thereby actively found Your mercy, then we have made an endless great benefit. Therefore we will stay near to You, ready to bring every offer that we can."

[3] I said: "Then stay, I will take care of all the rest, for truly I say to you: whose attitude and faith will in future times not be as yours, his soul will hardly be able to acquire the Kingdom of God. If you will always stay in this manner with Me in your heart, I will always stay with and amongst you, powerfully active in the spirit, and with those with whom I will stay, they will never have to suffer want or need, not what concerns their earthy needs and still less what concerns the needs of their soul. '

[4] 'Want, need and all kinds of misery I only let come among the people when they totally have left Me and have become partly dark and foolish idol worshippers and partly totally selfish and ungodly worldly men. Because need and want will force men to think about the causes of their misery and make them inventive and clever, and in this manner there very soon will appear sensible and wise men among a people who will open the eyes of their fellowmen and will show them the source of the general misery. Then many will leave their paralyzing laziness in order to arm themselves for the battle against the loafers who became powerful, who rule as tyrants among the nations that they have made blind, and who are the actual instigators of the general misery on this Earth. Often through hard battle, they will be completely conquered and expelled or at least be forced to give the nations such laws that will allow them to live in a decent way. And so happiness and wealth will then always begin among

men according to the measure that they have returned to their way to the only true God.'

[5] 'If the people would never turn away from God, they also would never fall into need and misery.'

[6] 'So if also down the line of your descendants you will always stay in and with Me in faith and action according to My teaching, you also will never have to experience misery. Also, your souls will not be made fearful and faint-hearted by diseases of the body, because the diseases of the body are always only the bitter consequences of not keeping the commandments that I have always clearly announced to the people.'

[7] 'Whoever will keep these commandments already from his childhood, will not need a doctor at high age, and his descendants will not have to suffer for the sins of their parents, as this was often the case for centuries with the ancient nations who were loyal to God. But always when the people began to degenerate, then also soon serious physical sufferings came over them and they came to know the consequences of the insufficient observance or total lack of the observance of God's commandments.'

[8] 'Because if there is for instance, someone who for one or the other purpose understands how to make an artful machine, then he also understands himself how it has to be used for an efficient utilization and how the machine should be handled so that it would not be damaged and would thus become totally unsuitable for further use. And if the skillful maker says and shows to the one who bought the machine from him to use it, of what he has to take care to be able to use it lastingly and usefully, then the buyer should also observe precisely what the master of the machine has told him. But if in over time, out of stubbornness or carelessness, the buyer does not pay attention anymore as to how the machine should be handled and used, then only himself is to be blamed when the machine becomes damaged and has thus become completely or partially ineffective for the right utilization.'

[9] 'God is the great Master of the machine of the human body that He has arranged as an extremely artful machine for men to make good use of it. If the soul will use this machine, that was brought to life, according to the advice that was clearly announced to him – and these are the commandments of God – then the body will also always keep its good health, which is very useful to him. However, if over time the soul has become lazy and sensual, and does not pay attention anymore to these commandments of the eternal great Master of the machine, then also he is to be blamed when his body has fallen into all kinds of affliction. I think that you all have well understood Me, and so we will now go to the inn.'

[10] 'The Greeks could not thank Me enough for this lesson, and also My disciples said: "These were again clear words.'

[11] 'Then we went on our way to the already mentioned inn where already a rich and well-prepared meal was waiting for us.'

('<u>The Great Gospel of John', part 9, chapter 35</u>)

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## 'Picked' from the literature of Swedenborg and Lorber

## 1. How long has the Lord existed?

From eternity; He is in all time without time; and therefore He said, "Before Abraham was, I AM [John 8:58].

[Source: The True Christian Religion 30 - On Divine Love and Wisdom 76 - On Divine Providence 51]

## 2. From what center does all creation begin?

From the Spiritual Sun, which is pure Love from Jehovah God, Who is in the midst of it, and which radiance is called love and wisdom

[Source: The True Christian Religion 75 - Explained Apocalypse 1196 (2)]

# 3. From what second center does the creation of the natural world begin?

From the natural Sun, which is pure fire and therefore dead in itself, and which radiance is called heat and light.

[Source: On Divine Love and Wisdom-163-6 - Explained Apocalypse 1196 (2), 1207 (2) Swedenborg]

## 4. Is the human race limited to our earthly sphere?

Such an immeasurable work as the starry sky cannot exist from only one single earth sphere. What would that be to the Divine, which is Infinite, and to Whom myriads of globes, all full of inhabitants, would hardly be anything?

[Source: The Heavenly Hiddenness 6696-8, On the Earth Spheres 3-4 - Swedenborg].

## 5. What is the difference between man and animal at birth?

The animal is born in its science and capacity, which are purely natural and it cannot change; man is born ignorant, with the capacity to acquire his own science and capacity.

[Source: On conjugal love 96 - [The True Christian Religion 48 - Swedenborg].

## 6. What is death?

The detachment of the spiritual body from the earthly body?

[Source: On Divine Providence 298 - The True Christian Religion 103 - On Divine Love and Wisdom- 14]

## 7. What doesth hu man take with him into the other life?

Everything he has ever felt, thought, and done, from the first to the last moment of his life.

[Source: The Heavenly Hiddenness 2049 (4), 2116, 2747 - On Divine Providence 227 - spiritual journal 4481 - Swedenborg]

## 8. What is the world of spirits?

A temporary intermediate state preparing either for the heavenly or for the hellish state.

[Source: On heaven and hell 421, 426 - Swedenborg]

## 9. Is it not unmerciful to leave them in hell?

It is out of mercy that the life chosen by them, that which they love, should not be taken away from them.

[Source: On Divine Providence 338,340- Swedenborg]

<u>On the other hand</u>: **Lorber, in the book "The Spiritual Sun," describes,** '*It would* be sad and extraordinarily ruthless if someone were to be an inhabitant of hell just because he carries within him the perfectly manifested image of hell. If that were the case, then all angels too would have to be hell spirits; for they too apparently carry within themselves the perfectly manifested image of hell. If that were not the case, no angel would ever be able to enter this place and calm the raging spirits there. I myself would not be able to show and reveal Hell to you if I did not have it fully within me. Moreover, it would also be very dangerous for the heaven dwellers if they did not have the corresponding apparent image of hell within them because they could not see what hell does against them.'[Spiritual Sun2\_117.05]

## 10. Is there such a thing as predestination?

All are created for heaven, and so each person is incessantly drawn by the Lord to his destined place in the Greatest Man, which is heaven. If anyone does not get there, it is because of himself.

[Source: On Divine Providence 329, 163-4 - Spiritual Journal 322 - Swedenborg]



## 11. Where does the Bible teach that there are three heavens?

Paul says, "I know a man in Christ...who has been lifted into the third heaven...in paradise and has heard unspeakable things, which it is not lawful for a man to speak. [2 Cor. 12:2-4]

According to Lorber, there are three MAIN HEAVENS [RB.02\_243.09].

"Being in the "seventh heaven" is an allegorical statement of the man. The Bible knows 3 real heavens. Of course, there are also glorious spheres, which resemble heaven but are not actual heavens.

## 12. What does heaven look like?

As in the natural heaven, there a nature, cities, houses, clothes and work, books, etc., but everything there is spiritual and much more perfect.

[Source: On Divine love and wisdom 163, On heaven and hell 170, 176-7, 184 - On conjugal love 207, Doctrine on faith 63 - Swedenborg]

Robert Blum could not believe his eyes, all that he saw in heaven, in the middle sun: 'Father, I thank You for such great grace! Now I see forms, but they are not yet permanent, for the power of light still erases them from time to time. Yet they keep reappearing as the same ones. Oh, that must be an extraordinarily wonderful world! Truly, such a world is also already a heaven for there it must be very wonderful to live once one is accustomed to the light.' 'Aha, now I discover a huge city with grandiose, magnificent structures. It resembles Your holy city which is exalted above all the cities of all infinity. Remarkable! As far as my eye reaches, I see gardens and the most magnificent palaces in an architectural style completely foreign to me. Huge arcades stretch out in all directions; on them stand the most magnificent columns, on which adorn palaces of indescribable beauty. Oh, oh, how magnificent it is!'

'Now all the others also begin to look more constantly into the light of this second middle sun and gradually discover that which Robert has seen. Yes, a few see even more. They perceive a beautiful plant world, a host of curious animals of all kinds, and in the gardens walk many indescribably beautifully formed people. From their placid movements, one can tell that they must be extremely happy and content.'[Heaven and Hell.02\_297.5-7]

## 13. Is God seen in heaven?

The angels see Him there in the sun as Man surrounded by solar fire. They also perceive the Divine clearly in everything in their beautiful surroundings and in everything in their lives. This inner perception is their greatest joy.

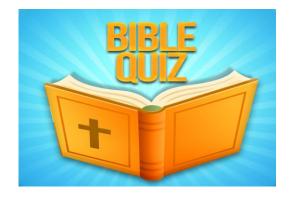
[Source: On Divine Love and Wisdom 130-1, Heavenly Hiddenness 10809, 920, 155 - On Heaven and Hell 121, 270, 489 - Swedenborg]

Lorber writes:

The Lord: 'For all of us, as we are here, God is very visible and dwells in a decidedly very accessible light. Only to those still living strongly in the flesh on earth must God remain invisible for the sake of the freedom of their will, as long as they have not yet obtained the full rebirth of the spirit. However, He also remains invisible to spirits of your kind because you are not pure and reborn'. [Heaven and Hell.02\_263.12]

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# **Reviving Bible Knowledge!**



#### **Question 1:**

No father and no mother, No sister and no brother With whom he would talk. Trapped in deep sleep, He received his desire Out of the Lord's hand, a woman. [Who?]

### **Question 2:**

He was a farm boy Has sung many a song That still charms our hearts. He became a poet-king as crowning, Whose song in God's house Sundays often is heard with many.

#### **Question 3:**

Where did sound, and that well unexpectedly, The most beautiful hymn in the night?

#### **Question 4:**

The devil used my tongue Then I snubbed your happiness. I was an animal. Call my name here.

#### **Question 5:**

I was a boy, small and tender; I was brought to a worthy lord. There I was allowed to stay, day and night; My mother took me away. Three bulls, flour, and also some wine, It went all with me. Who may I be?

#### **Question 6:**

Name the most important earthly refugee Who went with his parents

### **Question 7:**

We were together: my brother and I Though he was rich, he had no joy. He had no love and no faith, Was to God's words so cold and deaf. My godliness could not please him; He struck me dead in the field. [Who am I?"]

### **Question 8:**

She seemed to carry away God's blessing, And tormented me all the days. But God heard my prayer, Granted me a child on His word. Which became, led by the Lord's hand, The best son of the fatherland [who?]

#### **Question 9:**

Though little time remained for me, My last temple walk was the best, Then I met Christ himself, Thus also dying became sweet to me. [Who am I?"]

#### **Question 10:**

Who was, to our disastrous fate, Ans is His wife obedient to God?

\* \* \* \* \*

Question 1: Answer: Adam. Question 2: Answer: David. Question 3: Answer: In Bethlehem, when the angels sang. Question 4: Answer: The snake in Paradise. Question 5: Answer: Samuel [1 Sam.1:24]. Question 6: Answer: The baby Jesus Question 7: Answer: Abel [Gen.4:8]. Question 8: Answer: Hanna, the mother of Samuel Question 9: Answer: Simeon in the temple Question 10: Answer: Adam

### How many points do you have?

- 6 points: excellent
- 5 points: sufficient
- 4 points: moderate
- 3 points: poor Bible knowledge
- 2 points: not a real Bible reader
- 1 point: occasionally heard about the Bible

### If you have 6 points and above, then you are a pro!

What can you expect in the next bulletin?

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## In the next Bulletin, something good to share!

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