OUT IN THE OPEN Volume Briefs

By Francis William Bessler Compiled November 14th, 2012

General Note:

Consider all of my writings to be my gift to the world - including all of the grammatical and oversight errors within them. None of my works have been **proof read** by other than myself. Thus, there are bound to be errors I have not caught - such as a **there** when a **their** was intended or a **hear** when a **here** was intended - or a mistaken possessive apostrophe or the like. I may correct mistakes myself when I find them - but please try to read my works with an open mind - knowing that we all make mistakes - or, at least, the wise ones among us do.

Thanks! FWB

Volume 1 (184 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song, essay, & story) from 1963-1984. Main emphasis: **SPIRITUAL MARRIAGE**.

Includes my first story - a short one called **THE SEVENTH RECORD** about an old man ready to die and a loving wife, reluctant to let him go - and a philosophical novel called **INTO THE LIGHT** about an elderly preacher releasing his church to his liberated daughter. Sweet fireworks may be the result. Also includes such as an essay speculating on a non-traditional explanation of cancer. I'm "probably" wrong, but what if I am not?

Teaser: Why do so many people think of God as a personal entity rather than as a "Creative Presence" that must be in All?

Volume 2 (246 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song, essay, & story) from 1985-1994. Main emphasis: **THE SOUL**.

Includes a musical screen play about a naturalist community called **SUMMER TOWN** and an essay series on the soul called **UNMASKING THE SOUL** - which evaluates various theories of the origin and destiny of the soul and offers a theory of my own. **Teaser:** *If it is unlikely that a personal God creates the body, then it is equally unlikely that a personal God creates the soul. Given that the soul exists as an individual entity, it probably exists as something other than as a personal creation of God.* Volume 3 (202 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song & essay) from 1995-2004. Main emphasis: **THE "SPIRITUALOGICAL SENSE" OF LIFE & CHRIST.** Includes a number of essays speculating on a non-traditional (**Holistic or ALL IS HOLY**) vision of Christianity.

Teaser: If Jesus were to come today, what would be his likely recommendations?

Volume 4 (214 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song, essay, & story) from 2005. Main emphasis: KNOW CHRIST BY KNOWING YOURSELF AS A CHILD OF HUMANITY. "Child of Humanity" is a term offered by Jesus in the banned Gospel of Mary Magdalene suggesting that we look for the child of humanity within us to find Peace. Also Includes a philosophical story about a naturalist family and a next door neighbor. The story is called ALL'S WELL WITH THE WORLD. Teaser: If there is no real evidence that Life here on Earth is not truly Miraculous, why do we live like there is a better life someplace else?

Volume 5 (108 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song & essay) from 2006. Main emphasis: **THE INFINITE & THE DIVINE**.

Includes an essay series called *THE NON-JUDAIC JESUS* which presents Jesus as having meaning outside of his supposed Judaic heritage. This one is largely based on "non Messianic" gospels of Jesus banned by church and government in the 4th Century. Those gospels are **The Gospel of the Apostle, Thomas** and **The Gospel of the Apostle, Mary Magdalene.**

Teaser: What if Jesus never claimed to be a Jewish Messiah? What if he really offered that Heaven is not something to come, but rather a state of life that should be Now? What if the real Kingdom of Jesus is only "Kindness"?

Volume 6 (102 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song, essay, & story) from 2007-2008. Main emphasis: **PEACE ON EARTH**.

Includes a short story called **PEACE ON EARTH** and offers through other essay that much of traditional morality is based on the Earth being flat rather than round - and the Earth being at the bottom of a world rather suspended within it.

Teaser: If much of traditional morality was based on a false premise of the Earth being flat, how smart is it to retain that same morality once it has been determined that the premise of a flat Earth is wrong? Can Heaven really be "up" when there can be no "up" related to a round Earth suspended in space?

Volume 7 (188 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song & essay) from 2009-2011. Main emphasis: **JESUS**.

Includes complete transcriptions in English of **The Gospel of the Apostle, Thomas** and **The Gospel of the Apostle, Mary Magdalene -** as well as personal interpretations of those gospels at the time of my offering those interpretations. Keep in mind that as we learn and grow in our understanding of things, interpretations can change.

Teaser: If Apostles, Thomas and Mary Magdalene, really were closer to Jesus than the other so called "disciples of Jesus," might not their writings tell us more about the real Jesus? Why, then, has history largely ignored their gospels - and actually banned them for a long period of time? How smart is it to "ban the truth"?

Volume 8 (168 Pages) :

Features all of my songs in alphabetical order - written from 1963-2011. Songs were also featured in the order in which they were written in the previous 7 volumes.

Main emphasis: LIFE IS INHERENTLY RIGHT, NOT WRONG. None of my songs have been scored as such. Feel welcome to attach any tune to any song you wish, score it as you will, and **Sing it Out!** If you wish to hear my tune to a song, I have assembled a mostly a cappella 5 volume DVD series presenting my songs (150) in alphabetical order. The album is called **SONGS OF A SOLITARY SOUL.** Feel welcome to request a copy via email response. I recommend, however, singing the songs as you like - with your own tunes. I firmly believe that lyrics are more important than tunes.

Teaser: If an angel is only one in or out of a body that is free and allows others that same freedom, why are there so many devils - who live to deny freedom - in the world?

Volume 9 (77 Pages) :

Features an **OVERVIEW** of the previous volumes - Volumes 1 through 8. Includes a few samples of each of the 8 volumes and **Epilogs** to each. The purpose is to allow a reader to get a sense of my entire writings to better decide interest in any of them.

Volume 10 (81 Pages) :

Features my speculations and writings (including song, essay, & story) from August, 2011 - August, 2012. Consider this to be an **Addendum** to my major writings featured in Volumes 1 through 7 - mostly due to encouragement by some for me to "keep writing." I did "keep writing" for a limited **ONGOING** period of approximately one year - from August of 2011 to September of 2012; however, all writings of my original **OUT IN THE OPEN** volumes of writings is now complete with this final volume.

Main emphasis: A "HOLISTIC" VIEW OF LIFE - AND JESUS.

Includes a short parody of the Biblical story of creation. That parody is called **AN IMPOSSIBLE TALE** for analyzing why the traditional story of Satan cannot possibly be right. Completes with a theme of life I call **EUGIENISM** which stands for **Everything Under (or Within) God Is Equally Natural.**

Teaser: If God is really Infinite and necessarily in All things, why do so many insist they are more Godly - or better - than others?

THOMAS & MARY HANDBOOK

This is only a presentation of **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THOMAS** and **THE GOSPEL OF MARY MAGDALENE** in what I call "handbook" form. Personally, I have found it very convenient to have access to these gospels in "pocket" form - as in a book I can conveniently stash in my pocket for easy reference. For those so interested, simply print out the pages of this file, cut the pages to fit into a 4 by 6 mini photo album - and presto - you will have a *Thomas & Mary Handbook.* Print as many of these little books as you want, form little discussion clubs, and go after it. *Be My Guest. FWB.*