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## The Star Of Royal Beauty

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Stars, clusters, galaxies, and angels float above our heads at night — up there where they are hanging in the black void of outer space like decorative, flashing Christmas ornaments on a darkened tree.

Of all these shimmering lights, is there any one which is clearly the most extraordinary and most spectacular?

Which of these many great lights in Heaven is assuredly the most splendid and glorious of them all?

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For countless centuries, all human beings on the Earth have been looking up to the stars of the night sky — with a great awe, with wonder, and with incomprehension. While we have been tirelessly seeking after wisdom, knowledge, enlightenment, and a prescient awareness of the future of our Universe, we have always looked upward to the stars for answers to the riddle of existence and the mysteries of the cosmos.

For many millennia, the stars of the night sky have attracted us, magnetically and persistently, and it must be our strong fascination with the starscape of the night that has led the human race to its current (and yet very ancient) infatuation with astrology, astronomy, and astrophysics.

Now we continue our search for enlightenment with the aid of powerful computers, with weather satellites, and vehicles of space exploration.

Our natural human desire to gain wisdom and enlightenment, even a foreknowledge of the Earth's direction and our world's future fate, is a very strong compulsion.

We ask ourselves, "What indeed is the organizational plan, direction, and fate of this vast Universe in which we live — what is its purpose, and what is the meaning of it all? What is the secret meaning of all those mysterious stars which have so long inspired, taunted, and intrigued the human beings of planet Earth?"

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Did you know that the Bible refers to the angels of Heaven as "the stars" of God?

God's greatest glory is a mystical star of the Heavens named Jesus Christ. He is not merely an angel, for He is above them and superior to them, a bright being of blindingly brilliant light.

Before His human incarnation as Jesus, He was already God the Son, co-existing with the Father God and beloved by Him since before the Creation of our Universe. As such, He is now again with God and remains what He has always been: the most brilliant being of the Heavens, brighter than all the angels who are called "the stars of God."

When Jesus was on Earth among us, He told us "I am the light of the world," saying also that He is "the light of life." He wasn't exaggerating at all when He spoke those words. As God the Son, in the unity of His eternal existence as part of the Divine Trinity of God, Jesus Christ had been there at the very Creation of our Universe.

When God spoke the Universe into being with the phrase "Let there be light," it was the Christ who had brought it about.

Like a dazzling Sun presiding over the embryonic development of a system of planets, Jesus Christ had been there as an eyewitness at the very Creation of the cosmos. In fact, the Bible teaches that "all things were made through Him," that "the world was made through Him," and "all things were made for Him."

Later on, the Star of Royal Beauty was born in a human form as a small baby boy who was destined to walk the ground of Earth, and a very fitting thing transpired.

As God the Son was being born to the Earth, the Star of Bethlehem — a very large and luminous star — had appeared in a quite conspicuous way for the time of this momentous occasion. It was signaling to the planet Earth a bit of amazing news, that a new king — in fact, the King of all kings — was being born in a manger in Bethlehem.

The true Light that gives light to every person was coming into the world, and the Star of Bethlehem symbolized that colossal event.

But the Star of Bethlehem was not really the Royal Star of God. The Royal Star of God was in the newborn infant Jesus, who actually embodied it! He was in the world at last, fulfilling all the many prophecies, and though the world was made through Him, it did not recognize Him.

The Light had come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light, because their deeds were evil. Satan then moved King Herod to murder all the babies in Bethlehem in a single horrific mass execution. Herod hoped that the merciless slaughter of all those tiny babes would prevent the rise of a new king. The usurper Satan had stolen God's throne on Earth, and likewise had no desire to see Jesus ascend to power, for he might then recover God's throne on Earth. Therefore, Satan was hopeful that he might somehow extinguish the Light of the world by snuffing it when Jesus was still a small babe.

But their plans failed, and not all the evil men in this world could douse the light that spread from the fire of God's Holy Spirit.

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As an adult, his many disciples watched as Jesus was transfigured into a being of bright light after a period of intense prayer: His face shone like the Sun, and His clothes became white with a radiant white light. And in the midst of the radiant white light which was emanating from Jesus, they saw two great prophets of the past, both Moses and Elijah (who were long dead and gone), had been raised from the dead and were talking with Jesus!

The true radiance of Jesus Christ, the Royal Star of God, then became very evident to the disciples, for at that time He was shining like the Sun! Later on, Satan was successful in his long effort to provoke humanity to even murder God's Son, so Jesus died a torturous death by crucifixion on a cross of wood. Satan hoped to bury the Seed of God in a dirty grave. But Jesus was soon resurrected from the tomb in which He had been planted, and He was seen by crowds of 500 or more before He finally ascended — radiant in a glorified body back to Heaven and His place with the Father.

The Bible tells us also that when Jesus one day comes back to Earth again, all human eyes will see His brilliant radiance as He descends through the skies, and His eyes will then burn like fire! (That is because He will return next time as the conquering King, even though His first appearance had been that of a suffering Servant. The Lamb of God will then be seen as the Lion of God.) And in the Heavenly City which is yet to come, there will be no sun and no more night, because the brilliant radiance of God-with-us will then illuminate all the world.

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All these things are intended to be clues for us — a reliable witness and a sound evidence to the glory of God manifested in Jesus Christ.

Another great sign to the human race lies in the very constellations of the starry skies that float above our heads at night: God has foretold the gospel story of a Virgin and a child Savior even in the Zodiac signs of the night sky!

Like the prophet Isaiah and other prophets among the nation of Israel, the ancient Persian astrologers, in their study of the Zodiac, had also predicted the coming of a child Savior who would be born of a Virgin. This doubtless played a major part in persuading the "three wise men" to follow a bright new star that would lead them to Jesus.

By all these signs we are informed of the brilliant luminosity of God the Son, who once embodied the physical human form of Jesus Christ, but who now lives at the right hand of His Father in a glorified resurrection body of incredible radiance.

In so many ways have the stars of the heavens been always pointing us to the glorious Star of Royal Beauty! Jesus is truly God the Son, the Royal Star of God, and He shines with a white-hot brilliance as He emanates the Perfect Light of God's holiness and purity. We humans are truly blessed whenever we have a new opportunity to bask for a time in His divine radiance . . . or to reflect just a little of His light for others who inhabit this planet with us.

## Did you know this . . . ?

Jesus has willingly agreed, already, to receive all your preordained punishment, in order that you may be spared from the Judgement fate — a destination in Hell. That punishment is what a person's sinfulness will otherwise deserve . . . and it will be found inescapable . . . at the great Judgement Day of God, when God will ultimately evaluate and judge the deeds of all souls.

Any soul can be spared on the basis of God's own painful sacrifice, by a belief in the salvation God offers through His chosen Messiah, His only-begotten Son Jesus Christ.

Those souls that are spared will be the ones who have opened up the door of the heart, who have allowed Jesus Christ to come inside — through His Holy Spirit — to take up residence inside as the New Center of the Universe . . . as a brilliant light at the center of the spiritual "solar system."

The brilliant light of Jesus Christ can give you an "internal guidance system" for your heart, and this will provide orderly direction for the "planetary system" of your personal worldview.

When you put Jesus on a throne in your heart, He provides a warm "sun" for that great void in your internal universe, and it will then burn continuously to dispel all the darkness/coldness that would exist there without His presence. After that, you will have a logical "solar system" for all the interactive elements of your life.

This glowing Jesus is the glorious Light of the Universe, a shining point of light that radiates peace, love, and warmth to the entire human race, even as does the Sun. He alone provides the means by which we escape the darkness of this Universe.

Jesus now illuminates all the wide Universe, and He offers enlightenment to all the people of Earth. Human beings who are bewildered by the distressing difficulty of this world — all who are appalled by the chaotic sinfulness or the injuriousness of this life on Earth — must look to Jesus Christ for the blessing of comprehension and the grace of His enlightenment.

The Christ alone is a True Source of Perfect Light — the only reliable and valid source of that Godlike knowledge, love, forgiveness, and understanding to which we all aspire.

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the Royal Star of beauty bright. He is indeed the brightest star of Heaven, more brilliant than any sun in this Universe. He alone can provide our desperately cold planet with the warmth, vision, love, and safety for which we are in such great need. In the glow of that light which He radiates, human beings will find real nourishment for the mind, and the nurture of a healthy-growth environment for our lives on Earth.

God's Royal Star is a beacon of hope in the blackness of space, and like a dweller in a Lighthouse He can guide us through all the cosmic storms and the hostile weather of this world. Jesus is a dedicated savior living in the great Lighthouse of God's Universe, and he always beckons to us as He seeks to guide us into the safety of God's Heaven.

If you see God's heroic Light and choose to follow after it, He will one day open up His House of Light for you, admitting you to the safety of His Heaven. There your heart will at last rest peaceful and calm, knowing that your lifetime on Earth — in spite of all the pain and the scars — was not in vain, because you lived your days seeking to reach the matchless light of Jesus Christ.

All it really takes is a simple but sincere little prayer — one that you should make up in your own words. The prayer for deliverance and for God's leadership should come from your own heart!

Some important elements that you might include are:

1) your desire to turn away from the wrongness or evil of your past life, and your remorse over the sins of your previous life,

2) your desire for God's forgiveness and mercy through the act of sacrifice of His Only Begotten Son (Jesus Christ),

- 3) your desire to know God's leadership in your life,
- 4) your desire to learn more of God's truth through Bible study,
- 5) your desire to find fellowship with genuine believers.

Jesus said of the people of God that "The kingdom of heaven is like a **net** that God has cast into the sea, and it gathers of every kind: When it is full, it will be pulled up on the shore, where they will sit down to sort the catch, and they will collect the good fish in baskets, but the bad things will be thrown away. This is the way it will be at the end of the world: The angels shall come forth, and they will separate the unrighteous persons from among those justified by God . . . "

Excerpt from the Book of Matthew, who was a constant companion of Jesus and his devoted disciple [13:47-50].

God visited planet Earth when He walked upon our world in the human body of Jesus Christ.

God traveled to the Earth so that He could show us the route to Heaven.

His Light has lived among us.

#### **A Letter From The Sponsor**

In 1979, I spent two months in Nepal. During November, I did the Pokhara-Muktinath Trek with my travelbuddy, a Swiss adventurer named Werner Baumgartner. Later, in December, we would also do the Everest Trek together.

For the first trek, we hiked day after day — all day, every day — through the mountains of Nepal... until we finally reached our destination at Muktinath. There we saw the goal of this trek.. what was called "The Temple of Miraculous Fire." It was an old building which was situated on a mountaintop.

In many ways, it was a very inspirational trip, but the "miraculous fire" that we found in that temple was just a little bit disappointing. When the altar curtain was pulled back by a Buddhist monk, we were given a chance to see the miniature wonder contained inside this Nepalese temple.

We saw then what the Temple of Miraculous Fire was all about. There was a tiny stream of water coming up through the ground, and it made a miniature waterfall behind that curtain. But there was more to it than that. An endless supply of natural gas was also gushing out of the ground, and it was kept lighted by the monks... so there was a flame of fire floating over the waterfall, one that seemed to burn eternally. That was the miracle of this temple, and the Buddhist pilgrims who travel there are greatly impressed by this combination of fire, water, earth, and air... the four basic elements in their cosmogeny.

Imagine — a fire that floats on water — seemingly forever! Well, it is a rather unusual thing for a trekker to discover in this world, as you might guess.

Six months later, I came to the Pacific Island of Guam, where I would be living and working for the next five years. Soon after I got there, I became a genuine believer in Jesus Christ, and finally I became a diligent student of the Bible. My arrival on Guam brought me to a new comprehension. I understood that "miraculous fire" becomes a reality for a human being when God puts His Holy Spirit into a believer. This comes only through faith and a prayer to Jesus Christ. Then the human being becomes a temple for God's Holy Spirit. Amazing as it may sound, a mere human being is able to become a "Temple of Miraculous Fire." The fire of God's Holy Spirit will then burn in you eternally!

And what is more, Jesus Christ will also give you an endless supply of "living water," which will become in you a spring of Eternal Life.

The Christian believers of our Earth are all engaged in a great Journey to the East... the trek to a New Beginning and a New Earth. I hope you'll join us.

Our army is still growing, and we are looking for new recruits. That is a good thing, because it's what Jesus wants us to do. And as Rev. Richard Wurmbrand has aptly stated in his book *Reaching Toward The Heights:*"If we become a larger party climbing together, we may succeed better."

I became a believer in 1980, right after I settled down for a while on the island of Guam. I didn't know it, but my Swiss pal Werner also became a believer in Christ during this same year, by an independent route.

I learned from his letters that Werner eventually studied theology at a Bible College in Switzerland. My old trekking buddy, the congenial baker from Switzerland, the pal with whom I had traveled so extensively during our globetrotting days... ended up becoming an evangelical pastor for the Reformed Free Church in Switzerland. He also became a missionary evangelist, working to this very day as a "church planter" in the more rural and unreached areas of his native country. He starts new churches there.

It's not surprising that we both became believers and followers of Jesus Christ. We traveled for many months inside a great many countries of this world, and we could both see how much this Earth is in need of God's Son.

I became a believer because Jesus Christ is our Gateway to the Truth of God. He is the Guardian of God's Absolutes, and He is the Announcer of God's Truth! When we see His face, we see the face of the Father in Heaven. When we hear His words, we hear the Truth about Heaven and Earth. The voice of Jesus Christ is the voice of God. Clothed in perfect righteousness and purity, He is eternally the Son of God.

The Devil has too many children already, but the Father in Heaven could use some more. If you become a child of God, you'll be proud to declare that you have become a member of His Family... and a brother to Jesus Christ!

More challenging than the mountains on the Earth...

More challenging than the mountains on the Moon...

God's Earthward Outreach.

The people of Earth abide.

This evangelistic tract is produced by the **Street Tracts International Mission**, a Christian ministry, and is being distributed by Christian Tracts Network. It's available in both paper and electronic formats. It is part of a commemorative edition that we are calling the Godly Light series.

In His Service, Ken Street It's also important for all of us to remember this:

1) WE SPEAK TO GOD by our prayers.

2) GOD SPEAKS TO US by the words of Holy Scripture.

So we must try to read His words and His Book just as often as we possibly can!!

God wants to bless you for all your long efforts to understand this very confusing and difficult Universe in which we live — so let Him reward your search with the grace of His forgiveness and enlightenment!

Star of wonder, star of might...
Star of royal beauty bright...
Westward leading, still proceeding...
GUIDE US TO THE PERFECT
LIGHT...

# The Star Of Royal Beauty

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### THIS GUIDE WAS WRITTEN FOR YOU BY... Ken Street, a baptized follower of the Way.

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