## **CHAPTER 4**

Mission: Save Humanity

**N**ESTLED IN THE LAKESIDE GROVE, OUR SMALL GROUP begins a thoughtful discussion, questioning who this deliverer could be, the promised one who could win back the lost world.

Perhaps a super human being shall arrive in the world and overthrow Satan's rule? But This Man tells us that all humans are tainted with the knowledge of good and evil and all inherit everlasting death in their lives. No human has the power to deliver himself or herself from death, let alone deliver the entire human race.

Perhaps the mightiest heavenly angel could fit the description of the future deliverer?

"Ah yes," This Man replies with clarity. "God's faithful angels are certainly untainted by the knowledge of good and evil and thus are free from the stigma of death. But in the end they too are merely created beings having no authority or power over good and evil, life and death."

And so our human solutions come to nothing, and our only hope turns towards the authority and power of the Great King and His divine Son.

This Man advises we are entering upon most holy ground and therefore we need to tread gently and reverently. And so he carefully guides our thoughts into the spiritual divinities of God.

"There are only two divine beings in the entire universe, and only these two have the power and authority to rescue lost humanity from sin and everlasting death. Only They, who are the origin of life, who created man, can redeem man from the transgression of God's sacred law.

Only They who are the law's living essence in all goodness have the right to put themselves forward as worthy deliverers and pay the ransom price for humanity's sin.

But then this comes at an infinite cost. For you see, the ransom price does not demand payment in gold or silver. Oh no, the price required is a death payment in blood.

Innocent, guiltless, sinless blood will only suffice to free the guilty from the sentence of everlasting death - their eternal separation from God.

In the place of the law breakers' sinful life, a sinless life must die to amend the broken law.

And so as the Father and Son continue their heartbreaking discussion, the situation before them becomes crystal clear. There is only one hope, one answer.

With selfless love the Son of God steps into the breach to meet the law's demands. As a freewill offering of death He gives up His own holy life to clear the guilty from sin.

Yes, a sacrificial death in the place of man's death sentence.

Without question there is no other way to save condemned humanity. God's law cannot be changed to harbour acts of sin in the guilty.

Thus long before the creation of Planet Earth and even before time began, the Father ordains that at the appointed time His beloved Son shall descend to fallen earth to free humanity from the penalty of the transgressed law

...who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus **before time began...** 2 Timothy 1: 9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as **He** (**The Father**) chose us in Him (the Son) before the foundation of the world... Ephesians 1:3-4

> He indeed was foreordained **before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you. 1 Peter 1:20

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son... John 3:16

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all... Romans 8:32

In due time, the Son meets with the holy angels and explains His future mission to save a lost world called Planet Earth. Can you imagine the angels' shock and sorrow? For them it is almost inconceivable that their beloved Commander should take on the guilt of a sinful race and enter into a painful, gory experience ending in death.

And what if the Son is overcome by sin on His mission attempt to rescue the fallen race? Like sinful humanity, He too faces the possibility of being separated from His Father forever.

What greater sacrifice of love can the Father and Son make?

A reverent hush ripples through the universe.

While in the depths of a lost planet the voices of humanity whisper...

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15."

Like a whispering breeze this spirit of thanksgiving ripples through our own needy souls, stirring our hearts with praises to our creator God.



"CURDS AND HONEY HE SHALL EAT, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good." So wrote Isaiah, a Bible prophet in Old Testament times. Isaiah was inspired by God to write about a time in the distant future when the Son of God was also to become the son of man on earth.

That one text, Isaiah 7:15, holds amazing health secrets – over time the special significance for human health became misunderstood, and then slipped into obscurity. In the 21st century enlightened scientists have been rediscovering the secrets "curds and honey" hold for us today.

In Bible times electricity, refrigerators and supermarkets did not exist, huge milk processing factories and large honey processing businesses were thousands of years in the future. Food was very local, and sometimes wild-gathered.

Yes, there was milk. But not pasteurised where milk is heated to 63 degrees Celsius for 30 minutes to kill any bacteria which could cause human illness,<sup>1</sup> or homogenised to distribute fat globules throughout the milk, and not litres per animal from every milking. Cows, goats, sheep and even camels were milked for human consumption. Fresh, sweet milk was consumed, but more often milk was cultured immediately. And when eaten or drunk, the serving size was small.

Although intricate fermenting tips and techniques may have been lost in the mists of time, we do know that unprocessed milk, also known as raw milk, contains substances which can prevent bad bacteria from developing for a short time.<sup>2</sup> But animal welfare and hygiene was vital and still is. If the farmer isn't especially vigilant about the health and welfare of the milking animal, and the hygiene of milking her, bad things can and do happen. The consumer of the milk has to take just as much care as the farmer.<sup>3</sup> That's why in Bible times, the milk was most often cultured.

As the milk begins to culture, different species of good bacteria begin to grow. The milk changes in taste, developing a sour flavour, and the milk starts to thicken. These various species of beneficial bacteria are known today as probiotics. Incredible quantities of good bacteria develop, and then the milk separates into curds and whey. This is also known as "clabbered milk."<sup>4</sup> The curds are not as thick or set as yoghurt. Curds and whey can be stirred together to make a thick, refreshing drink, or the curds could be scooped off the top and left to thicken. Sometimes this thick cultured milk was called "butter" The clear whey could also be drained away from the thicker "curds" and enjoyed as a drink, or for other food preparation.

If we look at Strong's Concordance for the word "Curds…" (NKJV) we see that the King James Version of the Bible uses the word "Butter…" Both "curds" (NKJV) and "butter" (KJV) come from the Hebrew word chemah, (2529) pronounced khaymaw; from the same root as 2346; curdled milk or cheese:-butter.<sup>5</sup>

Now we are about to come to the amazing part. For if we look at the root word for chemah we find the word chowmah, pronounced kho-maw described as "to join; a wall of protection:-wall, walled."<sup>6</sup>

What could cultured milk have to do with a wall of protection?

In the digestive tract are many different species of bacteria, some sources say more than 1000 different species.<sup>7</sup> Through God's design, most bacteria are beneficial. These bacteria live in groups, we could call them colonies or communities. They even have the ability to communicate with each other.<sup>8</sup> When people eat or drink foods containing beneficial bacteria, the colonies of bacteria in the digestive system are strengthened and supported to do their job. What is their job? To provide a wall of protection for the lining of the digestive tract. The purpose of the wall of protection? To stop invaders pushing their way into the bloodstream and damaging the human body!<sup>9</sup>

Without the wall of protection provided by colonies of good bacteria, the body is open to attack, leading to disease and even death.

And this is often what we see in today's so called developed nations. All the following circumstances can disrupt the beneficial bacteria in the digestive system: Repeated courses of antibiotics, the birth control pill, other medication taken by mouth, refined and processed foods and drinks, chlorinated and fluoridated water, chronic stress, chronic sleep deprivation, sudden fright, lack of a support network for a full and satisfying life, or to help through difficult times.<sup>10 11</sup>

Under attack from all these different, detrimental influences, the wall of protection provided by beneficial bacteria becomes weakened, or taken over by opportunistic bacteria which are now growing out of control. Instead of a tight gut barrier, over time, gaps develop and invaders sneak through into the bloodstream. Put simply, modern living is a danger for beneficial bacteria colonies!

But how can the brain be benefitted by "curds"? Many of us have heard probiotics may help with digestion, yet few realise probiotic foods and drinks protect the brain, and improve the immune system. <sup>12 13 14</sup>

Did you know that learning, memory, behaviour and emotions can be changed by the species of bacteria in the digestive system? The connection between the digestive system and the brain is directly through the vagus nerve which runs from the brain through to the digestive system. You have probably been aware of your vagus nerve when you have a hacking cough – that's the irritated feeling up and down your throat.<sup>15</sup>

In fact, scientists studying bacteria and the connection between the digestive system and the brain, have been able to show that anxiety and depression as well as autistic symptoms can be improved by introducing certain species of good bacteria through diet. And subtle changes were seen in the "anxiety" part of the brain, in women who ate yoghurt and probiotics, indicating that anxiety lessened.<sup>16</sup>

And so, we have learned how eating curds provides a wall of protection, and supports the brain through colonies of certain beneficial bacteria.

Today, culturing milk into curds and whey is being rediscovered. Other traditional fermented foods, with or without animal milks, are rising in popularity in the so-called developed nations. Kefir is a cultured milk made using an age old mysterious culture that looks a little like cottage cheese. But it can also be made with coconut water (from the inside of young coconuts) or sometimes coconut milk. And a wide range of vegetables can be cultured into delicious condiments for meals, salads, even blended into vegetable smoothies – carrots, beetroot, cabbage and tomatoes are just a few. There is an entire culinary world of cultured foods to be explored. <sup>17</sup>

Most people do need to start slowly with cultured foods, especially those with damaged digestive systems. For some people ½ a teaspoon a day for several months is sufficient to start a slow healing process as each half teaspoon can contain billions of beneficial bacteria! <sup>18</sup>

Read all about the secrets of honey further on in this book!

- 1. Juffs, Dr and Deeth, Associate Professor, Scientific Evaluation of Pasteurisation for Pathogen Reduction in Milk and Milk Products.
- 2. US Food and Drug Adminsitration, Evaluation and Definition of Potentially Hazardous Foods - Chapter 3. Factors That Influence Microbial Growth.
- 3. Katz, The Art of Fermentation.
- 4. Morrow, "Clabbered Milk: Easy Buttermilk, Yogurt & Sour Cream Subsitute."
- 5. Strong, "Hebrew and Aramaic Dictionary of the Old Testament."
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. "Dietary Changes To Gut Bacteria Can Affect Brain Functioning, Study Suggests."
- 8. Waters and Bassler, "Quorum Sensing: Cell-to-Cell Communication in Bacteria."
- 9. Pollan, "Some of My Best Friends Are Germs."
- 10. "Dietary Changes To Gut Bacteria Can Affect Brain Functioning, Study Suggests."
- 11. Pollan, "Some of My Best Friends Are Germs."
- 12. "Dietary Changes To Gut Bacteria Can Affect Brain Functioning, Study Suggests."
- 13. Pollan, "Some of My Best Friends Are Germs."
- 14. Reardon, "Gut-brain Link Grabs Neuroscientists."
- 15. Stein, "Gut Bacteria Might Guide The Workings Of Our Minds."
- 16. Ibid.
- 17. Katz, The Art of Fermentation.
- 18. Campbell-McBride, "The Full GAPS Diet By Dr Natasha Campbell-McBride."

I will praise the Lord according to His righteousness, And will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High. Psalm 7: 17

With reverent tones of love This Man continues:

"Even so, from earth's creation, four thousand long years must pass until God's *indescribable gift* descends to our world.

But rest assured, in God's timing the Son descends, and joining Himself to the human race He becomes a babe in human life.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Living on earth and among the people, He grows into a man and lives in the same conditions as fallen humanity and faces the same temptations as man but with a difference – by keeping the law perfectly holy, He does not sin - not even once.

He ...was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15 Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth. 1 Peter 2:22

And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there was no sin.1 John 3:5

The LORD is well pleased for His righteousness' sake; He will exalt the law and make it honorable. Isaiah 42:21

Where man failed the Son succeeds. Yes, living the righteousness of the law before God and man, without one fault, entitles The Son of God to take upon Himself humanity's sin, humanity's guilt, humanity's sentence of everlasting death - and die in humanity's place.

For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all... Romans 6:10

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us... Romans 8:3-4

...who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Titus 2:14"

This Man guides our minds to a place in his special book – Isaiah chapter 53. And like an orechestral symphony, we hear God's message of salvation, the merciful tones of His redeeming love for lost humanity.

Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows: Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; *He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,* And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; *For the transgressions of My people* He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked -But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death,

And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors. Isaiah 53:1-12

God's unconditional love soars into a crescendo of eternal life in the Bible's New Testament - God's gift of everlasting life to those who believe in the Son's saving name.

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ (The Son) died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6-8

Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Romans 5:18-19

For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Romans 14:9

'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.' John 3:16-17

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.1 John 5:11

And this is the promise that He has promised us - eternal life.1 John 2:25

This tremendous promise of everlasting love and everlasting life flows from the Son's great sacrifice into our lives today in Planet Earth's 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our urgent need is to accept this free gift to live a new born life with God.

But alas, for Adam and Eve in Eden's fallen paradise, their present crisis is deepening. Yes, they have been given the promise of a deliverer – but what now?

The moment sin enters their lives they need the deliverer to come forth and lay claim to their lost lives. Immediately. Not in 4000 years time!

They know their transgression of the law is a mutinous injustice, hurled against God's righteous character. They know God is the law's living origin.

"For law will proceed from Me..." Isaiah 51:4 There is one Lawgiver... James 4:12 The LORD is our Lawgiver... Isaiah 33:22 Adam and Eve know the broken law of life demands immediate justice – and justice can only be met with the death of the one who has broken the law.

Sin is the transgression of the law. 1 John 3:4 KJV 'The soul who sins shall die.' Ezekiel 18:4 The wages of sin is death.... Romans 6:23

Ah yes, Adam and Eve stand alone in their guilt. If action is not taken soon, their sentence of eternal death will consume them without the slightest hope of escape.

Thus waiting in the wings of time the Son of God steps forth into their void of death and with His outstretched arms takes upon Himself their sentence of eternal death as though He is already slain for their sin ...slain from the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:8

With His left hand He grasps the hand of fallen humanity, and with His right hand He grasps the hand of His heavenly Father.

For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Romans 5:10

And so begins the spiritual restoration of the human race."