Jesus' Sacred Secret Hidden in Plain Sight

Known only to his Apostles and Disciples

For thousands of years, the Bible has been read, analysed, researched and debated. Yet, Jesus Sacred Secret has never been discovered and or revealed by the church, theologians, priests, preachers, scholars, commentators etc.

Why?

Some believers say that there are no more secrets to be revealed. All have been revealed by Jesus in the New Testament.

If, there are no more secrets in the Bible to be revealed, why then would Jesus said,

"I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you <u>have hidden these things</u> from <u>the</u> wise and prudent and <u>revealed</u> them to babes. <u>Even so</u>, Father, for it seemed good in <u>Your sight</u>. All things have been <u>delivered to Me</u> by My Father, and no one knows who the son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the son, and <u>the one</u> to whom the Son <u>wills to reveal HIM</u>."

(Luke 10: 21-22)

And Jesus Sacred Secret would be revealed only to those whom <u>Jesus has willed to disclose</u>.

So precious is this Sacred Secret, that Jesus said to His disciples,

"Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see, for I tell you that many prophets and Kings have

desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it."

(Luke 10: 23-24)

I would like to suggest that there is a **Jesus Sacred Secret** in the Bible, hidden in plain sight somewhere in the New Testament and foretold in the Old Testament, hundreds of years before the coming of Jesus.

But, what is really daunting and humbling is that the secret will only be revealed to **THE ONE** who Jesus **WILLS** to reveal. (**Luke 10:21-22**).

And being a lapsed Christian, I hesitate to share with you what I believe to be the Sacred Secret, for I see no reason why Jesus would reveal to me, of all persons in the world, *the* Sacred Secret.

I am sure there are better qualified and faithful Christians out there who may have already received the Sacred Secret or will in due course receive the Sacred Secret.

WHAT IS THE SACRED SECRET? WHAT SACRED SECRET HAS GOD OFFERED TO ALL BELIEVERS?

To discover and receive the Sacred Secret, surely what we need to enquire and ask ourselves, must be:

What DO WE WANT from God? What is THE GIFT from God?

If, what we want from God is totally and diametrically opposite to what God has promised to all of us, *it is only logical and common sense* that we are not in sync with God's Will and Promise. And we will not receive the Sacred Secret from God.

Putting it in another way - we will be looking for the wrong key, one that would not unlock the door, or using the wrong map to reach the destination, if in fact, we know the right destination.

Is this not the reason why all of us are so lost, confused, depressed, incapable of coping with life's challenges, have no purpose in life and more importantly have **NO FAITH** in Jesus?

The reason why we are so confused and in a spiritual mess is because we paid no attention to all the **SIGNS** and **CLUES** in our journey to discover the Sacred Secret.

St. Paul could not have been more direct and blunt when he wrote:

"Beware, lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world and <u>not according to Christ</u>. For in HIM dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily and <u>you are complete in HIM</u> who is the head of all principality and power."

(Colossians 2:8-9)

St. John, in like manner, warned all of us that:

"...If anyone add to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophesy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the Holy City and from the things which are written in this book."

(Revelation 22:18)

These two injunctions, when disobeyed, will lead all of us astray from the true path and assuredly, we will not be able to receive the Sacred Secret.

From my personal experience, since taking Holy Communion at twelve years old, my fifty-eight years search for the Secret has been diverted by my failures to heed the above warning signs and to diligently follow the clues and to connect the dots in a disciplined approach. In summary, my problem was, "I cannot see the forest for the trees".

Most Christians have the same problems and challenges. After all, the Old Testament consist of 39 books – 17 Books covering the story of the Nation of Israel, Five Books written by the Poets of Israel and 17 Books by the Prophets of Israel,

In the New Testament, we have the Four Gospels about the life of Jesus (essentially one story by four disciples), one Book about the early history of the Church (ACTS), 21 Books / Letters from St. Paul to early Christians and finally, the Book of Revelation by St. John. In total, 69 Books to read and study, a task more arduous than passing law examinations over a period of four years, inclusive of one year pupillage.

Even though I believe that I had found the Sacred Secret, I lack the confidence to assert that the Sacred Secret is hidden in plain sight. And the nagging thought - why would Jesus reveal to me?

I therefore, invite you to be the arbiter but, the final judge will have to be Jesus.

I will now retrace the steps of my journey to seek the Sacred Secret, ending with my "discovery" of the Sacred Secret in the Gospel of Luke.

In Luke, chapter 10:1-2, it was narrated that Jesus sent out seventy disciples, two by two to every city and place where He Himself was about to go. It was said that the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few.

It was a perilous and arduous journey as Jesus had warned the disciples:

"Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road." (Luke, 10:3-4)

I take the instructions in the above verses to mean that I must stay **FOCUS** and not to be distracted or diverted, and be bogged down by the burden of our earthly desires.

And, as an encouragement to his disciples as well as a reminder of the heavy responsibility bestowed upon them, Jesus said:

"He who hears you, hears me, he who rejects you rejects me and he who rejects Me rejects HIM who sent Me." (Luke, 10:16)

Such was the responsibility and authority that Jesus delegated to the seventy disciples but, I surmised that the disciples did not fully comprehend and or appreciate this <u>singular privilege</u> and <u>the gift</u> granted to them.

When the seventy disciples returned from their mission, they rejoiced and exclaimed that even the demons are "subject to us in Your name." (Luke, 10:17)

Jesus replied:

The Special Gift

"I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the <u>authority</u> to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and <u>nothing</u> shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the

spirit are subject to you. <u>but rather rejoice</u> <u>because your names are written in heaven.</u>" (Luke, 10:18-20)

I was thunderstruck by these words – the unimaginable, unexpected and irrevocable gifts from Jesus to His disciples when they unreservedly became the missionaries of His message to His people!

Then Jesus turned away from the disciples and in a sacred moment **REJOICED** in the **HOLY SPIRIT** and gave thanks and gratitude,

The Sacred & Secret Mystery

"I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for it seemed good in Your sight. All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal HIM." (Luke, 10:21-22)

Therefore, it is clear as daylight, that the mystery of the Holy Trinity – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – will be hidden and only be revealed to those who Jesus himself WILLS to reveal!

And to emphasise the enormity and significance of this Mystery, Jesus turned to the disciples and said privately,

"Blesses are the eyes which see the things you see; for I tell you that many prophets and kings

have desired to see what you see but <u>have not</u> <u>seen it</u>, and to hear what you hear, and <u>have not</u> <u>heard it.</u>" (Luke, 10:23-24)

I hope by now, and at this stage of this discussion, you will agree that the Jesus Sacred Secret is hidden in plain sight, but have been not seen or heard as we have **MISSED IT** completely and or not ready to receive it.

You will notice that the above extracts of Chapter 10 from the Gospel of Luke are within quotation marks, which signifies that they are the **words of Jesus** himself.

The Three Keys to the Vault of the Sacred Secret

Yes, I assure you that there are **Three Keys** to "unlock" the doors of the vault that holds the Sacred Secret!

THERE ARE THREE THINGS WE MUST DO.

In a gathering where Jesus was teaching, a certain lawyer asked,

"Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke, 10:25)

Jesus replied:

What is written in the Law? What is your reading of it?" (Luke, 10:26)

The lawyer answered,

[THE FIRST KEY] "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself."

(Luke, 10:25-27)

Jesus replied:

You have answered rightly; do this and you will live."

(Luke, 10:28)

This is a direct and unambiguous command and the first KEY to the door of the vault of the Sacred Secret.

The lawyer then asked,

"And who is my neighbour?" (LUKE, 10:29)

Jesus answered and said:

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

"A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. (Luke, 10:30)

From Jerusalem to Jericho the journey is short but perilous. Just as Jesus Mission on earth - a mere three years, but a more perilous journey to fulfil His Father's commandment.

Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. (Luke, 10:31)

Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. (Luke, 10:32)

Are these not experts in the law, scriptures etc. Yet, they showed no mercy and compassion. There is no presumption that Priests and Levites are the true believers. People, who have titles and occupy a high stations in life, counts for nothing, if they have no faith in Jesus!

But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. (Luke, 10:33)

The Samaritans lived in Samaria, an area north of Jerusalem. They were half-Jews and half-Gentiles. When Assyria captured the northern kingdom of Israel in 721 B.C. some were taken in captivity. They intermarried with the Assyrians. Thus these people were neither fully Hebrews nor fully Gentiles. At the time of Jesus the Jews and the Samaritans did not deal with one another. They were considered enemies. Yet, the Samaritan showed compassion to the victim and stranger (a Jew). Who do you think, the Samaritan personifies?

So he went to *him* and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. (Luke, 10:34)

On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' (Luke, 10:35)

There is therefore no limit to the extent of the Samaritan's compassion. So, the love for one's neighbour should be limitless. And I would suggest (as it is my understanding and interpretation) that the Samaritan exemplifies Jesus' exhortation, to love one's enemies.

So, which of these three do you think was neighbour to him who fell among the thieves?" (Luke, 10:36)

And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." (Luke, 10:37)

The Samaritan is referred to as the "neighbour" and the underlying meaning of the answer is that everyone, all children of God is our neighbour. When we exhort, "love thy neighbour" we usually refer to the "victim" or the "receiver" of our compassion. The focus should be on the "Giver".

We tend to externalise the nature of the "neighbour", when the parable insists on internalising the nature of the "neighbour". Jesus is the ultimate neighbour. The Father sacrificed His only begotten son and Jesus agreed to be sacrificed as the ultimate act of Mercy and neighbourliness - that our sins be forgiven!

The Samaritan showed "Mercy". Why the word "Mercy"? The wider meaning of Mercy is to 'Forgive." In <u>Psalm 118:1 we are</u> told that God's Mercy Endures Forever.

In this parable, Jesus is the "neighbour" to all of us, and who by his death and resurrection showed mercy and compassion, and forgave our sins. Did not Jesus said before taking his last breath, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." (Luke, 23:34)

Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." (Luke, 10:37)

This is Jesus' DIRECT exhortation. No ambiguity! As a "neighbour" and following the example of the Samaritan, we must show mercy and compassion to one and all.

Therefore, to open the vault of the Sacred Secret, we must acquire this, the SECOND KEY as revealed in the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

11

What is the Third Key to the vault of the Sacred Secret?

JESUS is the THIRD KEY. We are to follow Jesus Christ unconditionally.

Jesus said to him (Thomas),

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me ... I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." (John, 14:1-4)

"He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me, sees Him who sent me. I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me, should not abide in darkness." (John, 12:44-46)

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." (John, 10:27-30)

"And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." (John, 1:16-18)

Concluding Remarks

Many who have read or may read my message of discovery, may well have doubts as to my assertions regarding Jesus Sacred Secret – known to Jesus' Apostles and disciples and those who Jesus has willed to receive.

And if Jesus so willed to reveal the Sacred Secrets, He will do so.

I find comfort and reassurance that how I had stumbled upon the Sacred Secret (hidden in plain sight) in my long journey has the support of St. Paul who in his Epistle to the Colossians wrote, and I quote:

"...the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to HIS saints. To them God WILLED to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the gentiles, which is CHRIST IN YOU, the hope of glory."

(Colossians 1:26-27)

And it was expressly revealed in Revelation:

"It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirst. He

who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I shall be his God and he shall be My son.

(Revelation 21:6-7)

Therefore, how can we deny that Jesus Christ is the Third Key, for He and the Father is ONE.

And in Luke, 11:2 Jesus taught us how to pray so that we will always be one with Him and His Father.

"Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your Kingdom come.
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us day by day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins
For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us

And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

Whatever may be your views, for and against my discovery and interpretations I hope that we can all agree on one issue – that of all the 69 books and letters of the Holy Bible, the Gospel of Luke captures the essence and fundamental teachings of Jesus in ONE CHAPTER – Chapter, 10:1-37.

I have read the Bible, specifically the 4 Gospels so many times that I have lost count. And we were taught repeatedly (since receiving Holy Communion), that the Parable of the Good Samaritan was *the* benchmark on how to be neighbourly. I am now seventy years old and during all these years, I was blind like a bat!

14

As confessed earlier, the reason was simple. I just could not see the forest for the trees! I was literally drowning in the sea of scriptures, sermons and scholarly articles. Information overload, no less!

In sum, Jesus was shrouded in mystery when His message and teachings were plain and simple. The journey to find Jesus was short, as is the journey from Jerusalem to Jericho with clear signs but we were led to partake in a wild goose chase. Luke, Chapter 10 was the infallible GPS to the promised destination, but we were told to use and follow new maps, instruments that but for a few, led us into the cesspool of despair and hopelessness!

And all we need was to stay FOCUS, for did not Jesus say:

"... Carry neither moneybag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road..." (Luke 10:16)

St. Paul warned those of us who are seeking Jesus:

"Beware, lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to basic principles of the world and NOT ACCORDING TO CHRIST..."

(Colossians, 2:8-9)

I am now fortified from the above discovery that I am on the right path to Jesus. And while the Sacred Secret has been revealed (obtaining the Sacred Keys), the more arduous challenge is to insert the key and open the door of the vault.

I truly believe that Jesus has given to each of us, our own set of unique Keys to the "DOORS" of the vault. The vault has many doors and all the doors open to the Narrow Gate and from there to where Jesus is waiting for us "... I go to prepare a place for you ... and receive you to myself; that where I am, <u>there</u> you may also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." (John, 14:1-4)

Lest, we get the wrong impression that it will be an easy ride, it is in fact, an arduous journey. There will be no superhighways

or bullet trains to fast track the journey. We are told to enter through the narrow gate "for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and <u>there are few who find it.</u>" (Matthew, 7: 13-14)

And it is those who OVERCOME the challenges that will inherit all things and "I shall be his God and he shall be My son." (Revelation, 21:6-7)

Finally, my parting words - if we are to succeed, we must exert tremendous amount of effort and there is no other way to summarise what efforts are required than to heed the following:

KEEP ASKING, SEEKING, KNOCKING

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened..."

(Luke, 11: 9-10)

AMEN

By a lost sheep who has been found.