



“Open Range”

“Running Astray Outside the Fence”

Compiled by God and Recorded by the Phoenix
www.phoenixseven.org/archive

Based on a true story.

Sometimes the same can be said of cattle as of sheep.

“There’s Danger Outside the Fence”.

ALEPH. Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy precepts diligently. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments. - Psalms 119: 1-6

GIMEL. Deal bountifully with thy servant, *that* I may live, and keep thy word. Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law. I *am* a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me. My soul breaketh for the longing *that it hath* unto thy judgments at all times. Thou hast

rebuked the proud *that are* cursed, which do err from thy commandments. - Psalms 119: 17-21

I *am* a companion of all *them* that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts. The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes. TETH. Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word. Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments. Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word. - Psalms 119:63-67

Interesting that in the wake of Katrina, one of the first things people asked for besides food and water was a Holy Bible. But this always true of most all that are afflicted.

And a now a brief note or excerpt from Barnes New Testament notes:

Verse 67. *Before I was afflicted I went astray*] Many have been humbled under affliction, and taught to know themselves and humble themselves before God, that probably without this could never have been saved; after this, they have been serious and faithful. *Affliction sanctified is a great blessing; unsanctified, it is an additional curse.*

⁷By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. - Hebrews 11:7

¹⁷For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it first begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? - 1 Peter 4:17-18

And a now another brief note or excerpt from Barnes New Testament notes:

Verse 17. *Judgment must begin at the house of God*] Our Lord had predicted that, previously to the destruction of Jerusalem, his own

followers would have to endure various calamities; see #Mt 24:9, 21, 22; #Mr 13:12, 13; #Joh 16:2], disciples are called *the house or family of God*.

That the converted Jews suffered much from their own brethren, the *zealots*, or *factions* into which the Jews were at that time divided, needs little proof; and some interpreters think that this was in conformity to the purpose of God, (#Mt 23:35]: *That on you may come all the righteous blood shed from the foundation of the world*,) "that the Jewish Christians were to be involved in the general punishment; and that it was proper to begin at *them* as a part of the devoted Jewish nation, notwithstanding they were now become the house of God, because the justice of God would thereby be more illustriously displayed.

See *Macknight*. But probably the word which we here translate *judgment*, may mean no more than affliction and distress; for it was a Jewish maxim that, when God was about to pour down some general judgment, he began with afflicting his *own people* in order to correct and amend them, that they might be prepared for the overflowing scourge. In *Bava Kama*, fol. 60, 1, we have the same sentiment, and in nearly the same words, as in Peter, viz.: "God never punishes the world but because of the wicked, but he always begins with the righteous first. The destroyer makes no difference between the just and the unjust, only he begins first with the righteous." See #Eze 9:1-7], where God orders the destroyer to slay both old and young in the city: *But*, said he, *begin at my sanctuary*.

Judgment is coming to the house of God. "The apostate Church". "There is danger outside the fence" of God's Word. Danger in the "Open Range" . And danger to those that stray...and now to our true story:

"Open Range"

Two days ago, I like most of you out there met with family and friends to celebrate the Christmas season. Well most anyway, a shame that the "reason for the season", Jesus Christ, was scarcely mentioned.

While visiting with my sister Tracy and her fiancé Ernie, Ernie relayed to me this story of “The High Headed Heifer Outside the Fence”. A high headed heifer goes her own way.

Ernie, a cattleman, had a 600 lb heifer run through the fence. For hours he chased and attempted to herd her back in, but to no avail. She elected, or chose to head to the open range of the Thorn trees, saw briars and more. Approximately 6 hours into the chase through the brambles, thorn trees, and the “saw briars”, Ernie had just about had his fill of the chase. A “saw briar” here in Arkansas, is a briar about the size of your thumb with thorns to match.

He told me that in order to get through the most growed up areas he had to crawl on his hands and knees, through the worst of the saw briars. The more he crawled, “The Redder My Ears Got”. The madder he got. He then vowed that if she didn’t come out in the next hour, he would get his rifle and a rope, and she would come out feet first. Then to the butcher....

Good story. Reminds me of another that I heard once upon a time...about someone else that pursued the lost.. Those astray on the “Open Range” lost among the thorns, and some other “Red Ears”....do you think perhaps that God’s ears ever get “Red”?

²⁶For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ²⁷But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. ²⁸He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: ²⁹Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

³⁰For we know him that hath said, *Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. ³¹ *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.** - Hebrews 10:26-31

“He made the seeing blind, and the blind to see”.

The abomination of desolation in men's hearts today, have replaced the love of Christ in their hearts with the love of the things of this world, yet still profess Christ. "It is a Matter of Heart".

No longer do many teach, and ask themselves how may I escape the confines of this world, for a closer walk with Jesus to be a better Christian; but ask how can I be Christian, and still remain in this world. A vast difference. They are missing the true joy and high calling over and above the world, that is meant for those only that overcome. That persevere.

A High calling of a Relationship with the true Son of God; Jesus Christ.

And they have not eyes to see.

Jesus Christ never had motor home, nor rode a tour bus. Nor a ski boat. "He walked on water". Nor I suppose a four-wheeler. Not saying that to some they are bad. Many I suppose use them as tools to share the Gospel, and well I suppose a vast many more do not. Just something for many to reflect upon.

And the Prophecy given to me by God this past July before the wake of Rita and Katrina, an excerpt from "Choose This Day":

And now a Prophecy, given to me by God:

The people of this nation and the world are accountable. I am A God of justice. They have fallen away unto their own imaginations and thus having fallen away, I will destroy the land. I am the Lord God and I change not. But this is merely the beginning.. The beginning of a "Great Awakening" among the people. The awakenings of all awakenings. "And the Thunder Rolls" - Return.. Just as the modern day prodigal.

I asked God what shall I do? And He told me this:

And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest. Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. - Ezekiel 37:3-4

And to the “dry bones” I preach. Return to the Lord God. The true Lord God Jehovah and the true Christ. For there is salvation in no other. Amen.

(End of Excerpt)

Please keep in mind we are a nation where 86% profess Christianity. Notice I used the word profess. As in name only, and not in practice.

It was just recently released this month, new figures upon the tithe. Of those 86% of this nation that profess Christianity, it is estimated the average American Christian only give 2.66 percent tithe. That is of those that do tithe, many and most do not. And not the required 10%. That's of the Gross and not net people.

The remainder “elect” or choose to rob God. Not really bright. Those that covet money. (Source: January 2006 issue of Turning Points Magazine: page38)

But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; ⁴Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. ⁵For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. - Ephesians 5:3-6

Covetous, anyone that puts anything of this world before God, to the fornication, and uncleanness, look for the upcoming series “Husbands and Wives” that will be located in the archive section of

our site. (If you have not done so, I invite you to read “Riders on the Storm” the four horseman of the Apocalypse, Caught in the Eye of the Storm 1 & 2 and “Walking Tall” and “The Days of Noah” located in the archive section of our site).

Reaching for those astray...if it be those that have never heard the word or as the prodigal son to an apostate church...

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. ¹⁸He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. - The Gospel According to John 3:16-19

And of the “Saw Briars” and thorns...

⁴And when much people were gathered together, and were come to him out of every city, he spake by a parable: ⁵A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. ⁶And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. ⁷And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. ⁸And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. ⁹And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be? ¹⁰And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. ¹¹Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. ¹³They on the rock *are they*, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in

time of temptation fall away. ¹⁴And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection. ¹⁵But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep *it*, and bring forth fruit with patience. - The Gospel According to Luke 8:4-15

"It's A Matter of Heart". "The New Ark".

Thank you Ernie for such a great story and parallel to the story of the lost among the thorns...and to the Father of us All chasing us through the thorns. But then again "All Things Happen For a Reason" don't they?

It is now 3:57pm the 27th day of December in the year of Our Lord Jesus Christ 2005. I received this email in here at Phoenix Seven this afternoon, lets give it a title of:

"Sacred Cows"

Hare Krishna,

I hope you can answer a question I have.

Jesus Christ who is savior said 'Thou shalt not kill'. And He Himself never indulged in eating meat. He was always libearted. No Beef was eaten or anything by Him. No slaughter houses were opened by Him.

Why is it that Christians do not follow this code, and why do they kill so much?

What is the need to eat meat everyday? Did Jesus eat meat everyday? Why do you not follow Jesus Christ?

This is coming from a Hare Krishna follower [in case you didn't guess!].

I am baffled. Unless you can say why you kill cows. ANd if it is mentioned in Bible it is ok, then I sugest that you are just speculating.

Lamb? Ok. Fish Ok. I think youu commiting some kind of blunder. In VEdas cows are considered to be Holy. I know you may not agree to this, but you should keep this in mind. Maybe you will progress in spiritual life.

Gaura haribo

And now for a parable that Jesus Christ told of the Prodigal Son. And the killing of the fattened calf in celebration of the one that was lost then found. The one who returned from the "Open Range". As to the fattened calf?

¹¹And he said, A certain man had two sons: ¹²And the younger of them said to *his* father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me . And he divided unto them *his* living. ¹³And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. ¹⁴And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. ¹⁵And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. ¹⁷And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, ¹⁹And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. ²⁰And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. ²¹And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. ²²But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put *it* on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on *his* feet: ²³And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill *it* ; and let us eat, and be merry: ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. ²⁵Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. ²⁶And he

called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.
²⁷And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. ²⁸And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. ²⁹And he answering said to *his* father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:
³⁰But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.
³¹And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. ³²It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found. - The Gospel According to Luke 15:11-32

As to the fattened calf? Please note that I have highlighted the text in red, due to that they are the very words of Jesus Christ.

²³And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill *it* ; and let us eat, and be merry: - The Gospel According to Luke 15:23

Much of the abstaining or teaching of the abstaining of certain meats, is nothing new. The church or assembly of the Colossians had their own struggles at the time.

²⁰Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, ²¹(Touch not; taste not; handle not; ²²Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? - Colossians 2:20-22

Do not base your salvation on what you eat or drink, as all is good and allowed by God. Nor do not base your salvation on the traditions and doctrine's of men. Not to be confused with God's moral law.

Now a brief excerpt from Barnes Notes:

Verse 22. *Which all are to perish with the using.* This is commonly marked as a part of the parenthesis, or the quotation; and there is considerable difficulty in ascertaining its true meaning. It seems most

probable that these are the words of the apostle himself, thrown in the rapidity of composition, and that they are not to be connected with the phrase "touch not," etc. If so, the idea is, that it cannot be of so much consequence as the Jewish teachers supposed, to mark distinctly the difference between meats and drinks. They were all to perish with the use of them. Nothing was permanent about them. It could really then be of no great importance what was eaten, or what was drunk, provided it was not in itself injurious. These ordinances had a value among the Hebrews when it was designed to keep them as a distinct people; but they had no value in themselves, so as to make them binding on all mankind. To suppose this was the common error of the Jews; and hence the apostle so frequently laboured to show that the Jewish rites had no permanent value. #Rom 14:1|, also #Rom 14:2-6|; #1Cor 8:1| and following. #Mt 15:17|, #Mt 15:18|. According to this interpretation, the 21st verse should be regarded as expressing the common maxim of the Jewish teachers, and the clause before us as the words of the apostle, and should be marked as a parenthesis. So it is marked in Hahn's Ed. of the New Testament.

After the commandments and doctrines of men. Many of the ordinances on which the Jews insisted were those which were handed down by tradition. They depended on human authority only, and, of course, should not bind the conscience. Others take the words here to mean, "All which things tend to the corruption of religion, (*Doddridge*,) or are cause of destruction or condemnation, (*Rob. Lex*,) by the use of these things, according to the commandments and doctrines of these men.

(end of excerpt)

Just as the Spirit inspires all inspired writing, the Spirit inspired Paul an Apostle to Our Lord, not unlike myself, to write this in his first epistle or letter to Timothy:

¹Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; ²Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; ³Forbidding to marry, *and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to*

be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. ⁴For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: ⁵For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. - 1 Timothy 4:1-5

These truly are the latter days. And biblical prophecy once again has been fulfilled. Seducing spirits and Doctrine's of Devils is a reference to those falling away, to false doctrine due to the influence of evil seducing spirits. The deception of Satan. God's inspiration and inspired word is perfect; these truly are the latter days.

For those of you out there that are unfamiliar with the Hare Krishna movement, it is movement that began and has roots in Hinduism back to the 11th or 12th century. This should be a real clue to their followers. International Society for Krishna Consciousness, aka Hare Krishna, founded by A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada, date of birth 1896.

A cult in somewhat of the "New Age" tradition, that embraces reincarnation; they supposedly take into count all scripture, The Holy Bible, the Koran etc, with their own Veta or book above all. But know this dear reader, there is only one All and above ALL.. and only one name in Heaven and Earth that men might be saved:

Jesus Christ.

¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. - Philippians 2:10-11

EVERY knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. If it be through the acceptance of Him as Savior and Lord and "following him", or in the wrath of judgment. He is LORD.

I am now providing additional information on the Hare Krishnas if by chance you should encounter them:

A mantra is a chant or vibration of sound used by Krishnas to free their minds. The Krishna chant is as follows: *Hare Krishna Hare*

Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare . Chanting the mantra allows the Krishna

consciousness to bring out the natural, pure state of the mind.

The Krishnas believe that truth is found in the scriptures (Bible, Koran, Torah) of a number of major religions; however, the Vedic texts, are the literal record of God's word. Krishnas believe that Krishna consciousness is inside all people because each individual has a soul. Because of physical pleasures and the spiritual debasement of the world, people are unaware of the true happiness that they can find through Krishna consciousness.

Because we are our souls and not our bodies, physical pleasures can cloud our minds and keep us from achieving Krishna consciousness.

These physical pleasures, the eating of fish, meat or eggs, the use of intoxicants, illicit sex, and gambling and frivolous sports, are called the four regulative principles. Because of the rejection of these pleasures, Krishnas practice a strict vegetarian lifestyle.

Hare Krishnas believe in the *samsara* or an eternal cycle of reincarnation. In one's subsequent births, one inherits *karma* (positive or negative consequences) from the religious works or *dharma* one has or has not performed. The goal of one's life is to break away from the endless repetitive reincarnations and achieve *mukti* , liberation, and return to the original and natural state of Krishna Consciousness.

The only way to achieve *mukti* is through *bhakti* , a state of active worship, service, and devotion of the deity. There are nine ways to achieve *bhakti*. There are nine processes of devotional service expounded as hearing the name and glories of the Supreme Personality of Godhead (*sravana*), chanting His glories (*kirtana*), remembering the Lord (*smarana*), serving the Lord's feet (*paricarya*), worshiping the Deity (*arcana*), offering obeisances unto the Lord (*vandana*), acting as the Lord's servant (*dasya*), making friends with the Lord (*sakhya*) and surrendering oneself fully to the Lord (*atmanivedana*).

Most fully initiated devotees of Krishna consciousness, live in Krishna temples (they must have computers there, huh?) and adopt a major transformation in appearance and dress. Male devotees shave their heads except for a small tuft of hair at the back of the head called a *sikha* . Both sexes wear holy markings (*tilaka*) on their twelve locations on their body . Men wear Indian style lower robes called *dhotis* with long, loose shirts called *kurta* . Women wear Indian style garments called *saris* . All wear small tulasi beads and a sack with a

string of one hundred eight japa beads around their necks . Each devotee must complete sixteen rounds on the japa beads everyday with one rotation of one hundred and eight beads constituting one round.

(A little bit like the Catholics and their rosary, I find it quite similar, a sacred cow and tradition of mere men. Ever wonder why a rosary is not mentioned anywhere in scripture?)

But know this dear reader, there is only one All and above ALL.. and only one name in Heaven and Earth that men might be saved:

Jesus Christ.

¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. - Philippians 2:10-11

EVERY knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. If it be through the acceptance of Him as Savior and Lord and “following him”, or in the wrath of judgment. He is LORD.

If you count on Christ for your salvation, do not worry about what you eat. For it is what comes out of the heart that defiles a man or woman, not something that is consumed and then “passes” or perishes through. Surprisingly there are yet Christian denominations that still forbid the abstaining of certain meats. I believe if memory recalls, the Seventh Day Adventists are one. Several years ago, I dated a Seventh Day Adventist just briefly, and she as well as those of her entire congregation where she was a member, abstained from eating Pork, Catfish etc. due to the Old Testament Scriptures, and their “remnant theology”. Just another “Landmarkism” with a twist. Such is not Christ, but the teachings and “sacred cows” of men.

Oh well, I like my bacon and beef steaks as well.

There is danger outside the fence. Do not be caught in the “Open Range”.

Amen.

“the Phoenix”.

(Will be continued in Open Range 2, “More Sacred Cows—The Doctrine’s and teachings of Mere Men”.



Open Range