

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Evolution as Shown in the Bible

Elsa M. Glover

Part II: The Role of Jehovah and the Lucifer Spirits in the Development of Man

After obtaining the rudiments of a brain, humanity still needed to learn to use the brain to remember things, to see relations between causes and effects, and to control desires. The God Jehovah was given charge of guiding men until they could develop their brains to the point where they could guide themselves. At first men were unaware of their physical bodies and only dimly aware of themselves as individuals; hence, they did not act selfishly and docilely followed the dictates of Jehovah. Jehovah wanted men to remain in this docile state until their minds were well developed. Before this happened, however, the Lucifer Spirits (symbolically represented as a serpent because they entered man's serpentine spinal cord) helped man become aware of his physical body, and hence of procreation and selfish desire and the resulting pain and death. Thus they foiled Jehovah's plan of keeping men docile. Men were then in a situation similar to a baby with a bunch of matches. They had the power to procreate at will and to act self-consciously, but their minds were yet too weak to be able to use this power wisely.

The story of humanity (symbolized by Adam and Eve) being made aware of their physical bodies (eating of the Tree of Knowledge) under the promptings of the Lucifer Spirits (symbolized by the serpent) and thence being driven from the Garden of Eden (having consciousness transferred to the physical world) is told in *Genesis* 3.

Even though Jehovah's original plan had failed, He did not give up. Since man

had little wisdom with which to make decisions, Jehovah gave him a system of laws to live by. There were laws commanding respect for Jehovah and reminding people of His power through ceremonies. There were laws to keep people from hurting each other without cause and laws concerning food, clothing, the setting up of camps, and the construction of buildings. There were laws concerning the care of the needy and the treatment of lawbreakers. (See especially *Exodus* 20:23; *Leviticus* 1:7, 11-18, 25; and *Deuteronomy* 22:25.)

Since men had little memory, Jehovah enforced the laws with punishments which quickly followed infractions. Individuals who sinned could be punished by society (according to Jehovah's prescriptions). But when society did not punish, Jehovah meted out famine, barrenness, loss in war, or disease. Those who followed the laws of Jehovah, however, were rewarded with plentiful crops and herds, many children, victory over enemies, and health. (See especially *Deuteronomy* 28:1-35.)

When the people were reminded of the laws, they often whole-heartedly promised to obey them. (See *Exodus* 19:8, *Joshua* 24:16, and *Jeremiah* 42:6.) Obeying the laws was not easy for them, however, partly because they kept forgetting what the laws were and what the consequences of disobedience would be, and partly because their selfish desires (spurred on by the Lucifer Spirits) tempted them to do otherwise. The people repeatedly disobeyed the laws and were correspondingly punished. Gradually, however, they learned to remember some cause-effect relations and control their desires.