

THE VISIONARY METHOD
For Christian Practice™

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The
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METAPHORICAL MYSTERIES

Mini-Book

VOLUME I

THE PARABLE OF THE LORD'S FLESH AND BLOOD

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Foreword

The teachings of this book are not old nor new, but are simply of the Truth.

¹³ This is the end of the matter. All has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. ¹⁴ For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil. ~ Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

**In honor of the Most High God,
the Creator of Heaven, Earth and all that's in them.**

May this book grant wisdom, understanding and joy to all those who read it, so that in time it may lead them to become Your children. Thanks be to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ for Yours is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.

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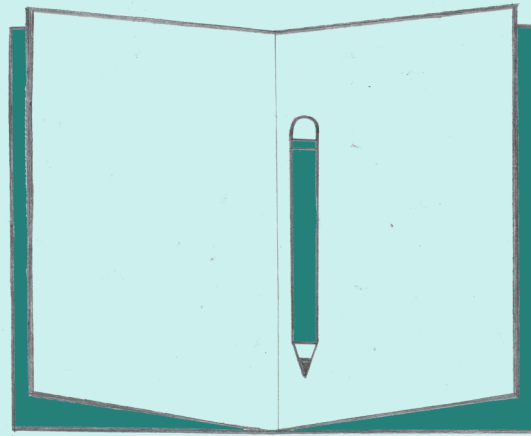
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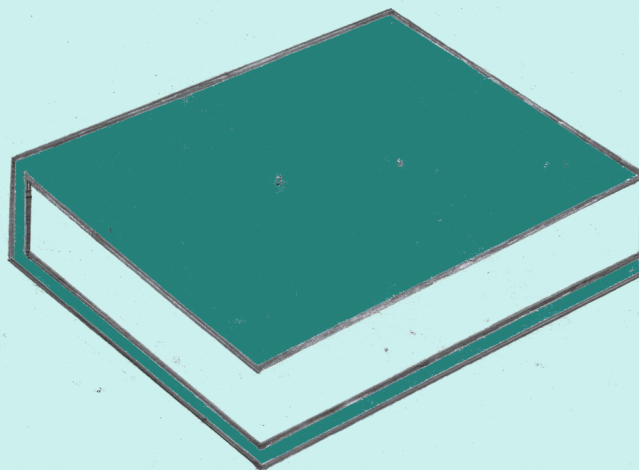
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Welcome to the **METAPHORICAL MYSTERIES** mini-book! This is what you will need to make the most of this mini-book...



JOURNAL: Your journal will serve as a medium for you to engage with God. It's main purpose is for responding to this mini-book's questions and/or prompts, but you are also encouraged to use it for more i.e. you may use it as a personal journal as well. For example, you can write down your thoughts (good and bad things), speak to God in prayer about your thoughts, and then write and say a prayer asking for God's help and guidance and/or to give thanks. This can help develop your relationship with God.



THE HOLY BIBLE: This book provides evidence-based Christian instruction, but a Bible is necessary for your own reading, so that you are able to verify what is written (the Truth); Scriptures are needed for the activities; and it's important for Christians to become familiar with the Word of God—hopefully reading the Bible will become for your own further learning and entertainment.

METAPHORICAL MYSTERIES

INTRODUCTION TO METAPHORICAL MYSTERIES (MM)

The Holy Bible is a book of mysteries, and this can make it a curiously fun and interesting book to read. However, the mystery aspect of the Bible can also make it confusing, which can be a deterrent to further reading. Therefore, this mini-book series, 'Metaphorical Mysteries' is here to help you understand some of the metaphors used in the Bible.

So now the question is, what is a metaphor? A metaphor is a word or phrase that symbolizes or represents something else. This means that what is spoken or written is not to be taken literally. In the case of the Bible, if a metaphor is used it is typically to explain something spiritual in nature, or for the dramatic emphasis of Christian concepts. Another word used for metaphors in the Bible is parables. The Lord Jesus Christ spoke many parables to explain the things of God, and then He provided an explanation for some of them. Hence, following the Lord's example, 'Metaphorical Mysteries', will explain some of the parables of the Holy Bible to provide you with a better understanding of Christian parables that are spiritual in nature.

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THE PARABLE OF THE LORD'S FLESH AND BLOOD

Is the Lord advocating cannibalism when He says that people should eat his flesh and drink His blood? The answer is NO (see page 12)! It is simply a parable that was not directly explained. In Matthew 26:26-29 it is written: ²⁶As they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks for it, and broke it. He gave to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."²⁷ He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave to them, saying, "All of you drink it,²⁸ for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the remission of sins.²⁹ But I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on, until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's Kingdom." So, if the Lord wasn't speaking in literal terms, what was He speaking about? What did He mean?

BREAD - THE LORD'S FLESH (BODY)

The Lord declared that He is the bread of life, this means that He is what's being eaten i.e. His flesh or body. So how do you eat the flesh of the Lord? The answer is that you simply read/hear His Word, or an explanation/teaching of His Word in written or any other form and believe it, which is to build and establish faith. By doing so, you are consuming (internalizing or accepting) the flesh of the Lord, and this is because the Lord is His Word, which is the bread of life:

- *John 6:48 –⁴⁸ I am the bread of life.*
- *John 1:1 –¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
- *John 6:51—⁵¹ I am the living bread which came down out of heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. Yes, the bread which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."*

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- **Luke 22:19** – ¹⁹ *He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.”*

In summary, the Holy Bible a.k.a. the Word of God, or an explanation or teaching of it in any form (written or verbal/audio) is the bread i.e. the food that nourishes the mind, heart, soul and spirit, which may lead to the establishment of faith in Jesus Christ. Whereby, true faith in the Lord is demonstrated by genuinely doing His commandments, which permits entry into the New Covenant: how long this may take for different people is unknown, but those with faith persist...and this is what drinking the Lord’s blood is about.

BLOOD— ENTRY INTO THE NEW COVENANT

The Old Testament of the Bible covers a period in the history of God’s people, where the sprinkling of animal blood (animal sacrifice) was used to atone for sins (Old Covenant—Leviticus 7:2, Leviticus 5:9, Hebrews 9:18-22). This is no longer endorsed under the New Covenant (which replaced the Old Covenant), as Christ was the sacrificial lamb that paid for the sins of those who enter the New Covenant. However, instead of the sprinkling of blood as done under the Old Covenant; Christians in the New Covenant (or those trying to enter) are to drink the blood of Christ. However, the act of drinking the Lord’s blood is not literal because it is known by repeated mention in the Bible that God hates the consumption of blood (Acts 15:20, Acts 15:29, Deuteronomy 12:23). Therefore, drinking the blood of Christ MUST simply be a metaphor. Here’s a Scripture about the Lord’s blood, which provides more insight about “drinking blood” in the New Covenant:

- **Luke 22:20**—²⁰ *Likewise, he took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.*

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Therefore, through the Lord's sacrificial death, His blood was "poured out", and so, He was, and is the cup, and His blood is the drink (or wine) of the New Covenant. But what does the drinking of the Lord's blood represent? The drinking of the Lord's blood represents being filled with the wine of the Lord's righteousness, which cleanses Christians from sin inside and out. Hence, by drinking the Lord's blood (wine) Christians become spotless or sinless in the eyes of God, the Father. So, the question now is how do people drink from the cup of the Lord? The answer is by choosing to persistently and intently commit to doing God's commandments a.k.a. living a Christian lifestyle until if/when you receive the Holy Spirit—which signifies having drunk from the cup of the Lord.

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to those who choose to be faithful towards Him, which is the reward for being a hearer of God's Word i.e. to know His commandments and in response to hearing them, being a doer of God's Word. Hence, being granted the Holy Spirit means that it's as if the Lord's perfectly righteous blood runs through your veins, and so, in God's eyes you become as righteous and sinless as the Lord Himself: yet still with sin because no one is perfect. Therefore, Christians are counted like God's very own "children", and like Himself because the same blood (His blood) runs through the spiritual veins of all Christians i.e. spiritual siblings or family who make up the Body of Christ (God's spiritual Church/Kingdom). Hence, God's description of Christians in a family-like manner i.e. mother, brother and sister in Matthew 12:50, which of course is not to be taken literally at all, nor is it necessary to address Christians in that way, as people may not like to be addressed like that (i.e. me). More so, Christians are not really children, it's just that by being "good" they become innocent like a child who has learned no evil). Thus, the Body of Christ is made up of those who have "consumed" or accepted God's commandments and do them: resulting in the gift of the Holy Spirit from the Lord, the Most High God.

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CONCLUSION

When people drink from the same cup, and eat of the same bread, a bond is formed because there is a common experience. For Christians, the true common experience is true faith in Christ and His Word, which leads to receiving the Holy Spirit. Therefore, all Christians share in “one loaf of bread”, and are spiritually considered “one loaf of bread” i.e. one in Christ:

- *1 Corinthians 10:16-17 — ¹⁶The cup of blessing which we bless, isn't it a sharing of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, isn't it a sharing of the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf of bread, we, who are many, are one body; for we all partake of the one loaf of bread.*

As by eating the Lord's flesh i.e. accepting the Word of God as the truth; believing in Him; and committing to doing His commandments, God permits Christians (those who He has judged as righteous) “to drink” the wine of the New Covenant (the Blood of Christ) which cleanses them from sin. Drinking the wine of the New Covenant is signified by receiving the Holy Spirit, which is an obvious and unique experience (read ‘Calling: Special Edition’ pgs. 39-45). Hence, the Lord's death (physical death) was the price for all Christians past, present and to come to achieve the salvation of their souls.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The eating of the Lord's flesh and drinking of His blood is a metaphor, but the Lord does encourage Christians to acknowledge and remember His sacrifice when eating bread and drinking wine, as desired and deemed appropriate according to occasion, because it was the price paid for Christians to attain eternal life. Therefore, within the context of Christianity, praying in thanksgiving with bread and wine is simply an act of honoring the Lord. However, don't do so without consideration i.e. if you knowingly sin by your own knowledge or conscience. As the Bible states that doing this action in vain (not keeping God's commandments), is an act of self-condemnation:

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- *1 Corinthians 11:28-29* – ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread, and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy way eats and drinks judgment to himself if he doesn't discern the Lord's body.
 - **NOTE:** “body” in this Scripture reads as “flesh” i.e. The Word of God, the Holy Bible. Therefore, this Scripture indicates that people who are not genuine towards the Lord by doing His commandments, but choose to “honor” Him, only condemn themselves. Hence, if you know that you don't do God's commandments then do not eat bread and drink wine in thanksgiving to the Lord.
- *James 4:17*—¹⁷ To him therefore who knows to do good, and doesn't do it, to him it is sin.

Author testimony: The period of time between my baptism by water and baptism by the Holy Spirit was approximately 3 months (this is in reference to when I actually began Biblical study and intentionally began living a Christian lifestyle). However, the time taken to be granted the Holy Spirit is different for those who actually receive it, and only God knows why they receive it when they do. Hence, when you know that you do not live a Christian lifestyle, a baptism by the Holy Spirit should not be expected at all. However, if you have begun to, or do live a Christian lifestyle, perhaps God is testing your faith and building the character trait of patience, and so, you are encouraged to persevere.

JOURNALING ACTIVITIES

- Write and say a prayer to God about helping you understand the mysteries of the Bible.
- Find more parables in the Bible and have a go at working out their meaning.

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CANNIBALISM IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

The Bible does not openly state that cannibalism (eating human flesh) is wrong, but Biblical analysis proves it to be inconsistent with the Christian faith, and therefore it is “bad”. For example, the only time eating human flesh is recorded in the Holy Bible was during severe wartime starvation (Lamentations 4:10), which means that it is common sense that it’s not a “good” choice to eat other human beings. This is made clear by the King of Israel’s appalled reaction to a woman eating human flesh in 2 Kings 6:28-31.

Furthermore, when God gave His commandments to Moses and Aaron in Leviticus 11, what could or could not be eaten among sentient forms of life was limited to animals that flew, swam or lived on land i.e. among “moving” creatures the only option were animals, and therefore, not people. Hence, eating people is wrong, it is sin, and for anyone who tries to argue otherwise it needs to be asked where are the cannibals getting their “meals” from? I doubt it would be by legal or “open” means because you cannot buy human -meat from your local supermarket , and so, cannibalism is classified as evil (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

Therefore, as a general rule, if you have to (1) hide your actions (2) are ashamed to admit your actions (especially outside occultic circles) or (3) you know that you would be arrested for your actions (when governments and police are not complicit in aiding occult activity), then the answer is that action is classified as evil (sin that leads to death, 1 John 5:16).

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To provide further context, it is of note that sometimes “pigs” are used as a metaphor for people who do not live a Christian lifestyle, and persecute those who choose to live a Christian lifestyle (Matthew 7:6). For example, in Isaiah 66:17, the term “pig” actually refers to human flesh, and so, it further confirms that cannibalism is not acceptable in the Christian faith. The meaning of “mice” is not 100% clear, but in this context it is presumed to be a metaphor for “smaller people” i.e. eating children’s flesh, which is naturally repulsive and in every way, shape and form. To conclude, it is NOT Christian to eat human flesh.

- **NOTE:** “pigs” and “dogs” are also those who scoff i.e. scoffers, who are people who do not follow instructions of True Christian teachings, which is to reject ‘living waters’ (John 4:10, Luke 10:16, Revelation 22:15; Isaiah 29:20; Isaiah 28:14; Proverbs 9:12; Proverbs 1:22-23). Hence, people should not assume they can read, as correct Biblical interpretation is impossible for most people who have not had (1) years of practice interpreting the Bible in the right way (2) proper Biblical literacy training, and (3) the spiritual gifts of Wisdom, Knowledge and Understanding, which come from the Holy Spirit that allow for the actual Truth to be taught.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author, Chinasom Uzodimma Elekwachi, has a background in scientific research and experience in teaching and education, which are skills, experiences and knowledge that have contributed greatly to the creation of this book. This book contains Bible study commentary from the author's personal faith journals, which have been remodeled and stylized for the purpose of Christian education. The wisdom of this book is the result of many years of Biblical study, research and Christian practice (lifestyle)—all of which was given by the grace of God, so that many may come into His salvation.

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