

"The Move" Examined

**By Johnny Enlow
Foreword by Jack Enlow**

FOREWORD

In this booklet Johnny gives much food for thought, and shows keen insight into the things which have to do with the Move.

Although he has not moved as an elder or set-in ministry, yet he is uniquely qualified to examine and analyze the Move -- its beginning, foundation, teachings, structure, and present condition. Those qualifications include: (1) knowledge gained about the Move as a son of one of the Travelling Ministries. (2) years of experience in the Move, including 6 years on a Move farm in Peru, South America. (3) close contact with the young people of the Move -- those who have left, and those who remain -- including conversations with them, and his influence on their lives. (4) many hours of research, study and meditation on the teachings of Sam Fife. (5) deep concern for the many in the Move (especially the young people) who have left, filled with resentment, anger, bitterness, and condemnation, and who now find themselves floundering around in their relationship and walk with the Lord; and for those who have remained, but who are struggling with the Move.

Perhaps as you read this booklet, you may not be in total agreement with every opinion, statement, and conclusion.

However, let me quickly say that I deem it very necessary to "come on strong" on many of these matters in order to stir all of us up to a careful consideration of the Move and all related to it.

I, as does Johnny, have a deep love for the ministry and brethren in the Move.

I had a close relationship with Sam Fife over a period of many years. As I examine what is said about false prophets in the Bible, (who generally prophesy with wicked hearts and purpose to lead God's people astray so that they turn away from God), I would not say that Sam Fife was a false prophet, for I do not believe that his heart was wicked, nor was it his desire to lead the brethren away from God. Yet certainly he moved in a measure of deception, and prophesied things which never came to pass.

All of us should be greatly concerned about the present standing before God of the Move. There is a large mixture of truth and error, there is legalism, bondage, control, exclusiveness, spiritual pride and lethargy.

We need a booklet like this to wake and shake us up. As you read this, open up your hearts to God, and let Him speak to you.

Jack Enlow

UNMASKING THE MOVE

Introduction:

First of all, in writing this, I feel it's imperative for me to share my relationship to the Move and my motivation for this writing. I speak as one who was in the Move for over 20 years, having seen it thoroughly from the inside out. My purpose in writing this is this -- that all those still under the bondage of the Move be released, and that all others who have been under something with any similarities recognize the spiritual trappings and be able to be set free. My intention is also to help those of you who have already in fact left the Move to come to grips with why you joined and why you stuck with it so long. My hope is to help you answer the question, "Was the Move ever under God's direction?" and other similar questions that many might still be wrestling with.

Right here I feel I must also express my deep love for my brothers and sisters presently in the Move, including the leaders thereof. Though I feel that there is an aspect of its structure and system that is cultish, I do still consider them my brethren and pray for their release from the bonds of religious deception. There are precious people in the Move and it's not for lack of sincerity that there is deception. I pray God anoint all your ears to hear what I will share with you.

CHAPTER 1

THE TEACHINGS OF SAM FIFE:

The first thing we want to recognize is that when we speak of the Move, we are speaking of a movement based on the teachings of Sam Fife. He is the founder of the Move and of its entire doctrinal theology. Though he died in a plane crash in 1979 he is still widely quoted and his teachings widely read. For all intents and purposes his 'spirit' still breathes within the Move. When we analyze his teachings we are analyzing the root system of all connected with the Move, many of whom aren't even aware of the extent of his teachings.

Sam Fife was a Baptist minister when he began to see there was more to Christianity than he had heretofore experienced. He received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with speaking in tongues during a time it was not as popular as it is today. God began to open up the Scriptures to him and he saw things he had never seen before. In the early 1960's he left the Baptist Church and with his new "revelations" began a small study group, which grew into what became known as the Move, affecting thousands over the years.

Now in sharing what I'm sharing, it's coming from my perspective and my remembrance of what I've heard. I was 4 years old when my family "joined" the Move about 22 or 23 years ago, so my firsthand experience at the time would be with limited insight as to the purity of its conception. My personal belief is that from its beginning there's been a heavy mixture of truth and error in the Move's foundation. I know there was truth that attracted many, including my parents, but much of it became unbalanced truth over a period of time largely because of the vision of Sam Fife, which all followed almost blindly. I believe Sam's vision was imperfect, which is alright if no one is following you, but disastrous when you are an 'absolute leader'. It is well known, even among all the present ministers of the Move that in the beginning Sam Fife did fall into deception. Sam, with permission from his wife had an affair with a woman with whom he believed a Manchild would be born that would "set creation free" and be basically the Messiah. Through God's mercy apparently nothing came of that union, for as Sam himself confessed, the Lord almost physically killed him through sickness to show him that he had been moving in a deceiving spirit. I am not here to hold that over his head, for he readily admitted it was deception, and it is unanimous among the Ministry that it was deception. What I do feel though, is that the same deceiving spirit which caused him to fall here, through spiritualizing this very issue, continued to work

in Sam Fife and through his leadership and inspiration began what became the Move. For you see, the crux of his endtime revelation became, "Yes, I'm still bringing forth the Manchild, but it's now a spiritual Manchild". Sam now portrayed himself as the Husband, and the congregation as the Bride, and that through this union, as they gave themselves totally to him and the Ministry working with him God would birth a Manchild, a spiritual Manchild, that would overthrow the governments of this world, "redeem creation", and bring in the millennial reign of Christ in this age. Mixed in with the deception, there was some measure of truth, but I do not wish to acknowledge it, for it would veer from the central issue, that being that it was the same religious spirit which works hand in hand with lust spirits that was the primal doctrinal motivation for what is now the Move, and thus destined to eventually collapse. Throughout Sam's teachings that I have just gone over again myself, this spirit has become so evident to me that I feel I must at least attempt to expose it. Right now those caught up in the throes of the Move will be considering this like unto blaspheming the Holy Ghost, and though I realize how traumatic "waking up" can be, having been there myself, I feel I must expose the root system, even the foundation of many fine God-fearing Christians, that they may repent and place themselves at the mercy of Jesus, that He may re-establish them on a true foundation, that they perish not in time of need, for that is when one's foundation becomes exposed.

A MAN AND A MAID

As I already stated I feel this deceiving spirit is a religious spirit working hand in hand with a lust spirit. In the original deception the lust spirit was the dominant spirit, but in the carryover this spirit took a secondary more subtle role, becoming almost invisible as it lurked in the shadows of the religious spirit. The religious spirit was the same one that worked on Lucifer and caused his separation from God. It's a spirit of pride, a spirit that says as Lucifer did, "I shall be as the most High", "I shall ascend". It's a spirit that through subtle means diminishes the work on the cross to almost nothing, attempting to come to God through any other means other than His grace and mercy. When you're in this deception you feel that using the provisions made for you through the work on Calvary is the cheap way out -- i.e., lower level Christianity, and that the higher calling you're moving into is attainment, achievement, maturity, perfection, that needs not Grace. Those of you who will read Sam's teachings with these two exposed spirits in mind will realize that his teachings are heavily laced with both. You will see an incredible amount of "love scenes", spiritualized and repeated over and over again, his teaching on "A Man and a Maid" being the most graphic. It's subtle, and even condemns sensualism, and sexual pleasures to cover up, yet it can't hide, for the originating spirit caused it to manifest time and time again for what it really is -- lust in a religious cloak.

In this teaching on "A Man and a Maid", the theme issue brought forth by Sam is the union that is to take place between a "bride congregation" and a "husband bridegroom ministry", that will bring forth this "Manchild" we've discussed, and I quote, "To the time of the entering in to the marriage chamber, to the time of entering to the marriage bed union through which the wife's loving unreserved, unsuspecting, submission to her husband, that is yielding up her whole being to her husband as he overshadows her in the marriage bed union, literally draws out of his natural loins that seed of life, and the mystery of a man is fulfilled." This phraseology or close versions of it are repeated time and time again in this article with the paralleling conclusion being that this is what God is doing here on earth between a ministry and its congregation, as she totally unsuspectingly, blindly gives herself to him. Sam speaks of the 'spiritual marriage ceremony' being "when the bride congregation says before God, 'I take this man to be my lawful wedded husband until death do us part' ", thus teaching blind submission to a man or group of men as a great spiritual step. He teaches that it's "a husband

✓ bridegroom ministry" through which Christ is entering into the bridegroom relationship with that wife", thus cancelling the personal relationship with Christ.

My Bible says, "No man cometh to the Father but by me". He is the sole Husband. If there's a bride of Christ, I think it must mean he's the Husband, and Scripture does not show him needing a go-between. He is the mediator between us and God, but He will have no mediator between us and Him. That must be personal. So basically, I see a two-fold error in this article. Number one, the motivation spirit behind this whole message, which I feel is the key error, and number two, the unscriptural analogy of a "husband bridegroom ministry", that is not Christ Himself having union with "a bride congregation."

A statement is made in this article, "Since my spiritual eyes have been opened I have discovered that the whole Bible from its beginning to end is just the story of a man and a maid and a manchild". Another statement, "I used to think the Bible was just the story of a man, Jesus, but now I know that the whole Bible is the story of a man and a maid and a manchild". Now if Jesus is neither "the man" nor the "man-child", I need to throw away my Bible because I'm seeking another Jesus other than the one we see in Scripture. If your spiritual experience does not revolve around, hinge, and solely depend on Jesus Christ and the work of mercy, grace, and love He did on the cross, you are in union with another spirit, a deceiving spirit. To compound the error Sam states that "This Move" is The Bride congregation that God is looking for. He parallels this with Solomon and the Shulamite maid and her being the favoured one. He states, "And so in the king's house today there are threescore queens and fourscore concubines and virgins without number. But there is also His Dove, his undefiled, who is but one, THE CHOICE ONE...Each of us have a choice today. If we want to be one of the queens, we can just pray for God to give us a healing ministry... or one could even be a virgin, purified and cleansed by the blood with no ministry to the king whatsoever, as many are all across the world, or one can choose to be this Shulamite maiden and move into the Move of the Spirit of God."

Once again we see here error in his analogy. Number one, according to Scripture, Christ is not going to have many concubines, queens, and virgins as the options he states here, but He will have One bride without spot or wrinkle. The other error is once again that religious pride spirit of elitism that I've stated manifests itself time and time again along with the lust spirit, bringing a form of romantic deception. It's the very spirit of Lucifer that says, "I shall ascend, I shall be like the most High". Let me quote here another paragraph from this article of "A Man and a Maid". "In every man's breast there is something put there by God that cannot rest when something or someone else has risen higher in life than he has. It is not wrong for this to be there. For God planted it in the breast of man when he created him, to conquer and subdue and have dominion over all things. It is only wrong for man to seek to rise higher than his fellow creature through the carnal evil methods that man has used on this fallen plane."

The first sentence in this paragraph sums up to me the essence of the deception. Do you know why Lucifer fell? There was something in his breast that could not rest when something or someone else was higher in life than he was. Is. 14:12-14 says:

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!
How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the
nations. For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend
into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.
I will sit upon the mount... I will ascend above the heights
of the clouds. I will be like the most High".

This prideful religious spirit that was the downfall of Lucifer is the very same spirit that caused the downfall of Sam Fife. It is clearly evident in many numerous teachings Sam Fife brought forth if there is any discernment at all. In another article entitled "I am the Light of the World" Sam's central point is that now that he has discovered "his true identity", he can, as Jesus, state, "I am

the Light of the world." He parallels what happened with Jesus to what has taken place in himself. I'll quote here from the article: "They did not understand that in the timetable of God's divine plan, the hour of Sonship had arrived, and that God's purpose for the Son of God was that the confirmation of His testimony would come from within his own being, not from signs and miracles outside Himself", (i.e. God). Sam then goes on to state how the "spirit of revelation" has taken him to the same place where, and I quote, "I have the perfect right to proclaim to all who are in darkness, 'I AM THE LIGHT, follow me, and you shall no longer have to walk in darkness, but you shall have the light of LIFE'. And if the Spirit of God has not revealed to you by the "spirit of revelation", who you are, where you have come from, where you are going, then FOLLOW ME until, through following me the "spirit of revelation" can reveal it to you. Then you will no longer need to follow ME, but we will walk together into that glorious life that God has ordained for us."

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He's teaching SONSHIP as the time when confirmation of one's testimony comes from WITHIN HIS OWN BEING, not from anything OUTSIDE HIMSELF, and in describing OUTSIDE HIMSELF as the author of signs and wonders, he is in fact saying that Sonship is the time when confirmation of one's testimony comes from WITHIN ONE'S OWN BEING, NOT FROM GOD. Now if as we identify with God we state that confirmation comes from within our own being, that is one thing, but if we do as Sam does here and distinguish the two as separate and yet maintain "I am the Light of the World", we now move into that same spirit that took Lucifer. It is a subtle spirit. It doesn't just appear as open, uninhibited aggression against God, but rather it says, "I shall be LIKE the most High" (Is. 14:14). God will not share His glory with another. John 7:18 states:

"He that speaketh of Himself seeketh his OWN GLORY, but he that seeketh his glory THAT SENT HIM (i.e. OUTSIDE HIMSELF), the same is true and no unrighteousness is in him."

I Cor. 1:29 says:

"...whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God".

II Cor. 10:17 says:

"He that glorieth let him glory in the Lord."

Therefore I see God has an answer to this (yet another) quote: "The author of this article is one of those who is not afraid to step into the world and proclaim, "I am the Light of the world, and he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life". The answer is found in Ezek. 28:2 --

"Because thine heart is lifted up and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God...yet thou art a man and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God", vs. 7, "Behold therefore will I bring strangers upon thee... they shall draw swords against the BEAUTY OF THY WISDOM AND THEY SHALL DEFILE THY BRIGHTNESS". Vs. 9, "Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, I am God, but thou shalt be man, and no God, in the hand of Him that slayeth thee."

You see, it's not that no "beauty of wisdom" or "brightness" came forth from Sam, for it did. It's just that it became defiled wisdom and defiled beauty; and defiled wisdom and defiled beauty are no wisdom and no beauty at all. I want to take you to yet another of Sam's articles, to show where more defilement came in.

TODAY I AM A MAN

Sam derives the title "Today I am a Man", from I Cor. 13:11, where the Apostle

Paul states:

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child, but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

His conclusion from this passage is this, "When I became a man, I put away childish things, refers to the gifts of the Spirit, that have been so important to us". Sam states that he, in his own personal experience, has reached this stage that Paul reached back then. This stage is what Sam sees I Cor. is all about, "the beauty of Manhood". He says that I Cor. 13 is not really a message on Love, because as you replace the word LOVE each time it appears with the word GOD, it is thus showing the true characteristics of a real Man. He writes, "I believe I am coming into the deepest union with God that I have ever come to, and THAT ANY OTHER MAN ON THIS EARTH, saving this apostle who wrote these verses, HAS EVER COME (are you beginning to recognize this spirit?), simply because at last I understand what Paul is saying here. And you have to come into the same kind of union with God that Paul was walking in, in order to understand what Paul was saying."

You can read the whole article and still not find out just what this step into MANHOOD is all about or how you can get there. The basic premise is this, "You have no idea what it's all about until you experience it". He speaks of being in a convention where, in the process of analyzing his vision, calling and commitment, "I suddenly realized that in that convention I had grown up. I suddenly realized that in that convention in which the theme had been 'The Family of God', I HAD ATTAINED UNTO MANHOOD. I suddenly realized, Today, I am become a Man, and I believe with all my heart I can say with the Apostle Paul, "when I became a Man (past tense), I put away childish things."

A little later in the article he says, "I hope God gives me the words to share with you the beauty of MANHOOD that God has given to me. No people up until this Move of God and perhaps until this hour when I am giving this truth to you, have ever seen the beauty, the supreme, exquisite (I wish I had the words to describe what I see by revelation), beauty of MANHOOD, according to God's definition of it. I began to get a glimpse of it when God began to show me the revelation of 'The Mystery of a Man and a Maid'."

That is about the extent of 'insight' you'll receive from the article on how Sam attained to MANHOOD; it is as with much of his teachings, very hazy, ethereal, and inapplicable in a practical sense, this aspect of his teachings very often being mistaken for being 'deep truth'. Once again, though what I am attempting to point out is not the lack of cohesion or digestibility of this particular article, though it definitely exists, but rather the motivating deceptive spirit, the religious pride we've addressed over and over. Let me quote another excerpt from "Today I am a Man" -- "...I have been brought into that second Adam, I have been brought into that same state that that man that Genesis speaks of was in before his fall: THE IMAGE OF GOD. Yea, as the Apostle Paul said, 'the express image of His person and the effulgence of His glory' "!!!

I don't think I have to analyze this statement for you to see the deception here. It pops up time after time in Sam's teachings -- that ungodly push to the top, the "setting of the heart as the heart of God" -- condemned and judged as we read in Ezek. 28. Further on in this article Sam makes the statement, "I am coming to understand that when I have walked out the vision and the calling that I have committed myself to and have also LAID DOWN MY LIFE to purchase a Bride, that having resurrected into that higher, incorruptible life, I WILL BE WORTHY to enter into union with that creation Bride and bring forth the life of God".

Again, here we see Sam usurping the place of Jesus, stating that he, Sam Fife, laid down his life to purchase a Bride, and that he, Sam Fife, is entering into union with the Bride to produce the life of God. I know it's a strong word, but that's HERESY at the least, and very probably TREASON. Here's another paragraph --

"Oh, listen, dear ones, if you fall back into that childish state that many have fallen into, and ever come to me mouthing that statement, 'I am not going to follow a man', you will not put me under condemnation. You will not even give me an inferiority complex. You will not embarrass me. You will make me have compassion on you. You will make me feel sorry for you, that you do not have the wisdom, nor the understanding, nor the revelation nor the courage, nor the faith, nor the desire to follow this man to the incorruptible glory where God has anointed me to take you". And another paragraph, "I love you, all of you who are part of the Bride of Christ, and I know the responsibility of my calling. I know that I am called to feed you with that eternal food, to clothe you with that eternal clothing, to house you with the eternal housing, to cherish you with that eternal cherishing, to protect you against your every enemy, to lay down my life to purchase you as my Bride and then to give you seed, that shall bring forth, through you, into this world, the incorruptible, immortal, eternal life of God."

This is heresy and in fact, high treason, for whether intentional or not, he has knocked Jesus out of the picture and replaced Him with himself. Those of you who have been under Sam's ministry, you can not simply ignore this error and deception. It's serious and no matter how many right or good things he did or said, the core of his doctrinal statements were birthed from deceiving spirits, and I hope I am clearly exposing that aspect.

ON FAMILY ORDER

Another article, "THIS IS A GREAT MYSTERY", is a clone word of the "Man and a Maid" article with repeated graphic, illustrative description of the "marriage bed union" between the husband ministry and the bride congregation, and the same disguised lust spirits at work. I'd like also to show in yet another area how this spirit of lust manifested itself as the driving force, though, once again, well disguised. To be better able to recognize this spirit we must understand more of its chief purpose in society or in a particular group of people. Lust's chief purpose is to destroy family life and its proper balance, for it is proper family life that is the basis for a stable society. Surveys have been taken and given irrefutable evidence to the fact that the delicate balance of the family directly influences almost every condition of society, whether it be physical illnesses or mental illnesses. Over 90% of the homosexuals, anorexics, child abusers, wife abusers, criminal delinquents, and other law offenders are directly tied to a major attributable deficiency in that person's family during childhood. The key deficiency was the lack of a father figure -- usually literally, but sometimes just emotionally. A broken home is the chief source of immorality, homosexuality, and all the other things we mentioned. Surveys even show that one's family background is a more substantial barometer of one's future behavioral patterns than even whether he or she is a Christian. Divorce, immorality, and other social woes tend to go from generation to generation, whether the people be Christians or not, UNLESS somewhere along the way the Christianity becomes so deeply implemented into the family structure of things that it breaks the continuing cycle. I don't have the time here, and it's not my purpose to go into an in depth study on the importance of the strength and balance of family structure and life, but I would like to say that when God begins a work it starts in the family unit, and when Satan begins his work it starts with the breakdown of the family unit. A strong family unit produces strong individuals; and a weak family unit produces weak individuals.

As I stated, LUST is the devil's chief weapon for family destruction, and LOVE is God's chief instrument for family construction. I said all that to say this. I feel that Sam was used mightily of the enemy to destroy true family order and life through the way he interpreted the Scriptures. It was, in fact, not his wrongful interpretation of Scripture that caused him to err, but rather his being under the error of this lust spirit that caused him to wrongfully interpret Scripture. Part of this error comes forth in his article, "The Woman is the Glory of the Man." The teaching is out of I Cor. 11:7-12, and in this message he gives a great blow to the God ordained order between husband and wife by implying that submission by

the wife to her husband is conditional to the husband's being 'in the anointing'. He says that whoever is 'in the anointing' is 'the head' and the other should submit, regardless of who is 'wearing the pants'.

This, at first glance, may sound like "higher truth", but you must see the subtlety behind it. First of all, it's a breakdown of the natural family order established by God, which we already stated is Satan's chief goal for society, and then secondly, this "high truth" has no prearranged order should both be either "in the anointing" or "in the flesh". The correct order must be the order that rules when they're both either "in the anointing", or both "in the flesh", and that is, "wives, submit yourselves to your husbands", and "husbands, honour your wives". Then once it's established that the natural husband is the head of the family, the word is, "both of you willingly submit yourselves one to another". Sam in this pamphlet teaches that "in the new creation, the natural order is done away with".

Scripture says that that which is natural establishes that which is spiritual (I Cor. 15:46), yet Sam carries this a step further than what's in Scripture, by stating that the spiritual, i.e., the new creation "does away with the natural order and the natural creation", bringing forth a new subjective order where submission depends on who's "in the anointing". The problem with this great sounding system is clearly revealed, if in fact, you spread it to all relationships, particularly parent-child relations. Can you see a 10-year old child telling his father, "I'm sorry, Dad, I'm not taking out the garbage, because you were upset and not "in the anointing" when you asked me to take it out, and in fact, I feel that you should take it out"? I can see it happening all the time if this 'great truth' were propagated, and I see a quick demise of the family which tries to institute such folly either out of religious zeal or ignorance of God's order.

Sam also had a message entitled, "It is Finished", speaking of the final words of Jesus on the cross. Sam's teaching here was that when Jesus said, "It is finished, what he was referring to was natural relationships and that all of our natural relationships ended at the cross. He takes it from John 19:26,27, where Jesus on the cross says to his mother, "Woman, behold thy son", referring to John, and then, when he says to John, "Behold, thy mother", that Jesus is doing away with the normal order of natural relationships, and establishing a "new creation order" where everyone is our brother, sister, mother, etc.

He also uses Luke 14:25, which says:

"If any man come to me, and hate not his father, mother,
and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea,
and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple",

to prove his point that God has always hated the natural family, and that it was only ever intended to be a "type and shadow" of true family life -- which of course is the "spiritual family of God". Here's a quote. "The natural family is pus". This word of his was perhaps the most destructive of any Sam brought forth, for it was possibly his most practically applicable teaching.

I could get you documented examples from the people involved of the destructiveness of this teaching, for it tore up many homes. Several women left their husbands for their "true husband", the Ministry, because their natural husbands "were hurting their ability to go for all God has to offer", and they had to prove that "they hate" these natural relationships. It's interesting that Luke 14:26 does not speak of hating husbands, yet it was almost exclusively wives leaving husbands. II Peter 1:20 says no scripture "is of any private interpretation", yet the only way Luke 14:26 can do damage to the natural God-ordained family structure is if you stick it out there by itself. If you add all that scripture says on family life, including, "children, obey your parents"; parents, "provoke not your children to wrath"; husbands, "love your wives"; "honour your father and your mother", you realize God is not interested in tearing down natural family life and that we are missing something if we believe Jesus is teaching "hate your family or you can't be my disciple". What Luke 14:26 is saying, if you get its complete picture from its original context is this, "If any man come to me, and his love (for his father, mother, wife, children, brethren, sisters, yea his own life) is not as hate -- he

cannot be my disciple". It's a comparative term being used, relating your love for Him versus your love for anyone else, including yourself. We see Jesus had already said that "no man hath ever hated himself", and part of the great commandment was to "love thy neighbor as THYSELF", which is hardly a recommendation to hate yourself. Anyway, sadly, this message inspired by the "destroyer of families" was preached often enough and strong enough that it affected virtually every family associated with the Move to some extent. Consequently, one of the first issues that all individuals who've left the Move have had to face by their own admission is the patching up of butchered family relationships that they caused while pursuing their "true family". Even very many people who still remain in the Move have realized the error of this teaching of Sam and taken the time to attempt to mend fractured relationships within their families. To the best of my knowledge this message of Sam's has not continued being taught since his death and the large majority of the present ministry realize the importance of the natural family remaining in its proper order. Most have even gone to Bill Gothard seminars and recommended them to the people from the pulpits. That is commendable to be sure, but not enough -- there is no way the teachings of Sam Fife on the family and the teachings of Bill Gothard on the family can be reconciled as coming from the same source. Confession is required. Until the error is pointed out, acknowledged and denounced as absolutely coming from a deceiving spirit that word continues to work even though in small pockets compared to before and cause innocent 'blood' to be shed. All those in a position of ministry when that word came forth have 'blood' on their hands from the damage of that word until public confession and repentance takes place. You are inexcusable before God.

OTHER ERROR

You see, part of the remaining deception upon the Move is simply the unwillingness by anyone 'in power' to admit any error in the teachings of Sam. It's all covered up usually by showing the "right" things he said or did concerning the particular issue. There's a lack of understanding about the fact that confessions and repentance are the only things that deal properly with past error. You don't right a wrong by doing another right, you right a wrong by eliminating it through repentance. This unbending, unwillingness to confess past error is the prime cause for the present curse and error that prevails over the Move.

I want to challenge any one of you who might still believe that the foundational teachings of Sam Fife were heavenly inspired. I want to challenge you to go over the teachings of Sam, specifically praying to the Lord that he lift the blinders from your eyes -- you must pray with genuine sincerity and with a pure desire for Truth which sets you free. I pray that an extension of God's grace will be directed towards you and you will be able to properly discern through your teacher the Holy Spirit exactly what needs to be revealed to you.

I want to share a vision that came forth years before Sam died. It came to a member of the Move who until this day remains very much a part of the Move, even though he is having more and more questions. Since I got this vision second hand you will be getting it the way it was told to me. In the vision he saw Sam ministering with his back towards a deep chasm. He saw that there was a tightrope across the chasm and that as Sam ministered he was backing on to the tightrope. In the vision he noticed an immediate problem. Once Sam backed on to the tightrope there was the problem of BALANCE. Sam had no balancing pole, and he was having much trouble staying on. As he went out towards the middle of the chasm the inevitable took place, Sam fell off, plunging to the bottom. This vision was shared with Sam by this person who was as close to Sam as anybody was. The somewhat incredible thing about this is Sam got up the next meeting and told the people about this vision, but here's the gist of how he shared it to them. He said that in the vision he was seen heading out across a tightrope that was over a chasm, and when he got to the middle of this chasm he dove off into the center of it! I propose to you that he did the same thing with much of the Bible that he did with this vision. Furthermore his interpretation of the vision was that he's gone so far in God now that there's no turning back, he's diving headfirst into all that God has to offer. The brother who had this

vision shared with no one the actual vision until now, but said he knew from that moment on that Sam, though he dearly loved him, was in trouble.

There was, and in fact, still is much speculation among people of the Move on who or what was responsible for Sam Fife's death 7 years ago over the jungles of Guatemala. Was it God, deciding Sam had completed his course? Or did Satan score a victory? You see, it was a very traumatic event for the Move, not just because he was its leader, but for the fact that perhaps his prime statement his last few years was "I'm not going to die". He made famous the statement "Heaven is a place for failures", using Hebrews 11 as his scriptural reference for this point, showing that the bottom line for all these heroes of faith is that they were failures, for they all died not receiving the promise.

In his article "TWO CREATION MYSTERY", an article with a tremendous amount of mixture and contradictions, Sam states, "God did not save you to take you to heaven", "I don't want to go to heaven, because heaven is a place for failures", "There is no doubt in my mind...I am going to conquer death, bring forth glorified bodies, change myself and everybody else around me into incorruptibility", and then the coup de gras, "The object is to live forever, THAT IS MY GOAL. I do not want to get mixed up on lesser tangents, off on lesser hang-ups -- evangelism, healing, Kingdom building, the whole business. I am going to let God perfect this spirit, and I am going to change this vile body into one like unto His glorious one. The revelation of God is a balanced revelation. I have seen them get hung up on healing, on gifts, Kingdom building, EVEN LOVE, and get so hung up on these things that they die and join the rest of the failures in heaven".

Let me give you at least one reason Sam died, using only scripture. Mt. 16:25a (NASB):

"For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it".

Mk. 8:35a (TIB):

"If you love your life down here you will lose it".

Take Sam's statement, "The object is to live forever, that is my goal", and you realize that according to scripture he's on the road to losing his life. I didn't say that, Jesus did. Then as you read on, Sam describes evangelism, healing, Kingdom building, and EVEN LOVE as LESSER HANGUPS. You'll notice all these "lesser hangups" are things brought forth only as you "lose your life", which scripture says is the way to Life. To me once again, the motivator that's working on Sam is obvious and shows itself clearest in the statement, "I am going to change this vile body into one like unto his glorious one". There's once again the "setting of the heart like unto the heart of God", the "I shall be like the most High". Hebrews says "It's appointed unto man once to die". The appointee is God, and man's lofty aspirations will not overrule Him. It goes back to Ezek. 28:9,

"Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, I am God,
but thou shalt be a man, and no God, in the hand of him
that slayeth thee."

Yes, immortality is spoken of in Scripture, but it is a by-product of a true goal and not a proper goal in itself. According to the Scriptures I quoted you from Mt., Mk., and Jn., immortality as a goal is mortal and based on that, any person or group of people who have set natural immortality as a personal goal for themselves not only have the wrong concepts of Christianity, but peril their own natural life -- he who will save his life shall lose it!

To conclude this section on the teachings of Sam Fife, I want to say what I feel came to be a most destructive teaching, because it came about out of a bonding together of much of his previous word, and because it was also a word with a very practical application, and that was the "wilderness message". It first was brought forth around 1970 and the main scriptural basis for this message was Rev. 12:6 which says:

"And the woman fled into the wilderness where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her 1,260 days".

Based on this teaching hundreds of people moved on to farms, mainly in Canada and South America to be "in the place prepared for them by God." I know a good bit about this particular issue for I lived on one of these farms in Peru, South America for about 6 years. People left homes, families and jobs, "abandoning all" to heed the call of their leader. The purpose of these farms was to be a place where you could be "perfected" while society continued "caving in" so that when it finally collapsed this "manchild" from the wilderness could come forth "to redeem creation" and "rule all nations". It was here in the farm stage that the Move's manifestation as a cult became more apparent. The practical outworking of "the Man and a Maid" took place where everyone turned their headship over to the local ministry as their husband -- throw in on top of that Sam's word on natural family relationships being finished, and you have the chief ingredients of a cult -- authoritarian leadership with a beckon for blind submission from the people. Of course officially you were told "you are free to hear by the Spirit", but when it gets down to the truth, you are "free to hear by the Spirit" as long as you agree with them. It's all so nicely disguised with flowery religious talk about your "freedom", but everyone who has ever left the Move knows it was bondage. Your fear of "missing God" and belief that the leaders have a "corner" on God, which is the primary reason you're there anyway, eventually brings you to the place where you make no real decisions yourself or even for your family, but you're living in "submission to your covering", and under that guise they do your thinking for you.

I want to finish this section on the teachings of Sam Fife before I get into further developing the cult aspect of the Move and its present day operation. The teachings of Sam are given here to show everyone still involved in the Move your root system. This is what your present day experience is based upon. Even if you disagree with Sam's teachings you must realize as long as you're in the Move and consider its ministry your "covering", that these teachings we have just gone over are your foundation. No matter how good you feel about what you're building now, it's built upon the structured foundation laid out by Sam Fife and you will be "cursed" or "blessed" accordingly.

My intention in all this is not to destroy Sam Fife. I personally had a good bit of interaction with him, and I do know a little about the man Sam Fife. Ever since I was old enough to trust my own personal hearing from the Lord there's been much of Sam's teachings and doctrinal statements that I've had trouble with, but I'll have to say that even when I totally disagreed with him there was something about him I still liked. He was a man who could care less about the comforts of this life -- if there was a choice of going a comfortable way or going an uncomfortable way he'd take the uncomfortable way. He had anti-sissy written all over him. He was John Wayne, Clint Easterwood and more present day Rambo all wrapped in one. There was something inspiring about his roughness, toughness and boldness. The love of money or things had no power over him. He was totally sold out to the cause he represented, and everyone knew it. Particularly for young people like me he's somebody you wanted to like, somebody you wanted to believe, somebody whose shortcomings you wanted to overlook. He was the ultimate spiritual macho man, and "the cause" was almost beside the point -- you followed him more for how sure he was than how sure you were. His boldness and fearlessness were powerfully seducing. When he first came out with statements such as "I am the light of the world", "I am God", "I'm not going to die", "I'm going to redeem creation", "Heaven is for failures", "follow me", and other such spiritually macho statements there was something from within that just wanted to say, YEAH!!! I must repeat, the boldness was so powerfully seducing so as to render all other issues as incidental. At the time you never analyze that John Wayne, Clint Easterwood and Rambo have nothing in common with Jesus. These present day "heroes" were not men of tenderness, love,

compassion. Forgiveness was not in their vocabulary. Jesus made himself a servant, and he did not deal from a position of strength. The only way he overwhelmed people was through compassion, that was and is his heart. He dealt with lepers, harlots, adulterers and traitors only with compassion. Yes, Jesus did have anger and yes, he did show a hard side, but that was only for those who thought themselves religiously sufficient. Those who tried to serve God from a position of religious strength -- that's who Jesus was extremely harsh with, even calling them a "generation of snakes".

Am I saying Sam Fife was a false prophet? "False prophet" is a very strong term, I know, and to make that judgment depends on one's definition of "false prophet". If a "false prophet" is one who intentionally misleads and misguides people, then I don't personally believe Sam Fife was a "false prophet". There is no way I feel he purposely deluded people, for I do not doubt his overall sincerity. On the other hand, if Sam Fife being a "false prophet" has to do with the way the devil used him for his purposes, then I would say "Yes, he was a false prophet", for I strongly believe and am firmly convinced that, in the light of scripture and comparing the gospel of Jesus Christ versus the gospel of Sam Fife, that at least for a time and season Sam Fife was used to further that which is not godly. This is not an indictment against him alone, but against all of us who so willingly gave our own "golden earrings" to him, and for that we are all guilty and must all repent. With that I want to close this particular portion on the teachings of Sam Fife.

CHAPTER 2

A CULT?

The first thing we want to do is to define a CULT. the word CULT itself is defined by Webster's as being "a system of worship". So based on that definition in a broad sense all believers are in "cults". In fact in the Spanish language we say "we're going to have cult" to signify "we're going to have a meeting". So we see that by defining the legal, technical meaning of the word "cult", we don't get too far in describing what a cult really is, so I'll give a generally accepted definition of a cult. A cult is simply "a religiously exclusive group". The key word being exclusive. The chief characteristic of every cult is extremely reduced decision-making by the general populace. You have one major free-choice decision and that is your decision to come and be a part of this group. People who study religious cults tell us that from a doctrinal standpoint the other distinguishing quality that gives a group this status of religious CULT is a watered-down emphasis on Jesus Christ. He is in practice not the hinging factor for whatever vision is being offered, but rather at most a side issue. Other common characteristics of cults (and I am getting this information from a number of writings on the subject) are there is usually one authoritarian leader or the teachings of one such leader being followed. Deprogrammers tell us that it is hunger for a father figure to tell them what to do -- which locks people into being controlled by an authoritarian cult leader. They state that fear rules in these cults. The chief fear is the fear of "missing the Lord" or "not living up to his full demands". It is invariably this fear that leads the person to "willingly" give up his responsibility to make decisions. Cult membership is actually a cop-out from life, according to one author. He says the person who enters a cult thinks he is boldly stepping forward to commit himself wholly for the Lord's cause, when in actuality he has unconsciously chosen a way to flee from having to make decisions, to have to stand to the consequences of free choice. He likens it to the children of Israel asking Moses to take them back to Egypt. They knew it wasn't freedom, but they wouldn't have to think, only behave. The writers agree that there is what is termed "a paranoid messianic complex" that is a heavy part of the mentality of these groups which identifies them as "the good guys, the elect, the elite remnant" who alone have the TRUTH and must suffer for it. That of course is what makes them the exclusive group they are.

According to deprogrammers the worst characteristic that develops in members of these groups is a mind-set lock and what that is, is when free thoughts no longer

faith

roam the mind. It is worse than tunnel-vision, it is pre-programation and there's a built-in mechanism that captures every stray thought into that preprogramation. This mind-set lock is the only real job the deprogrammer is working on. He's deprogramming the pre-programming. He's not trying so much to get the individual "doctrinally straight", or even point out all the error he's presently involved in. All that never happens until the MIND-SET LOCK has been broken, and the breaking of that mind-set lock is often very difficult. Among the various authorities on the subject there is somewhat of a question on whether that mind-lock is in fact a spirit of deception on the person or if it is rather just that -- a mind-lock in the flesh. In my opinion it could be either one or both, depending much on the chain of events or circumstances that led one to join in the first place.

Now up to this point all I've done is share with you a general overview of what some authorities on this subject have to say about CULTS, without tying in "cult activity" with what goes on in the Move. Right up front I'll make it clear I don't believe that the Move by design is a CULT. I also don't believe everyone who is under the "covering" of the Move is necessarily a cultee or cultist, whatever the appropriate word is. However I do believe the Move system or order is highly conducive to creating a cult atmosphere. In the previous paragraph I stated that the main characteristic of cults is that the people, whether grudgingly or willingly, have given up the majority of their own decision-making to those in charge. That to me is the key issue that causes Move farms to become actually outworkings of CULTS. If you are on one of those farms and have willingly given up your God-given responsibility to make decisions for you and your family let me assure you, you are in a cult and you are a cultee. In spiritual terms you are in the most dangerous position of ANY person in the world. Those in leadership who demand this unofficial blind submission are yet even more accountable, but even most of these are victims of the system they operate, for they do so with veiled minds, not properly discerning their duty before God. I lived on a Move farm 6 years, and have been on many others. I know the phraseology that is used to convince one to give up his personal hearing. Here's a story that's repeated itself over and over and over again on these farms -- you get there and you are told that they as a leadership do not believe in "blind submission". You are officially told that you are "free to disagree", you are free to get "your personal witness". You are free to "hear by the Spirit", and it really all sounds great. Then there's the first time you have a genuine disagreement, let's say over a particular "order" that applies to you. You remind them that you were told you're free to disagree, explaining that you've even prayed about it and that is your "witness by the Spirit" as best as you know how to hear from God. So then the issue goes before the whole eldership, whose feeling is this -- if God led them in establishing the "order", He expects them to uphold it. So the next step is you're brought in before the eldership and the forthcoming dialogue goes something like this -- Elders: "Do you believe God led you to come to this farm?" You: "Yes, I do". Elders: "Don't you think God knew what the "order" was here before He sent you here?" You: "Yes, I suppose". Elders: "Well, if God sent you here, and He knew what was going to be required of you, don't you think it's God's will for you to submit to the order that God has led us to establish on this farm?" About 90% of the people are going to say, "Yes, I suppose so", for that's what appears to be logical, but I tell you it's surrendering your golden earrings, and it's dangerous. If you're in the other 10% that has a few more questions to ask or are not so willing to give up your golden earrings, you'll quickly be labeled rebellious and divisive. That label will stick with you until you turn in your "golden earrings". You'll be given lectures on submission, spiritual authority, on trusting your leaders, you'll be quoted the Proverbs scripture, "Every man's ways are right in his own eyes"; you'll be quoted, "The heart is deceitful above all things, who can know it?" Your confidence in your personal hearing from God becomes totally eroded as you might expect, because they "scripturally" prove to you that you can't trust your own ability to hear from God. That is when the "fear syndrome" deprogrammers have identified, takes over and becomes your motivation. You're so sincere with God you

don't want to make one mistake, you don't want to miss out on anything He has for you, and this fear of "missing it" produces a logic that says this: "My ways are going to appear right in my own eyes, but of course that's just because my heart is deceitfully wicked. God has provided a protective covering here in the ministry, and what they are receiving corporately from God has got to be safer than my personal hearing; after all, that's why God put them there". Throw in any influence one might receive from Sam's teachings on "a Man and a Maid" where the "wife congregation" gives herself to her "husband ministry" in "total, unreserved, unsuspicious submission" and you once again have all the right ingredients for giving up for what in fact becomes your ability to think. Do you see the "sheep's clothing" to the whole process? If you were told before you ever came to one of these farms that your "golden earrings" were going to be required of you for you to join, you'd never come. It's a wolf in sheep clothing, by the time you recognize it, you're a victim.

Even Paul, a confirmed man of God, only said, "Follow me as I follow Christ", that means "as long as I'm following Christ, follow me". Who does that mean we must keep our eyes on? If I tell you that the man ahead of me driving the limousine knows our destination and that if you follow me as I follow him you'll be fine, what is the critical issue for you so as not to get lost? -- Being sure I'm following the limousine. You see, that is to be our relationship to elders, ministries, coverings, etc. Yes, they are there to help us get oriented, directed on track, but if our focus is ever turned away from the way we see Christ on to the help along the way, we have just turned our trust over to man. Jer. 17:5,6 says:

"Thus saith the Lord. Cursed be the man that trusteth in man...for he shall be like the shrub in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh, but shall inherit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited:."

Psalms 118:8 says:

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes".

Psalms 146:3 says:

"Put not your trust in princes...".

Back in Jer. 17 right after the scripture "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man" (and that word cursed here in the original Hebrew means "bitterly cursed so as to be execrated") is verse 7 which says:

"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord and whose hope the Lord is".

You see, it's that fear of "missing it" incredibly enough that causes us to "miss it", for the fear motivation causes us to trust the visible man above the invisible God. There is an apparent higher risk in following the invisible and until we realize that God is more interested in our trust than in our performance we will continue to be motivated out of fear, and find ourselves cursed. That is a whole message in itself, but "performance orientation" is perhaps the biggest lie the devil has fed the church. It is the leaven of the Pharisees, and Jesus hated it. David in Psalm 52:8 says:

"I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever".

It's also the key to why God calls David "a man after my own heart" -- his overall performance would have gotten him kicked off any farm and yes, banished

forever, but this man trusted in God and it was counted to him for righteousness. The path to trusting in God is risky, and we will make many blunders, but it's the only way God accepts. We know it's risky and maybe somewhat hazy sometimes, or Job would not have said, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him". Most of the risk is because, yes, we do see in part, and yes, we do "miss it" some when trying to hear God, but as we follow through on our responsibility to follow, however we perceive Christ to be speaking to us, in the long run, even through our feelings, we will learn to trust in God. It is so important; do not give that level of trust to man that belongs only to God. This is not encouraging mistrust towards any elder, ministry or man of God while they're following Christ, but it is most definitely to sound an alarm if that personal witness, those "golden earrings" are either being demanded from you, or sweet-talked from you. It's dangerous. Do not do it!

For those of you who may not be familiar with the term "golden earrings" or what scripture passage I'm referring to, let's go look at it in Ex. 32. It would be good to open your Bibles as I give you an overview of it, if you want to get the complete flavor of this chapter, but I'll tell you the gist of it. Moses had gone to the mountain of Sinai to receive the 10 commandments, and since he'd been gone close to 40 days the people were getting a little restless wondering when and actually IF Moses was coming back. So the people came before Aaron and asked him to make them a god (most translations, KJV says "gods") to go before them and lead. Aaron asks them to break off their golden earrings so that with them he may make a god. Verse 3 says:

"And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears and brought them unto Aaron".

Aaron then made a molten calf out of these golden earrings and it was then proclaimed,

"This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt" (NASB).

Then incredibly Aaron builds an altar before it and proclaims, "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord". The people rise up early the next morning and offer burnt offerings and peace offerings. Then they go sort of wild from what we understand. The Lord sends Moses down, telling him what the people have done, and actually, according to the scripture here, would have wiped them out had Moses not pleaded and interceded on their behalf. In verses 17 and 18 as Joshua and Moses are descending, Joshua hears the people shouting and says to Moses, "There is a sound of the cry of defeat; but the sound of SINGING I hear". The fact they were singing confirms the notion that they did not really realize what they were doing. They had come under a spirit of deception that left them manifesting confusion. They didn't know whether to give "a cry of triumph" or "a cry of defeat" so they settled for the religious response -- singing, but a directionless, objectiveless, deceived singing.

Verse 25 tells us that this deception they had moved in had left them naked, even a shame among their enemies, and as we read, 3,000 of these uncovered people lost their lives. It's ironic that the very desire to "play it safe" by having a visible god cost them their lives. That was not the only punishment either, for the last verse in the chapter says this, "And the Lord plagued the people because they made the calf...".

In the Move I see an almost identical parallel. All "golden earrings" have been thrown into a common pot, and it's called "corporate hearing". The leadership (although a leadership used before by God) that are not on the Mount, with a graving tool form a golden calf and call it "divine order". Its source is all these golden earrings and appears to be good, but it's just golden flesh. It's man's attempt to serve God through his own goodness. You know its deception, because there's an attempt to serve God through this golden calf. This "divine order"

is even lauded and credited as the very thing that's brought us out of bondage. God is a God of order, but He also will have no other gods before Him, including "ORDER". Any attempts to serve God through serving "order", no matter how great you think its source is, is major sin. Serve God with your golden earrings on, i.e., "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding, in all thy ways acknowledge Him" and He'll give you His order, i.e., "and He shall direct thy paths". We want the visible evidence ahead of time of what we're to do. The golden calf ("divine order") gives us a consistent point of reference. We don't have to pray about it, seek God, trust Him with all our heart or acknowledge Him, we've already got "divine order". Of course it's convincing, or we'd never have given up our golden earrings, but it's just leaning on our own understanding for what appears to be "spiritually logical". We push it before God, we celebrate it, but God says it's just your own work and that's His basic problem with it. Stephen, when reciting the history of Israel before the people, says in Acts 7:41,

"And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, AND REJOICED IN THE WORKS OF THEIR OWN HANDS".

That was the sin, that's how you break the commandment, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me", and it starts when you surrender your golden earrings. Verses 18, 25 and 35 of Ex. 32 show the next 3 stages of people who've tossed in their golden earrings. There is singing, but it's a confused singing, the result of wrong-doing. Then vs. 25 shows another stage -- nakedness unto shame among the enemies. This means the deception becomes so obvious that even "enemies" can see it, and I believe that the Move's farms qualify for this dubious distinction. I would further substantiate this point, but it's really not my intention to further uncover nakedness by revealing all the failings of God's people. This whole article has no individual or set of individuals as targets, and I say that with God as my witness. However, I am targetting what I see as spiritual deception and the system that causes it to flourish.

The final stage we see in Ex. 32 is found in verse 35, "And the Lord PLAGUED the people because they made the calf...". Though many may consider this a subjective analysis, once you've seen a truly blessed people, a plagued people is easier to recognize. Besides seeing virtually no healings, no moving in most of the gifts of the Spirit, seeing almost no ministries raised up in 10 years (a few elders, nothing else), and witnessing no growth, but in fact shrinkage, even besides all these tell-tale signals of a lack of something; what has stood out the most to me over the years is the lack of joy, and I don't buy any of the many excuses that have been given for it. If Jesus Christ is present, there's "righteousness, peace and joy". If you're serving God and you do not sense the joy and peace of the Lord on a regular basis, there's one reason, you're plagued, and you must find out why. It has nothing to do with the particular spiritual path God has put you on. Paul said, "I have learned in whatsoever state I am there-with to be content". In II Co. 7:4 he says, "I am filled with comfort, I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction" (NASB). In Acts 20:24 Paul, after stating in v. 23 that he knows bonds and afflictions await him in Jerusalem says, "... that I might finish my course with joy". Joy is a fruit of the Spirit, it cannot be worked up, and I repeat, if there is no joy, you are plagued, and you must find out why. The joy of the Lord is your strength. You must have His genuine joy or you must find out where the deceiver stole it from you. If you're in the Move and have no joy it probably started with the surrender of your golden earrings.

I'm going to give you one more scripture passage to further illustrate this point of the personal hearing to those who still haven't been firmly convinced on the need of keeping one's own "golden earrings" while yet being under the proper spiritual authority. I Kings 13. Once again this would be a good passage

for you to read the whole chapter, but I'll relate the chapter's important verses.

Verse 1,

"And behold there came a man of God out of Judah BY THE WORD OF THE LORD unto Bethel, and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense".

Verse 2,

"And he cried against the altar in the word of the Lord...".

Verse 3,

"And he gave a sign...".

Verse 5,

"(and it happened) according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the Lord".

Verse 6 shows the man of God restoring the withered hand of Jeroboam. As we see, the first part of this chapter makes a clear point to establish this man as a man of God, for what he prophesies comes to pass and what he prays for happens. Now let's see verse 7,

"And the king said unto the man of God, come home with me and refresh thyself and I will give thee a reward".

Verse 8,

"And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place".

Verse 9,

"For so was it charged me BY THE WORD OF THE LORD saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest".

Here we see the clarity of the issue. God gave specific word to the man of God and the issue was, is he going to keep the charge? In the first test here he passes with flying colors emphasizing the strength of his stance by telling the king although he give him half his house, he wasn't going to accompany him. Then starting in first 11 it speaks of an old prophet in Bethel who hears about this man of God and proceeds to ask him home. Verses 15-17:

"Then he said unto him, Come home with me and eat bread. And he said, I may not return to thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place. For it was said to me BY THE WORD OF THE LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water with thee, nor turn again by the way that thou camest".

Up 'til now the man of God is hanging in there strongly, but let's now read vs. 18,

"He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art: and an angel spake unto me by the word of the Lord saying, Bring him back into thine house that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him".

Verse 19,

"So he went back with him...(and did eat and drink)".

Verse 20,

"And it came to pass, as they sat down at the table, that the word of the Lord came unto the prophet that brought him back".

Verse 21,

"...thus saith the Lord, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the Lord and hast not kept the commandment which the Lord commanded THEE",

Verse 22,

"But camest back and hast eaten bread and drunk water... thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers".

Verse 24,

"And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way and slew him...".

Do we see how serious it can be? Yes, his sin was disobedience, but in an even more real way, what caused that was his surrender of what he heard from God, his "golden earrings". Do you see the gradualism in the process? -- he didn't wickedly disobey. From the passage here you don't get the idea he was an evil man; he even had compassion on evil Jeroboam, who had ordered him seized, and prayed to God for the restoration of his hand. In my view he never knew he was in disobedience until the older prophet revealed it to him. See, this man of God forgot, "Cursed is the man who trusts in man", but yet with an apparently good reason, for this other man was a prophet too; in fact, he was a more established veteran prophet, who this passage clearly shows, still heard from God. It does seem like very harsh punishment, even in my opinion, until I realize the message God is bringing forth -- DON'T SURRENDER your "golden earrings", your "inner witness", even to qualified men of God. It wasn't wrong for the man of God to hear what the old prophet had to say, and it wouldn't even have been wrong once the old prophet had said what an angel had told him, to bring back up the whole issue before God to see if anything had changed. You see, we are responsible to accept any voice, especially an "established" voice, as a possible word from God, but never blindly. What cost the man of God his life is that because of the "credentials" of the prophet, he never checked back with his inner witness but rather at that point surrendered his golden earrings. We know they were gone for from the moment he accepts going with the old prophet, this man of God hears nothing more from God. It's the old prophet who has to tell him he disobeyed, and the old prophet who tells him he'll be slain. We don't know what this story would have been had this man repented, for his hearing was so dulled that he apparently didn't know enough to repent, at least the scripture does not reveal there being any repentance in him.

This passage of scripture has a two-fold message. The second part of this lesson is to leaders everywhere. Just because God has spoken through you in time past, don't be so confident of your ability to be God's spokesman that you think you can conjure up a word of God anytime. The phrase "God told me" will sway a lot of people, so make sure you lie not. Even in this story I don't believe the old prophet intentionally lied, but when it was over he definitely knew he shared the blame, for he personally took responsibility for the man's carcase, he buried him in his own grave and mourned for him crying out, "Alas my brother". I personally believe had he not taken this latter responsibility for the man of God, his blood would have also been shed.

I hope I have been able to make this point very clear. It's not wrong to follow a man, it's right to be in submission, the truth on "spiritual authority" can't be denied, but all only as we maintain our "golden earrings" on, having checked with the plumbline of His witness in us. If you're not actively involved with the direction to your life you are in grave danger. If you've given the direction in the life of your family to another, you are in grave danger. As you read this you become doubly accountable. He will now hold you responsible.

You've been guilty of what scripture portrays as another major sin, and that's the sin of "burying one's talents". The man who did so in scripture was to be cast

into outer darkness, where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth, and all that just for "playing it safe". God hates caution motivated out of fear of doing something wrong, and I see most, if not all of the Move's order of "covering" being motivated by specifically that fear. I believe it has thus instead become the chief culprit for mass amounts of stagnation and burial of talents in the Move. No one's investing their talents, because they keep them underground, afraid to risk losing them. What's true in the natural is truer yet in the Spirit -- NO RISK, NO GAIN. There's an ungodly paranoia of "making a mistake" that has the Move mired in a stagnation of quantum proportions, that is furthermore defended because there's the one safe buried talent that some are deceived into thinking God will accept. He will not. I repeat, it is major sin to play it safe by burying one's talents. Prov. 24:16 says,

"A just man falleth seven times and RISETH UP AGAIN,
but the wicked shall fall into mischief".

What makes the just man just? HE RISETH AGAIN. Check Moses, David, Peter, Paul. . . What made them all great men of God? They'd rise again after being down. Moses murdered an Egyptian. David murdered Uriah and committed adultery with Bathsheba. Peter denied Jesus. Paul persecuted and killed Christians. But through repentance and forgiveness they all rose again, living productive though high risk lives. You know who the even-steven people of Jesus day were? -- the scribes and pharisees, and He could hardly stand to be in their presence. God hates "playing it safe".

Now I want us to look a little at what's diagnosed as the "paranoid, messianic complex" of most cults. Another term for it is ELITISM, and all actually either one of these is is good old-fashioned spiritual pride. I've already attacked this issue from the standpoint of the teachings of Sam Fife. Since I believe that there was a religious spirit of pride that influenced much of his doctrine, and since his teachings are the foundation of the Move, it's virtually impossible to be a member of the Move without being struck down with "elitism". I know because it's still a battle with me. In your subconscious there's the thought at work that you as a group have something that no one else has seen, and I confess out of personal experience that even once I realized the "truths" were more ethereal than deep, and even though I realized the doctrinal statement was heavy mixture at best, I still fight attacks from either a spirit of elitism or from a conditioned flesh response. One of the hardest things I've struggled with is the realization that I no longer have a corner on the truth market. It's been such a blow to the elitism. The simplicity of Christ has finally become manifest to me, and guess what? Thousands and thousands of others already knew about it. You may say, well what about the "deep truths" on the 5-fold ministry, going on to perfection, manifested sonship, redeeming creation, our revelation of no rapture -- and any other "elite truths". The 5-fold ministry and its restoration is being preached in hundreds of churches across the country, including the emphasis on the foundation ministries of apostles and prophets. Furthermore it's coming forth with much more doctrinal soundness. The ministry of Evangelist is not omitted from their teachings. The prophet ministry has nothing to do with one's gift of visions as the Move has seen it, though admittedly a gift of visions would be of good service to a prophetic ministry. Check the prophets of the Bible and you see that they were not meek vision-sharers but mighty men of God who shared with boldness and uniqueness the directional word of God that was birthed through their personal hearing from God. God is raising modern day prophets, and is even raising prophetic churches to proclaim with boldness God's message for the hour. The Apostolic ministry is not just "one sent", but it is the ministry that is birthing and establishing churches on a continual basis. The ministry of pastor is given only to the person God has blessed with a compassionate heart. Pastoring and caring are to be synonymous. If by nature God has not given you a tender, compassionate heart for people, eldership is not your calling. If you feel you have the call to pastor on your life, and healing wounds, restoring and redeeming are not your thrust of

thought, you're deceived about your calling. Even church discipline is to be solely motivated out of compassion for the individual's "considering it could be you". The pastor and the teacher are then to share the Word brought forth by the foundation ministries in the most palatable and digestible form possible to the church, the teacher being particularly gifted in this area. This is not a teaching on the 5-fold ministry, but it is what I'm hearing from "the voice of many waters" from without the Move. As far as most Move teachings on "going to perfection", "manifested sonship" and "redeeming creation" are concerned, there is such a mixture of truth and error in them they become practically unsalvageable.

We don't have to get very "deep" or involved in mysteries to see God's plan for Christians. The message of the Kingdom does not have to be so ethereal so as to be inapplicable in a practical way. We are called to establish the rule of God on earth today. "Thy Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven". How in a practical way can the Kingdom of God be established on earth? The same way Jesus did it. Heal the sick, cast out demons, raise the dead, liberate the oppressed, share the good news, embrace the WHOLE body of Christ, push for unity in Christ, move with compassion towards the lost -- that is establishing the rule of God on earth. That is how you redeem creation. That is how you manifest true sonship. That is how you "go on to perfection". If your doctrine isn't that practical, be careful, there's probably a seducing spirit somewhere in its origination. If you plan on waiting until "God deals further with you" before you think you're an acceptable vessel to manifest sonship you're being deceived. Scriptural principle is this, "you start with what you have and you receive more"; "you protect what you have, waiting for more, and you lose even what you have". What about God's demand for holiness, you might say? Our ignorance on the subject blinds us -- holiness is not a level of behaviour, holiness is a condition of the heart, a byproduct of total abandonment to God and His purposes. You will never be holy by trying to be holy, you become holy as a byproduct, as I said, when you "seek not your own". Most of our pleas for holiness are motivated so much by "seeking our own" that it becomes a seed bed for religiosity and legalism. Mk. 6:20 tells us Herod feared John the Baptist knowing he was a holy man. John the Baptist made a statement to society proving holiness not to be impeccable behaviour, for he was admittedly weird, but through his total abandonment for the cause of the Kingdom. In Luke 1:70 Zacharias speaks of "the holy prophets of old, which have been since the world began". What characteristic do the prophets of old have that sticks out? They were actively totally abandoned to the Lord and His work. One of the definitions for the New Testament word HOLY is "to dedicate to perpetual use in the worship of God". The key words there being perpetual use. You want to be Holy? Dedicate yourself to perpetual use in the worship of God. My point is that the present Move theology of waiting until God perfects us before we come forth as "manifested sons" to redeem creation is straight from the pit. That's a strong statement but it's also the truth, for that belief is no different in practicality than much of the church's view on waiting for the rapture. I see no difference between waiting for "perfection" and waiting for "the rapture". There is however a growing part of the Church that's preaching and demonstrating THY KINGDOM COME ON EARTH TODAY, knowing it's not waiting for perfection or the rapture. They're teaching what scripture says, which is that Jesus is being held back in the heavens until the restoration of all things. The church's job is not to sit back and wait for all things to fall apart; it's to be actively engaged in the restoration of ALL THINGS.

There needs to be dealt a serious blow to that feeling of ELITISM that is so manifest in the Move. Yes, it's good to know our calling in God and not be ashamed of it, but "elitism" carries a "better than" attitude and furthermore it's based on a false concept of one's spiritual experience. We must repent.

I am so burdened by the blinding deception prevalent through so much of the Move. How we can pretend everything's O.K. in the face of overwhelming proof to the contrary? What's wrong with saying, "God, we're missing something. Help!"? Why is lack of fruit in almost all areas defended? It seems the last 3 or 4 Conventions the only word brought forth by the "father ministry" have been words defending the

Move's wretched position. There's one word on "judging nothing before its time", drawing a parallel to the Corinthian Church from it's early sinful days to becoming a great church and how that if you had judged the early state of the church you would have missed it. My reply to that is this, did the Corinthian Church change into the healthy church they became by a natural process of aging and evolving? No, it was not by maintaining the same vision and lifestyle. Somebody had to say, "something's wrong, we've got to change or we're through. Lord, we repent of our ways. Show us YOUR way". It's interesting how nobody who preaches on "judging nothing before its time" ever mentions the story of the fig tree. It's found in Mk. 11:13,14 and 20:

"And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came if haply he might find anything thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves: for the time of figs was not yet. And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it".

Verse 20:

"And in the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots".

This passage is interesting, for not only did Jesus curse the fig tree for having no fruit, but it was not even the right season for fruit. Why would Jesus be so unreasonable? The key is in verse 13 where it says that what attracted Jesus to the fig tree in the first place was the fact it had leaves. You see, it's false advertisement to have leaves but yield no FRUIT. What Jesus is saying is, if you're making a show of having life but have no visible evidence of that life in a practical way, you're like those who have "a form of godliness but deny the power of the same". Yes, it's true the fruit you produce now may not be the same level of fruit produced in the future, but if you're "showing leaves" you must produce fruit even if you don't think it's the right season. II Ti. 4:2 says, "be instant in season and out of season". Verse 3 goes on to mention the coming of time when sound doctrine will not be endured. Verse 4,

"they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables".

What's the fable in this case? That there's an acceptable time for fruitlessness.

Another ministry came out with the statement in his word that when a ship is sinking, the first ones to jump off are "the rats", giving that as a metaphor to what's taking place in the Move -- the rats are jumping off. First of all, it bothers me a bit when an alleged leader of God's people calls brethren he formerly fellowshiped with, rats. That's hardly the heart of a shepherd, yet if anyone questions, not his character but his doctrine, they're accused of coming against "the Lord's anointed". The Lord's anointed should not call fellow believers, rats, especially for being true to their inner witness. Secondly, if there is an admittance that the ship is sinking, what's the glory in staying with it? I do see myself as having left a sinking ship, so we agree there. However I see myself as having abandoned on a LIFE boat rather than as a "jumping rat". Can anything save this "ship"? No, because its structure is faulty from its foundations.

Another ministry gave an inspired historical word on the American Revolution and how every time the Revolution came down to "hanging by a thread" it was followed by the advent of a major victory. The parallel of course is obvious, we're "hanging by a thread", so that's right where we want to be because a major breakthrough is right around the corner. It's the old "it's always darkest before dawn" analogy. The problem with analogies is that there is so much credibility given them and they can be so inconsistent. You see, the other side to this is, it's always "darkest before the torment". Bad is a sign that worse could be up

ahead. When someone's very sick and "hanging by a thread" it's more often followed by death than some great victory. God's message to the Laodicean church was not, "hey, you're hangin' by a thread but that's good". The message to them was "consider from where you've fallen and REPENT". How there can be such an "elite" attitude among a people whose leaders admit, we're hanging by a thread, we're a sinking ship, we're like the old Corinthian church, is further proof of blinding deceiving spirits at work.

"Elitism" is the mark of the Pharisees of whom Jesus said, "beware of their doctrine". In fact, most of the proven characteristics of cults I've given you are scriptural characteristics of the Pharisees. If you look in the Greek dictionary of the New Testament under the word pharisee it will say this: a separatist, i.e., exclusively religious. Forget your previous idea of Pharisees -- do you qualify? Now look in Mark 21:43-45 (NASB) --

"Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you, and be given TO A NATION PRODUCING THE FRUIT OF IT". And when the chief priests and pharisees heard his parables they understood HE WAS SPEAKING OF THEM".

You see, Pharisees believe behavior is sufficient fruit. Are you in this same category where you think righteousness has to do with your behavior? Yes, it is a form of righteousness, but Mt. 5:20 clearly shows it's not acceptable righteousness.

"...Except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees ye shall IN NO CASE enter into the Kingdom of Heaven".

Mt. 23:23,24 (TLB):

"Yes, woe unto you Pharisees, and you other religious leaders - hypocrites! For you tithe down to the last mint leaf in your garden but ignore THE IMPORTANT THINGS - JUSTICE and MERCY and FAITH. Yes, you should tithe, but you shouldn't leave the more important things undone. Blind guides! You strain out a gnat and swallow a camel".

I'll ask you another question for you to honestly answer yourself - Do you ever SENSE THE IMPORTANT THINGS, justice, mercy and faith flowing to or from you, or is your whole experience really just fulfilling an "ORDER"? Pharisees are great upholders of order - in Mt. 15:2 they say to Jesus, "Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?" That was their basic statement of relationship with Jesus. They always questioned either why he was breaking the "order" he did, or, what "order" gave him permission to do what He was doing? Jesus' answer to the Pharisees is in the next verse, "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" I'm here to tell you that most of what in the Move has been termed DIVINE ORDER is in fact TRADITION. We've seen ourselves as maintainers of STANDARDS, but God says "you're a stiff-necked, stubborn people" because of our insistence of serving God the way WE WANT.

The Pharisees also were not noted for their embracement of gifts, miracles or healings. They seemed to have questions of everything supernatural Jesus did. Does that sound familiar to you? You know all the questions - was it in proper order? Was it under the right authority? Is he using it to exalt himself? Gifts, miracles, healings are a manifestation of the compassion of Jesus to us and through us, and if you're not in touch with the compassion of Jesus, not only will you not be blessed in these areas of the supernatural, but it will be further proof of your wrong identity. The Pharisees were also always getting very upset with the type of people Jesus and his disciples hung out with -- you see, it didn't fit their doctrine of sacrifice by "separation from the world" for men of God to be mingling with obvious sinners. I mean, hey, they might get "spotted". Mt. 9:11 (NASB) - Pharisees to disciples -- "Why is your Teacher eating with tax-gatherers

and sinners?" Verse 13, Jesus' response,

"Go and learn what this means. I DESIRE COMPASSION AND NOT SACRIFICE..."

Brethren, the heart of Jesus is not "standards" or "orders", it's compassion, and until that Jesus becomes the Lord whom you serve, not only will you be following another Jesus, but even as the Pharisees you will seek to destroy the true Jesus, because the true Jesus will knock you off your horse of ELITISM. I mean if what you call fruit is not what he calls fruit that becomes a serious blow to your whole structured foundation. That's why Jesus goes on to say to the Pharisees in Mt. 15:8,9 (TLB) -

"These people say they honor me but their hearts are far away. Their worship is worthless for they teach MAN-MADE LAWS instead of those from God."

Did you know Pharisees honor God? It's their spiritually self-seeking motivation though that causes it to be worthless worship. Elitism causes you to concentrate TOTALLY on you -- it's your personal experience, your personal "holiness", YOU looking better before God and based on that you create "divine" rules to give you that look. See, that's another way to recognize Pharisees - they all look alike. They have the same haircut, clothes, hem length, etc. etc. It's thought as unity of expression but it's the leaven of the Pharisees. Unity of expression is an inward quality that transcends outward expression. Mt. 23:27,28 (TLB) --

"Woe to you Pharisees and you religious leaders - hypocrites! You are like beautiful mausoleums - full of dead men's bones and of foulness and corruption. You TRY TO LOOK LIKE SAINTLY MEN, but underneath those pious robes of yours are hearts besmirched with every sort of hypocrisy and sin".

Jesus is very harsh with "false advertising". It's like with the fig tree showing green leaves but no fruit. Why do we insist on judging according to outward appearance ignoring scripture which clearly says "JUDGE NO MAN AFTER THE FLESH". Well, you may ask, does not God have a "divine order" for outward experience? Yes, but that "order" is given individually not corporately. Only you can know if your outward appearance is a true manifestation of the individuality He's given you or if it's some other manifestation. His commandment to us on the subject is "JUDGE NOT" and to "judge not" we must "consider not". Not only does the Bible say that God looks not on the outside but on the inside, but it gives us no scriptural precedent for setting a standard through dress code. What it does show is variety. John the Baptist's dress code was different enough to gain scriptural reference about, and yet Jesus apparently dressed close enough to the style of the day not to get detected when he went up to one of the FEASTS. To be honest it makes me sick to write about it, because this area should be an established NON-ISSUE, otherwise it's the leaven of the Pharisees. I'm not making a statement against dress codes in general, only against dress codes that pretend to incorporate some sort of spirituality to them or discriminate in word or thought against any other outward appearance -- That is the leaven of the Pharisees -- the deception of ELITISM.

I've just shown a few ways and areas that ELITISM has affected and been a part of the Move. It's not my intent to go over every issue where ELITISM manifests itself, but rather just to show it is there. I know because I've been there and it's worked on me, though most often subconsciously. It starts with exaggerated perception of one's spiritual experience or the spiritual experience of one's MOVE and then soaks into all other areas. It's a disease and I'm still getting "cleaned" from it.

So the question comes back - "Cult or not?" Well, you make that decision for yourself. To me it's at least clear that there are many convincing similarities. However the deciding factor in whether what you're involved in is a "cult" has more to do with if you've "bought into the system" or not. "Buying into the system" begins in principle with you surrendering your "golden earrings" and snowballs from there. Not everyone in the Move has done so, because I know some of them who haven't, but the truth is most have and don't even know they have. However my hope is that after reading this section you will know the truth about yourself and move accordingly. Ignorance truly is the greatest sin, for as long as it remains IGNORANCE it goes undetected with no possibility of repentance, for it is not seen.

CHAPTER THREE

DOCTRINE: VALID GROUNDS FOR SEPARATION?

*is directly a doctrine
but no room for criticism
all about control
denies*

This is a question that will undoubtedly be raised. You may be thinking "Yes, I do disagree with much that goes on in the Move, but I think there's room for disagreement and co-habitation -- I believe I can retain "spiritual unity" with the brethren though we don't see things eye to eye. Well, let's talk about DOCTRINE as we answer this valid question. Since doctrine simply means "that which is taught" I think it should be obvious that there must be a separation point somewhere. In a technical way Lucifer's fall was simply a "doctrinal" difference. Scripture speaks of avoiding those with doctrine of vanities, of Scribes and Pharisees, of Balaam, of devils, of Nicolaitanes. II Jn. verses 7-11 tells us that "...many deceivers are entered into the world" and the need to abide "in the doctrine of Christ", further telling us in verse 10 - "If there come any unto you, and bring not THIS DOCTRINE, receive him not into your house, neither bid him GODSPEED". Verse 11 (TLB) says "If you do you will be a partner with him in his wickedness". Mt. 16:6,12 says to beware of the doctrine of the Pharisees. Beware means to be on one's guard against. I Ti. 6:3,4 (NASB) says, "If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ...he is conceited and understands nothing...". Verse 11 then says, "...flee from these things". I Ti. 4:1-6 speaks of the "latter times" when deception will abound, and how that if you will be a worthy servant (or a 'good minister' KJV) of Jesus Christ, nourished on sound doctrine you will expose such false doctrine. I think it's clear, based on scripture, that the question is not IF doctrinal difference is valid grounds for separation, but rather WHEN is doctrinal difference valid grounds for separation.

There is most definitely in the community of the overall church much division and disputing over doctrinal issues that are not valid points for disputing and division, trying to bring contention among us and to keep us from being one. That is the "leaven of the Pharisees" where things like keeping the sabbath, washing hands, fasting, and in modern times, type of music, hem length, facial hair, emphasis of holidays, etc. etc. become separation points. It is not wrong to have a personal preference, but none of these are legitimate "dividers" -- it becomes a tool of Satan if your fellowship exclusion is on the basis of any "non-central thrust" issue.

There's another item we have to address here, and that is the fact there are two types of separation and for two reasons. There's "separation of expression" and "separation of fellowship". Separation of expression is less drastic, and has to do with us leaving a particular group or church to join another, not because critical DECEPTION is present, but more perhaps because of a new emphasis God has called us into. Every church has its own "flavor" and we must know what "flavor" he has called us into. There are churches with apostolic emphasis because of apostolic leadership, prophetic emphasis because of prophetic leadership or evangelistical emphasis because of evangelistic leadership. Within the church all 5-fold

ministries should be strongly and visibly manifested, but the EMPHASIS could take on a number of different "flavors". Separation of expression is an area in which we must be careful to leave each other free and not volunteer judgments. "Unity in Spirit" very often can not take place except there be in fact a separation of expression. Abraham and Lot had to have a separation of expression to maintain "unity in Spirit". Ge. 13:6 --

"And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together, for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together".

Verse 8,

"Abram said unto Lot, let there be no strife, I pray, between me and thee...for we are brethren".

Verse 9,

"...separate thyself from me".

It's clear here Abraham is saying, "Look, Lot, we're brethren, to maintain unity in spirit we're going to have to separate". We know it was not a separation of unity in spirit, for in the next chapter Abram hears of Lot's capture and goes out and rescues him. Even in the New Testament Church we see much separation of expression required by the leaders such as Paul and Peter, Paul and Barnabas, because even as Ge. 13:6 - "the land was not able to bear them" because of the great "substance" of each one. Acts 15:31, speaking of long-time coworkers Paul and Barnabas, says,

"And the contention was so sharp between them that they departed asunder one from the other".

Scripture makes no point of making one right or the other wrong, it was just a necessary separation. Even today there are great ministries of God upon the earth who are moving in unity of spirit and purpose but yet a separation of expression. For them to attempt, in the name of unity, to "share the same land" would cause strife among them and their "herdsmen". The foot can not try to be the head, the ear can not try to be the eye (I Co. 12:14,15. The whole chapter of I Co. 12 is a tremendous demonstration of unity of spirit, yet diversity of expression and I recommend you read it in that light). As a part of the individual church there should be the many expressions yet oneness in spirit, and also in the overall church each individual church should portray the particular expression God's given them to express. No one man, church or group is going to have the "whole picture", but the "whole picture" will be completed when all members are "fitly joined together" in their particular expression and thus make up the whole. We cannot afford to exclude anyone coming with the blessing of the Lord, but each of us will have our unique expression we're called to, both in an individual way and in a corporate way. Separation of expression is not something that can be rated GOOD or BAD, it has to do with finding one's place in the body. If you sense personal frustration in developing the unique expression you feel God has called you to, you just might be called to a separation of ways, and it may not be because your present church is in "deception". Let God show you.

Now, let's look at separation of fellowship, the second type of separation. This is the separation that God requires when the doctrine of Christ has not been followed, and God reveals it as such. That's what II Jn. 10 is talking about when it says "receive them not into your house, neither bid them Godspeed". You say, "well, that's not the spirit of unity" -- look at verse 11 again, it says even to wish him well puts you as a partaker of his evil deeds. In I Ti. 1:3 Timothy is commissioned by Paul to try to stop those teaching unsound doctrine, and that is doctrine that is not "furthering the administration of God which is by faith" (I Ti. 1:4 NASB). Admittedly this issue of "separation of fellowship" is a very difficult one to judge, for soundness or unsoundness of doctrine is subjective to one's own understanding of spiritual matters. Nevertheless as potentially

faulty a method as that might sound it is the only way we can do it. That's why it's so important that we accept light from wherever and whoever it may come. The more light on a matter the more it is revealed for what it is - SOUND or UNSOUND. You put yourself in a "know-it-all" frame of mind and lose your teachability, and you no longer can accept sound instruction, which is what the word doctrine means in the original Greek. What this whole booklet's purpose is, is to shed additional light on the doctrine you're under right now, and for you to move accordingly in the new way you now perceive your doctrine based on the added "light". Yes, some will consider this undermining and subversive, but II Co. 13:8 says, "For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth". If this whole article is shaking your doctrinal foundations, put on your "golden earrings" and check out why. If there has been no practical identifiable fruit in and from your life (and knowledge is not "fruit"), then you must strongly pray about separation. God must show you if it's to be separation of expression or separation of fellowship. I believe the degree of unsoundness in doctrine that one perceives is what will dictate which separation God is requiring, so you must perceive it the way God does. Separation of fellowship does not mean you hate the people God requires you to disfellowship with, but even as a "cured" alcoholic who for his own good, and so as not to fall back into his old way of life, must avoid those who drink alcohol, so you for your own good may be called to disfellowship. Eph. 5:11 - "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them". It's not separation directed against people but rather separation against a system and unfruitful works. Amos 3:3 says, "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" No way. The Move boasts of having no official doctrine and sees it as some great spiritual thing to be desired. We had a ministry of the Move come through this week to ask us how we could leave the Move based on doctrinal difference since the Move has no official "Move" doctrine. Admitting no official doctrine particularly as the thrust of their purpose is in principle worse than unsound doctrine, for it creates a wandering, divided people with no direction. "Where there is no vision the people perish" (Prov. 29:18). Mt. 6:22 says that your eye must be single, that your whole body be full of light. There must be an official single thrust, vision, even for unsound doctrine to be effective. So "no official doctrine" by any way of looking at it is not only not the "freedom" it's perceived to be but ignorance of the highest degree, for it's predestined to fail by its lack of purpose. Of course, on the other hand, the truth is that the Move has many unofficial "official" doctrines. If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, I don't need someone to officially admit it's a duck to know it's a duck. Even in our natural laws if a man and a woman live together long enough, whether they ever "officially" get married or admit to being married, they are considered married. Tradition is not always an official doctrine that continues to be handed down because it is openly admitted and endorsed. Everything we do is influenced by some type of doctrine even if it's a "no official doctrine" doctrine. My point is this, the Move relishes the fact it cannot be pinned down on most issues of doctrinal debate, and it can leave you feeling helpless in fighting the obvious inconsistencies that go on within the infrastructure. I'm encouraging those within the Move to determine what the Move's "official" doctrine is, based on its manifestation. As I said, if it looks, walks and quacks like a duck, go ahead and officially label it a duck. This will help you very much in determining what your reaction to it should be. Officially the Move has no headquarters. There is no admitted hierarchy or "official" recognized leader, but if I were to ask any of you in the Move to name the "big three" and the "chief among the three", would ANY of you have any trouble giving me the answer? Once again I say if it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck -- it's a duck. They even refer to each other as FATHER ministry, those immediately below them as travelling ministry, and the leaders below them as ELDERS. Guess what "hierarchy" means? -- "a graded system of leadership". Now does it look, walk and talk like a hierarchy to you? The point is not whether any of these things such as central headquarters

or spiritual hierarchy are necessarily wrong. I'm merely establishing my point that the Move is filled with inconsistencies as far as what it officially stands for and claims to be, and what it in practice proves itself to be. See, for many of you it is a "big deal" even on these two issues because to accept the above-mentioned over the official statement would qualify the Move as a denomination!, an absolutely "abominable" word in Move circles. The Move claims no official name. Did anybody have any trouble knowing what I was talking about when I said the Move? What does that show you? You are the Move despite official claims to the contrary. As I mentioned in another section, you on the farms are officially "free to be led by the Spirit" -- in practice you're clearly not, so that makes you in reality "one not free to be led by the Spirit". The list is unending, but you figure them out on your own -- it doesn't even take much discernment, just honesty. What I'm saying is this -- let's call a spade a spade. Are you built upon sound doctrine? Find out not what's claimed as doctrine but by what practice reveals is in fact the doctrine. If leaders claim to believe in healings and in the furthering of the gifts of the Spirit, but yet no healings or furtherance in gifts are apparent, guess what? They don't in fact believe in healings and in furtherance of the gifts. Legalism has been openly denounced and proclaimed as wicked and bondage by many Move leaders, yet if moustaches, beards, ladies in pants, sports, TV's, etc.etc. are banned as sinful, what does that show you in truth about the existence of legalism? I tell you legalism is as rampant in the Move as it was with the Pharisees in Jesus' days, and He hates it just as much today as He did then. Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees! Understand the core of legalism -- attempting to serve God through a sacrifice that he not only doesn't require, but that's an abomination to Him, for it stands as an idol in place of the genuine (See Prov. 15:8 and 21:27). "Death to self" even is not to be seen as a sacrifice. It's an identification. You see, the extreme danger of legalism is it hardens the heart. There's one easy way to know whether you're under legalism or not, and it has to do with the level of sensitivity you have towards the wounded, the hurt, the poor, the afflicted, those who "blow it". Check Jesus' first response to all the above, including prostitutes and adulteresses, and its COMPASSION. In Mt. 9:13 and Mt. 12:7 (NASB) Jesus once again being confronted because either He or His disciples "broke the order", says

"Go find out what this means, I desire compassion and not a sacrifice."

Since I don't want to get way off the subject I challenge you to do the same thing. Take inventory of yourself and of the "system" or "order" you're a part of -- if the heartbeat of compassion is not noticeably present, take heed; for everything Jesus said to the Pharisees applies to you and your group. Ps. 51:16, David speaks,

"for thou desirest not sacrifice, else would I give it.
Thou art not pleased with burnt offering".

Verse 17 -

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken
and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise".

Yes, I realize these scriptures are "old hat" to those in the Move. It is strongly preached that "it's the heart God's interested in", but the proper emphasis usually then goes astray. For the messages on "the heart" invariably lead to the need for "purity" and "holiness" as part of "the heart" God is looking for and then the emphasis of the word does a complete U-turn, for this "holiness" they speak of becomes outward behavior modification as they define it, and when that becomes the goal you're back in legalism and far away from a pure heart. Scripture is clear as far as exactly what kind of heart God is looking for, and what He views as a pure heart. A broken, contrite heart, a heart of mercy and compassion, the heart Jesus showed while here on earth.

Yes, this is still the subject of "doctrine". This is the doctrine where Jesus drew the line and said, "stay away from it", "beware of it", "it's dangerous", a little of it leaveneth the whole lump. Jesus had compassion, the Pharisees said, "I thank you God, I'm not like them". That sums up the "heart" difference. Doctrine is very important. Jesus and the Pharisees both worshipped and gave allegiance to God -- unsound doctrine caused the difference from its proper manifestation in Jesus Christ to the way it was expressed through the Pharisees. Sincerity was just as strong on both sides. The difference was Jesus worshipped "in spirit and IN TRUTH". That is why sound doctrinal foundation is so important - all the sincerity in the world won't make up for error and mixture. Yes, there are many varied "opinions" on just what is sound doctrine. Everybody claims to have it, of course, for it would be rather stupid and self-defeating not to think you have it. I want to challenge you to go about proving sound doctrine the only way possible. Use your "golden earrings" -- take what you've heard and bring it to the Lord. Check it out in the light of scripture. Sound doctrine liberates you, it softens the heart. Unsound doctrine binds you and condemns you -- even if all the words appear to make sense there's always that accompanying inner disturbance that senses bondage. Truth always liberates you and frees your spirit. Most unsound doctrine is and will be backed scripturally -- that's what gives it its strong deluding power. Remember even Satan used scripture to try to deceive Jesus. It may be in fact Satan's most accomplished tool for his success in deceiving Christians. He'll push a scripture out of the context of all other scriptures on the particular subject, somebody picks up on it and deceives thousands. A prime example is the scripture we mentioned that Sam Fife used as a basis for his teaching on the ending of natural relationships. Luke 14:26 -

"If any man come unto me and HATE NOT his father and mother and wife and children..."

If all other scriptures on family relationships are not used as background for this scripture, though based on scripture you can be led off on some dangerous tangent of UNSOUND DOCTRINE. That is why "no scripture is of any private interpretation" (I Pe. 1:20). In the temptation on the mount Jesus went through in Mt. 4, if He had been easily convinced by Satan's scripture-quoting ability He'd have jumped off the temple pinnacle, and likely killed himself. So you see, sound doctrine is very important. Scripturally it must be the conglomerate view on the subject, it must pass the "golden earring" test, and ultimately it must keep your heart tender, broken, contrite, and compassionate before God. The question clearly becomes, not "IF doctrinal difference is valid grounds for separation? but "WHEN does doctrinal difference become valid grounds for separation? Once again I challenge you to find out on your own.

CHAPTER FOUR

CURSED BY ASSOCIATION?

This is a very important question to consider for each one of you. Does it matter whether the people you're presently with are that much "on target" or as long as your heart relationship is right with God is that ENOUGH? Can you have done everything rightly in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and still find yourself snake-bit and cursed? i.e., Can you suffer from someone else's sin? Let's look in Joshua 7. Verse 1 -

"But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah of the tribe of JUDAH took of the accursed thing and the anger of the Lord was kindled against the children of Israel."

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Achan sins, and God is angry at all Israel. In the next couple of verses we see that Joshua sends only a couple thousand soldiers to smite Ai for they were a "weak country". Verse 4b -

"and they fled before the men of Ai".

Verse 5 -

"And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them from before the gate even unto Sheberim and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted and became as water".

Verse 6 -

"And Joshua rent his clothes...he and the elders of Israel and put dust upon their heads".

In the next couple of verses Joshua asks, Lord, why? How can this happen? Verse 11 -

"God answers, Israel hath sinned and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing..."

Verse 12 -

"Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies because THEY WERE ACCURSED: Neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you".

Verse 13 -

"O Israel, thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you".

As the chapter progresses, Achan gets pointed out as the "troubler" of Israel, the "accursed thing" gets dealt with and Joshua 8:1 follows with,

"And the Lord said unto Joshua, Fear not, neither be thou dismayed: take all the people of war with thee and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the King of Ai, and his people and his city and his land".

Let's look now in Numbers 16. Korah leads a rebellion against Moses, enraging the Lord. Verses 21-24-

"Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment. And they fell upon their faces, and said, O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh. SHALL ONE MAN SIN, AND WILT THOU BE WROTH WITH ALL THE CONGREGATION? And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying: Speak unto the congregation, saying, Get you up from about the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. And Moses rose up and went unto Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. And he spake unto the congregation saying, Depart I pray you from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs LEST YE BE CONSUMED IN ALL THEIR SINS".

Later in Israel when David was King, we see thousands of Israelites were slain by the angel of the Lord for DAVID'S SIN of numbering the people. There are also at least 10 scriptures that mention Jeroboam, King of Israel, "who did sin and who made Israel to sin". So we see that although from scripture alone we may not get a completely clear picture on when our brother's sin affects us, it is quite clear that at least some time there is a connection. There especially seems

to be an inseparable connection when it comes to leadership. We already mentioned David and Jeroboam, but if in fact we look at all the Kings of Israel and Judah we find a very clear pattern -- if the King was "good" the people are under his victory and blessing, and if he's "bad" they come under the same punishment he comes under. I'm not saying leadership can have a relationship for you, neither can their lack of "relationship" necessarily void your personal relationship with God. However your personal relationship aside, much of the blessing and cursing particularly upon your NATURAL life can be a direct result from your "covering" and the level of blessing or cursing that's upon them. My belief is this, if you find yourself apparently "snake bit" particularly in the areas of physical infirmities and in the meeting of your natural needs there is a very good chance that it has something to do with the corporate expression you're involved in. Of course if there is undealt with sin in your life you can expect to reap accordingly, and you may also experience "trials" as the "testing of your faith" from time to time. However, if there appears to be an unending streak of "bad luck" and "bad breaks" upon you or your family's life, you may be under either a "cursed" "covering" or possibly under no actual "covering" at all. This particular issue is not a clear-cut black and white issue, but if you take it before God He may reveal it clearly to you as BLACK or WHITE. One reason it's not so clear is that God often does, in His perfect will, keep people under a "cursed" structure and yet blesses them in all areas. What makes the exception is to know a specific purpose God has for you in the confines of that "cursed" structure, which then allows God to provide himself as "a covering within a covering". That's the story of Joseph in Egypt and later on the children of Israel in the land of Goshen. There was no impact from the curse being levied on the overall structure for within the cursed structure God provided himself a covering within a covering for his people.

I will not beat around the bush in my point. I believe the Move structure is not under God's blessing and for a couple of reasons. Number one, its foundation was conceived in mixture at best, and number two, in its practical outworking it is so highly legalistic it chokes out FAITH in God. Furthermore, from the "hierarchical covering" there's an unbending unwillingness to firstly admit error, secondly publicly confess it, and thirdly repent of having gone the wrong way. Some will even admit past error in personal and overall doctrine and theology, but think that it's enough to just have "left" that error behind and to "go on". Let it be known that God wipes no sin off the slate no matter how long ago it happened except through confession and repentance. Hundreds and maybe thousands of people have been hurt and wounded by implementation of much of Sam Fife's teachings, yet no one in high leadership seems to hear the screams of the blood of the innocents that remains uncovered until confession and repentance cover it. Scripture says it would be better that a millstone were tied to one's neck than for unconfessed wounding to take place. I understand not wanting to open a "can of worms", and not uncovering particularly a deceased brother's "nakedness", but the overriding truth is this -- all past unconfessed error is still present day guilt and sin. Even worse, when that error is a foundational error, everything built upon it is in some way affected by that foundational error. Confession and repentance are the only ways to eradicate foundational error, and apart from them there is NO healing of the root no matter how many years go by. I hope you all can realize how extremely important this issue is. You see, a wrong foundation is one of the easiest things to hide -- UNTIL THE TIME OF TESTING comes. Luke 12:2 says:

"For there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed:
neither hid that shall not be known".

Luke 6:46-49 shows us that the flood reveals the true or false foundations. The house may look similar to one founded on the rock, but if it's not, it will be swept away, come flood time. Know your foundation. Will it stand the test? How many people from the Move do you know who were totally "committed" and "sold out to the message", whose Move roots were found wanting when the "big" test came?

Their foundation was revealed for what it was. Thank God some have been able to restructure their foundation with a relatively small price to pay, but there have been many others who, excepting grace, may be forever disillusioned. Do your soul-searching now. I could give you names and stories of many of those who used to be with the Move. Their story is that until "the flood" came, usually in the form of family turmoil (particularly through growing teens), or an "unexplainable" physical illness, that there was no questioning or examining the foundation as well as the structure of what they were involved in. Taking inventory of one's personal life and direction, and one's corporate "vehicle" is not just a good idea but a must.

Most of you who are or have been associated in any way with the Move know that my father is Jack Enlow, a ministry for over 20 years with the Move, and that he, here in the summer of '86 left the Move, being led out almost supernaturally by the Lord. I am not here to write his testimony or his reasons for leaving but to relate a part of the story about the PARKINSON'S DISEASE that has attacked his physical body in the last couple of years.

It was about 3 or 4 years ago that one day in my spirit (that is the only way I know how to explain it) I suddenly felt that there was as a "death sentence" over my father's life. I really don't know how else to describe it, but in my mind I saw as a "cloud of death" over my father. It was shortly after this that my father was diagnosed as having PARKINSON'S DISEASE. Ever since my father was diagnosed as having Parkinson's Disease I felt there was a strong tie-in between his connection with the Move and this disease. Parkinson's disease is basically a disease that attacks the balance of the body. When it is in effect, the part of the brain that produces rhythm, balance and coordination is shut off. I felt that even in the Spirit this had been taking place in my father. James 1:8 says, "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways", and my father, though disagreeing with essential doctrinal issues and foundations of the Move for years, had attempted to walk WITH the ministry as one creating a subconscious double-mindedness, that is a direct attributable cause of spiritual and natural Parkinson's disease. Based on all this, I now felt there was a strong connection between this death sentence on my father and his being under the "covering" of the Move. In my spirit I knew he would die should he not get out -- it was that clear. However, I could not tell him or my mother what I felt for a couple of reasons. Number one, I knew that after so many years in the Move that the "mind-set lock" I mentioned earlier in this book had developed, and argument almost never breaks it. Number two, if my parents were not going to leave the covering and structure of the Move anyway, my telling him there was a "death sentence" over him if they didn't leave would have been an erosion of the personal support he needed at the time. I also was only 90% sure that's what God was saying, not being sure if the "death sentence" was going to be lifted even if they left the "covering" of the Move. I am now 100% sure that's what God was saying, for the day my dad told me they were definitely leaving the Move, for the first time I felt that "cloud" lift and knew he was no longer under that "death sentence". I now finally believe my dad is in the position to receive his complete healing that he in unwavering faith has looked for.

Further confirmation that my parents needed to leave this "covering" came about a year ago when one of the local prophetesses shared with me a word for my father that she received while in intense intercession for him. She said that in her intercession she began to cry out to God, "Lord, why isn't brother Jack getting healed?" She knew there were hundreds all over the world praying daily for my father and didn't understand why the heavens seemed "brazen" with no response. As she was in deep, intense prayer, and I emphasize that point, for the sister is a genuine intercessor in the true sense of the word, the Lord spoke to her as she describes it in a very clear word. The gist of the word was this -- "Yes, I want brother Jack to be completely whole too, but his healing cannot take place until there is a major work of confession and repentance in the leaders of the Move.

God went on to share with her some specific areas of past misdoings and present attitudes. Now you would have to know this sister to understand the tremendous improbability of this being a product of her mental reasoning. She is definitely not noted for "over discerning" people, being rather a very simple and positive servant of God, known for her strong respect and devotion to prevailing authority. She shared the word with my father, and he took it before the ministry of the Move. Incredibly the "FATHER MINISTRY" deemed the source "religious spirits". I don't want to level out a harsh judgment on anyone, but scripture clearly says that attributing the work or word of God to Satan is BLASPHEMY (Mt. 12:24-31) and that is not my judgment, but judgment in the light of scripture.

Once all these events took place I was becoming further convinced of what God had shown me. In the word God gave this sister, it was made clear that my father's blessing or cursing was directly related to those he ASSOCIATED with. I knew as soon as the word came out there were 3 clear options -- either number one, the leaders heed the word of God, number two, they don't, my father not get healed, or number three, my father get out of the "cursed" association and put himself in a possible position of blessing. As I said earlier, in almost a supernatural way the Lord was able to lead my parents to the third option.

Everyone of you must take "inventory" of where you are in the Spirit and naturally. It is an area of many variables but take it before God. If you appear to be "snake bitten" either naturally or spiritually you must find out why -- it might eventually mean your life. Is God judging specific sin in you? Is He testing you, or are you cursed by association? Are the "holes" in your "covering" leaving you unduly exposed? Is your "corporate vehicle" as a "corporate vehicle" in actual rebellion to God. I'm challenging YOU to find out for yourself. Scripture is very high on "taking inventory" and there's nothing "divisive" or "subversive" about it. I Co. 3:10 tells us to "take heed" how we build upon the foundation, verse 13 further stating,

"Every man's work shall be made manifest, for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire: and the fire shall test every man's work of what sort it is".

And II Peter 1:10 --

"Wherefore the rather, brethren, GIVE DILIGENCE to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things YE SHALL NEVER FALL" (KJV), or as the Living Bible says it,

"So dear brothers, work hard to prove that you are really among those God has called and chosen, and then you will never stumble or fall away."

I want to close this chapter with that challenge. Is there evidence that you're really among those God has called and chosen? If not, find out why you're still where you are, and be honest with yourself and with God. I believe the Lord is going to make you even more accountable once you've read this book, and will increase your "cursing" if you're in the wrong place, and increase your "blessing" if you're in the right place. Once again let's put on the "golden earrings" and go before God.

CHAPTER FIVE

TO THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT

This chapter is written for those who have already left the Move, particularly those who left farms where the Move is more clearly defined.

I personally have had much interaction with many of you, particularly the young people, and it's very often a sad story. Of course there are usually either one of two reasons why you left. Either number one, even in your own heart it was out of rebellion, or number two, God clearly, through sometimes traumatic circumstances, showed you that you were in a deceived structure and led you out. For some of you who left out of admitted REBELLION, it may have been soon made clear to you that it was God leading you out all along, although at the time some of your rebellion was even directed towards Him. It seems the first question that I've heard over and over and over from those who left is a self-question, "How could we have stayed there so long?" But it's usually worded in stronger terminology, such as "How could we be so stupid...?". "How could we be so blind?" etc. etc. This is a very important question for you to deal with. Very important. I've seen some so beat down by the guilt and bitterness of the total "wasted experience" that they never go on from there. You've got to learn to look at your whole experience from a wholly different perspective than you have. Think of yourself as a hostage carried away by the deceiver and now rescued. You noticed that none of the Iranian hostages' first reaction was, "I can't believe all this time I've wasted", but rather just extreme joy and gratitude to be FREE. You need to make that your first priority. Instead of repeated questions of "God, I don't understand your purpose for me "wasting" all those years?", be grateful, be thankful He rescued you. You say, "you don't understand, I CHOSE to go that way and that even after praying about it, I can't just excuse myself as having been KIDNAPPED, and also because of MY CHOICE many other people, my family, had to go through unnecessary circumstances". The big thing you better come to grips with is you must forgive yourself. First, you must come before the Lord, confess that somewhere along the way you went astray, repent and accept His forgiveness. But if you can't forgive yourself then accepting his forgiveness will mean nothing to you. That's why you've got to get a new perspective on this whole issue. Yes, you "blew it", yes, other people may have suffered because of your decision and yes, you must ask for forgiveness from those people also, but you've got to get over the tremendous pain of disillusionment by countering it with thankfulness for now being FREE. As with my father it's like having a "death sentence" on you and then having it taken away. Be thankful. Be thankful. Be thankful.

If you can get to this thankful stage you're now more clearmindedly able to reason -- was it really all a waste? I spent 6 years on a Move farm in Peru, South America, that I at one time considered a total waste. I had hepatitis twice, scarlet fever, rheumatic fever (I was in bed 5 months with this, had much swelling and pain in all my joints, and had no medicine or pain pills, dropping to 104 lbs.) a form of rheumatoid arthritis which caused me to limp on one leg for a year and then moved to my other leg for another 10 months leaving me with a crooked spine and a short leg -- and those are just the major illnesses I had. Worst of all I had no choice of being there for I was under age, so I fought the system the whole time. When I had hepatitis I had 14 elders come visit me in my room and tell me I needed to be an "overcomer" and "walk out" my healing (some even suggested I was faking hepatitis as some form of rebellion against them!). The next day I got up to "walk out" my healing and went out and did the hardest available work at the time on the farm. Because I did not rest, which is the absolute requirement, even for weeks after the symptoms disappeared, I messed my liver all up. I suffered from combination liver and head aches for years, though the Lord has miraculously healed me over a period of time. (By the way, I think it was 7 of those elders that within the next month had a more severe case of hepatitis with none of them able to "WALK IT OUT").

I mean, I could really get into a multiple of incredible "tribulations" that I personally went through, but I think you get the idea. As many of you have experienced it's bad enough to have to go through the "tribulations", but in the atmosphere of no compassion where it's blamed on you and your sins -- that makes it that much more difficult. As I've said before, my desire is not to "uncover" people --

most every elder on that farm knows they made serious blunders and in fact several are serving the Lord in churches outside the Move, so I'm definitely not indicting them. My point is they were not 6 of the best years of my life. If I had a choice of going through it again I would never do it. Nevertheless, I can without wavering say, "I'm glad I went through that 6 year experience" (past tense). For the good memories in between the "horror stories" and for all the abundant lessons God taught me through that experience I can only be thankful, and I am very sincere. One thing the Lord has clearly shown me is the value of lessons on what NOT TO DO. Don't ever underestimate your future need on knowing what not to get involved in or what slant of the word is not of God. Do you realize that Israel's whole tenure of wandering in the wilderness was learning lessons on WHAT NOT TO DO? Sometimes the only way to know God's will is through deductive reasoning. (That's apparently how Samuel anointed David). For many of you the greatest lessons you learned may not be what you learned to do but what you learned not to do, so don't despise it. You've learned not to trust MAN. You've learned to recognize all types of religious manipulations. You've seen legalism face to face and the fruit it brings forth. These things are all potential traps in any religious expression and it is invaluable to know what expressions to avoid.

Then there's the downside of this increased ability to discern and from the knowledge that even sincere men cannot be blindly trusted. It's hypersensitivity and judgmentalism. The hypersensitivity needs to be dealt with or you'll never ever accept true spiritual authority because of your anticipation of being dominated. Violated trust is one of the toughest things to recuperate from, and all of us who've left the Move have suffered from it in varying degrees, depending on how "sold out" we were to the message and the ministry. I am presently going to a church with a strong emphasis on Spiritual Authority, and because of my past, every time the subject is brought up my "alarm system" goes off until it is fully explained in its true scriptural balance and then I relax. There is a "fine line" between being under Spiritual Authority and "blind submission", but one is right and one is wrong. We've already spent some time speaking of the dangers of giving up one's "golden earrings", but as long as we ourselves know we've kept them on, following anyone's counsel, advice or authority is not only safe but healthy.

Trust must be restored and if we follow some basic scripture guidelines an expression of trust can be facilitated. I Th. 5:12 -

"And we beseech you brethren TO KNOW THEM who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you".

"Looking before leaping" should by now be firmly built in you, but you must be careful of the tendency to only look. KNOW THEM who would be your "covering". Find out their experiential roots with the Lord, check out the doctrinal soundness of their THRUST. Overcome tendencies of getting into judgments of side issues that don't matter. Find out where in your geographical area you feel the most anointing and life, and go there. Once you're sure about soundness of their THRUST message which is the church's vision, dive in. Find some way of being a part of what God's doing. Most churches with a proper vision have many opportunities for ministry. Seek to get involved. At present there is the greatest revival going on in the history of the church. World wide there are an estimated 80,000 new converts daily, and an estimated 1,600 new churches every week. Those are amazing numbers and they don't include figures from China where the greatest revival appears to be taking place with 30,000 new converts daily with a conservative estimate of 50,000,000 total Christians. There are an estimated 170,000,000 classified as pentecostal-charismatics worldwide and rapidly increasing. After all the sacrifices you made in time past for a movement that did not succeed, don't get caught "licking wounds" too long when you could be a part of a phenomenal genuine movement of the Spirit.

Trust not only in others must be restored but trust in yourself. The word from the Move had a way of destroying even by design self-esteem, confidence, dignity. You were taught and with "scriptural" foundation, to doubt and mistrust every personal emphasis, feeling, witness, and basically your whole decision-making pro-

cess, because "Every man's way is right in his own eyes" and "The heart is deceitful above all things, who can know it". If you can't read between the lines, what they're saying is "you can't hear from God". I tell you not only CAN you but you MUST, and we've already had an entire chapter on that. You must get over the great fear of "missing it" because not only probably will you but definitely you will "miss it". I read somewhere, "Liberty to err is the essence of Christian freedom". Take the example of babies, if they let fear of falling dominate them they'd never learn to walk. Within them and within us is a built-in goal to WALK. Let's not let fear of failure keep us back. Remember, "a righteous man falleth seven times yet he rises again" (Prov. 24:16). Righteousness has to do with whether you continue to get up, not whether you fall down or not. The amount of times that happens may or may not change but it doesn't matter because scripture is clear that quantity of mistakes has nothing to do with the criteria for serving God. What scripture does say in Ro. 14 after discussing a variety of "doubtful disputations" is, "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (v.5). Verse 6 goes on to basically say that some issues one way or the other may not make that much difference, but rather it's whether we do it unto the Lord. In verse 14 Paul says, "I know and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself, but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean". These scriptures are there to encourage us to move in confidence, serving God "in a pure conscience". All the scriptures on having "a good conscience before God" are saying just that -- step out in confidence and boldness, being fully persuaded in your own mind. "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways". If you move on something while yet teetering in your mind between "I think I should do this" and "but I'm probably missing it", not only will you be "unstable in all your ways", but you'll be moving in a "defiled conscience", which automatically makes it sin. Move in confidence, yes, of course having the humility to realize you could be missing it, but not letting that affect your ability to be "fully persuaded". Recognize the identity of who you are in Christ and move in the self-esteem and dignity He gives you based on the revelation of that. If God says, "Love your neighbor as YOURSELF", it would seem clear that He intends for you first to love yourself. Since you can't really love yourself until you see yourself identified with Christ, you realize in turn that's the very way you "love your neighbor", by identifying him with Christ. Every time you take "inventory" you need to be able to say, "Lord, I'm really excited about what you're doing in ME". "Yes, we need to work on a couple things in me, but overall I'm excited about what you're doing. And Lord, I'm also confident that this good work you've begun in me, you're going to finish". (see Phil. 1:6).

I suppose the most "tragic" area of those who have left the Move is with many of the young people. I know many, many of them who upon leaving have just fallen into a moral abyss. They've gotten involved in heavy drugs, alcohol, illicit sex, and some have spent time in jail for various reasons. Of course much of the ministry's position is, "see, that's what happens when you leave the "true walk". God gives you over to a reprobate mind". The truth of what happens is that their perspective of God is so distorted that thinking about getting right with Him is so confusing, they no longer even want to think about Him. They've grown up under a steady diet of "You're fighting God", and like anything that's repeated enough, it becomes true. Most of them have gone through so many cycles of repenting from bad behavior to good behavior, then failing again, that they refuse to put themselves once again under the humiliation and frustration of that cycle. Repentance has been so misportrayed to them that they've become calloused to repentance. To them it means "try to be good", and that has totally exhausted them and frustrated them, as I already stated. There are also many of the young people that haven't gotten involved in a lot of out and out sinful pleasures. They're sort of locked in a state of neutral. They appear not to be "backing up", and they're obviously not going forward. They're being neither real good or real bad -- just sort of average. These in a way are the hardest for God to get through

because there's no obvious awareness of sin. They appear to have a "slumbering spirit" sort of having settled on being "average". Most go to church every once in a while, not to get involved, but to prove to their conscience that they're not fighting God. Because the way they perceive God is heavily influenced by the way it was "drummed" into them, they have almost a continual feeling that God is looking over their shoulder waiting to "get them". That is why they don't often get heavily carried away, and if or when they do, they make sure to make it to the next meeting or to do something considered "spiritual" to appease their conscience. Most of them have a subconscious if not conscious feeling of running from God. Their God is a God of judgment -- harsh and demanding, with punishment the only way He shows His love. They do view Him as a Holy God and because He's so Holy they'd rather not deal with Him because they've already gone through a lifetime of failure in that area. Many of the most outspoken against the Move structure and system suffer the most from GUILT. They're so confused that subconsciously they still feel they left an ELITE group that they just could not "measure up to" because of their lack. It's the I BLAME YOU but I FEEL GUILTY syndrome, not realizing that much of the "blaming" was in fact healthy discernment.

I want to say a few things to all you young people, many who are my personal friends. I've already realized that there are no magic words, I can say to offset by themselves all the years of your Move experience. I've found in myself an inadequacy to properly "impact" those of you I have personal contact with. There's such a need of a lasting supernatural encounter that there's no groundwork for discussing "the Lord". It's embedded in your system to despise "religiosity", which is commendable, but most of you can't separate between "religiosity" and God. You consciously despise "religiosity" but subconsciously still believe that that's how God is, and how "true" Christians are supposed to be. That's the confusion in your mind that causes you to be "lukewarm". There's a built-in and cultivated desire to serve God but an accompanying aversion because of your perspective of what's godly -- to you "religious". The most important aspect of God for you to know is His "COMPASSION". You can be told all about the anger of God and the judgment of God, but the only scriptural example of what His reactions would be, were He on earth as a man, is Jesus. Jesus was not just the "nice part" of God. Col. 2:9 says that in Him was the FULLNESS of the Godhead bodily. All of you need to go read the Gospels -- another thing the Move does very little of -- and become more acquainted with the Jesus of the Bible. He loves people. His FIRST response to hurting, wounded, or even people caught in sin is mercy. It's in his heart to redeem and to restore. The only people not able to partake of his goodness were the performance oriented. The Pharisees with their immaculate behavior brought the harshest words ever from the mouth of Jesus. He doesn't want your behavior. He wants your heart. Even if that changes your behavior, for you to notice it, is to still be deceived about where your service comes from. Commit yourself to Christ at whatever level you are. He'll take you to the following levels.

Many of you young people think you've gone too far into sin to be forgiven, but don't believe it. Not only can you be forgiven, but you can be fully restored unto purity in the sight of the Lord. Because of the undue emphasis on error-less Christianity, which is unscriptural, some of you feel you'll always be tainted goods, but I tell you that does not have to be. Let's take a new look at the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15. Of course most everyone is familiar with the story. There are two sons and the younger son asks for his "portion of goods", takes off and "wasted his substance with riotous living". When he was out of everything he got so hungry that he was even craving for pig food. Let's pick up reading in verses 17 through 24 -

"And 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! I will arise and go to my father and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose and came to his father. But when

he was yet a great way away, his father saw him, and had compassion and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And 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. But 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. And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it: and let us eat and be merry. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry!.

Now you need to follow this closely because it is probably the clearest demonstration of the heart of God towards all of us. Like the prodigal son we find ourselves so often "in sin" and out of fellowship with the Father. The time of "misery" each of us will go through before we turn back to him varies, but we're eventually confronted with the need of peace of mind. As we begin to make that slow turn towards the Father we often feel so dirty and shamed that we prepare a speech even as the prodigal son did -- "Father, I'm no longer worthy to be your son, make me as one of your servants." We're saying, "God, right now we can't have that close Father-son relationship because I'm all messy and dirty, but if you'll just let me be your servant until I get myself "cleaned up" and "straightened out" then maybe once again I can earn that place of close relationship". Well, the prodigal son rehearsed this speech on his unworthiness and in v. 21 after meeting back with his Father he begins his speech -- "...I am no more worthy to be called thy son." He never gets any further than that because the Father interrupts his carefully pre-planned speech and in v. 22 says, "Bring the best robe...". God doesn't want to hear about all your unworthiness or all your promises for "straightening out". He doesn't want to hear how you're going to read your Bible more, pray more, and behave better. Once you've made the turn toward him saying, "Father, I have sinned", you've done all the penitence you need to do. He doesn't want to hear how you can't be close to Him anymore, but His word is, "Bring the best robe". You see, that's His righteousness -- our telling Him all the things we're going to do and sacrifice are just attempts to further our righteousness. Is. 64:6 says -- "...all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags". This is a choice we have every time we find ourselves in the misery of sin, and for some it might be daily. Will we come before God in repentance and allow Him to cleanse us and clothe us and thus restore us to the close Father-son relationship, or will we take our natural tendency to not recognize how good God is by trying to behave better first as the means of some day earning that close relationship? Your proper understanding of how good God is and how to avail yourself of that goodness will be the difference between living a defeated Christian life and a victorious Christian life. In Luke 4:18 Jesus says,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance of sight to the blind; to set at liberty them that are bruised". There's the heart of God -- deliverance, restoration, healing, redemption. If you will understand the depth of the compassion that He exudes you will turn to Him every time you're aware of him in your life. It won't be a painful experience, but, as with the prodigal son, a joyful experience. There's a party in heaven every time you say, "Father, here I am, I've messed up again, cleanse me, clothe me with your righteousness. I come to you as your son". It is so important that you learn that you can't work your way back to Jesus through better behavior. It's the constant turning to Jesus that will ultimately affect your behavior, but never use behavior as a spiritual yardstick, it's too inconsistent. Sometimes it's accurate, sometimes it's not. Just look at the elder brother in the rest of chapter 15. He was angry. He could not understand a party and celebration for this terribly behaved brother who had "devoured his living with harlots" (v. 30). His spiritual

"yardstick" was behavior and v. 29 shows that most clearly. Speaking to his father,

"Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither disobeyed I at any time thy commandment and yet thou never gavest me a kid that I might make merry with my friends".

Don't you get the feeling he'd have made a good Pharisee? Do you see the hardness in his heart despite all the good behavior, because he's never had those encounters with his father's mercy and compassion? The elder brother's "performance" mentality is dangerous. V. 28 says "he...would not go in" and even after his father entreated him we are left with the impression this older son was going to miss the FEAST. I won't over-analyze what "missing the feast" is all about but under any analogy he was going to miss a blessing for his ignorance of the grace of God. We know no positive comment is ultimately made about this elder brother.

A passage of scripture that further demonstrates this aspect of the compassion and grace of God is the story of the woman caught in adultery. It's in John 8 and we don't need to look at it for it's very familiar. All I want to take notice of are the three statements of Jesus throughout the whole ordeal. First thing he said was "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her". The second thing he said was, "Woman, where are those thine accusers? did no man condemn thee?". And the third thing was, "Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more". Did you ever wonder what Jesus' final words to her would be if this whole scenario repeated itself say the next day? and the day after? I did, so I asked the Lord, and He said, "Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more". I said, "Lord, couldn't this eventually lead to abuse?". He said loudly and clearly, "Do you despise the riches of my goodness and forbearance and longsuffering: not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" (Rom. 2:4). Do you get it? His mercy endureth forever. If you can somehow get in His presence whether you're dragged there or not, He's going to show you His goodness. It's when you're not in His presence -- usually from hiding, that there's guilt, condemnation and misery.

Are you beginning to get a better perspective of God? He's nice. Do you realize God can't even begin to chastise and discipline you until He is made real to you as the God of love and compassion? He has no groundwork laid for you to understand His discipline until you first know His unconditional love. Don't let anybody talk you or preach you out of believing His love is unconditional. Apart from unconditional love as the foundational structure of Christianity the Pharisees were right. We've had ministers in the Move to basically say that the belief in unconditional love is the sissy way out. It might be, but scripture says that often when I feel like a spiritual "sissy" is when He's strong. If one is a "sissy" for needing Jesus' mercy and grace then apparently the other option is not to need Him. There are ministers in the Move that almost literally get sick every time someone tells the people "GOD LOVES YOU". They're tired of the "sweet Jesus" syndrome. They sound really spiritually tough saying everybody knows "God loves you", the real issue is "do you love God"? and that it's time to prove it. Well, that sounds creditable, but I Jn. 4:10 says, "Herein is love, NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD BUT THAT HE LOVED US...". You've got to get this. Once you get into proving love you're back into the "performance" standard. Also in "proving love" you're having to attempt to drum up your love for Him, when He's wanting a reciprocation of His love in you for Him. You see, Our love cannot mix with His love -- it's like trying to mix water and oil, there's no adhesion. It's impossible. How's the only way His love can FILL US? By experiencing His love towards us. There's a tremendous difference between knowing Jesus loves you and experiencing Jesus loves you. Yes, everybody knows Jesus loves them -- the Bible says so, the preacher says so. He's Jesus, that's what He's supposed to do -- when you experience Jesus' love it's much more than fact, it's life-changing, it softens your heart. It causes love to automatically reciprocate. The adulterous woman and the prodigal son probably both knew that Jesus loved them -- what caused the impact

though was experiencing His love. The greatest need in my life is not proving to God I love Him, it's experiencing His love for me. The more I experience His love, the more I love Him and you also, as a matter of fact.

If it seems I've left the theme of those who have left, I have not. This is the central issue for those of you who find yourselves in a spiritual "daze". Most of it had to do with a misportrayal of Jesus, God and Love that you've spiritually "grown up" under. It's not an all or nothing proposition as spiritual as that may sound. You come back to Him at whatever level you're at, let Him cleanse and robe you, and make a commitment -- not to be good -- but to come back to Him everytime you fail and let Him show more goodness to you. This is experiencing His love and you cannot experience the Love of God and remain the same. Whether you're in jail, on drugs, basically worldly, or spiritually distant for whatever reason, this is the formula for you to become fully restored unto God. Once you start, don't be "weary in well-doing". You cannot come to Jesus too often, no matter what anybody says about continuous repentance. Peter asked about that, and Jesus told Him 70 times 7, and that was just Peter's personal quota. Remember His mercy endureth forever -- you just have to be in the place to receive it -- at His feet.

There's a lot of other things that could be said but I believe I've given all the real help I can, if I caused you any new realizations about Jesus (God) and His love. I don't pretend to come close to fully understanding any of them, but I have seen enough in those areas to realize how awesome and life-changing it would be to understand and experience more. Since you can build upon no other foundation save Jesus Christ, you must have a true scriptural perception of Him or you'll build your whole spiritual foundation on "another Jesus" (II Co. 11:4). Is your God the God of the Bible? If your God is the God of love you'll portray to others a God of love. If it's a God of judgment, that's the God you'll portray. If your God is always "looking over your shoulder", you'll portray Him to others as always looking over their shoulder. Since God is love, I'd stick with that one, see Him as God who's always cheering you on, ready to HELP you at the slightest fall, and you'll pass on to those you influence a greatly needed perception of God.

Let's end this chapter with one last scripture to sum up what we're talking about. (Ephesians 3:17-21) --

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

