

Of Seeds and Flowers

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IT MAY BE TRUE--- "THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT!!"

Writing or talking about Satan these days is very risky business as the words in the book by the exorcist, Msgr. Stephen Rossetti in next month's issue of "Of seeds and Flowers" will attest. Some people will say, "it is crazy" but surely, no more crazy than some of the things happening in our country and around the world.

In 1982, Connecticut author and psychotherapist, M. Scott Peck, wrote a blockbuster best-selling book entitled "The Road Less travelled". **Still a great read.** Later, struggling with patients and the problem of evil he wrote another best seller, "People of the Lie".

As a **PSYCHOTHERAPIST AND MAN OF SCIENCE**, he was always struggling with real patients, real people, real problems and so he wrote a chapter 5 in his book, "People of the Lie" entitled **"Of Possession and Exorcism" -- Does the devil really exist?"**. Then Dr. Peck writes in his book, *"I wrote around, and let it be known I was interested in observing cases of purported possession for evaluation. The third referral turned out to be the real thing. Since then, I have been involved with another case, and I was privileged to be at their successful exorcisms. These cases were highly unusual in that both were cases of Satanic possession, I now know Satan is real. I have met it. Genuine possession, as far as we know, is very rare. Human evil, on the other hand, is common."*

This issue features the witness accounts of two very trustworthy people who visited PURGATORY and HELL. These are the words of two real, really, tested people, Vicka and Jacov, two of the Medjugorje visionaries who personally have seen Heaven, Hell and Purgatory. These accounts are their own words taken from interviews in the book by Jan Connell, **"Queen of the Cosmos"**

Question: "Vicka, is it true that you yourself have personally seen Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory?"

Vicka responds: **"Many people today do not believe there is a place or state of life after the death of the body. They believe that when we die life is over. The Blessed Mother says no; on the contrary we are only passengers on earth. She has come to remind us of the eternal truths of the Gospel."**

Question: "Are Heaven and Hell actual places?"

Vicka responds: **"Yes, I saw them, I saw with my eyes, and I then visited these places. Jacov and I were taken there by the Blessed Mother."**

Question: "What about hell. Is it a place too? Do many people go there?"

Vicka responds: **"Yes (Hell is real). We saw many people in Hell. And many more will go there when they die."**

Question: "Why so many?"

Vicka responds: **"The Blessed Mother says that those people who are in Hell are there because they choose to go there. They wanted to go to Hell. We all know there are persons on this earth who simply don't admit that God exists, even though He helps them with life and sun and rain and food. He always tries to nudge them onto the path of holiness. They just say they don't believe, and they deny Him. They deny Him even when time to die. And they continue to deny Him, after they are dead. It is their choice. It is there will that they go to Hell. They choose Hell." - Sounds like the atheists of today.**

Vicka describes Hell: **"In the center of this place is a great fire, like an**



ocean of raging flames. We could see people before they went into the fire, and then we could see them coming out of the fire. Before they go into the fire, they look like normal people. The more they are against God's will, the deeper they enter into the fire, and the deeper they go, the more they rage against Him. When they come out of the fire, they don't have human shape anymore; they are more like grotesque animals, but unlike anything on earth. It's as if they were never human beings before. They were horrible. Ugly. Angry. And each was different; no two looked alike. When they came out, they were raging and smashing around and hissing and gnashing and screeching."

Question: "Were you afraid? Could you feel the fire?"

Vicka responds: "I am never afraid with the Blessed Mother. But I didn't like seeing this. No (we could not feel the fire), we were in a special grace with the Blessed Mother, so we felt nothing."

Question: "You said that God condemns no one, that people choose Hell for themselves. Would it be fair, then, to say that if you choose Hell, you can also choose Heaven? Can you be sure that you are not going to Hell?"

Vicka responds: "Yes. Follow God's will. The most important thing is to know Hell? God loves us."

Question: "Has seeing Hell changed how you pray?"

Vicka responds: "O yes! Now I pray for the conversion of sinners! I know what awaits them if they refuse to convert."

Question: "What about Purgatory? Is it near Hell?"

Vicka responds: "It too, is a very big space. We couldn't see people in Purgatory, just a misty, gray fog. It looked like ashes. We could sense people weeping, moaning, trembling in what seemed like terrible suffering. And that is why we have prayed for these poor souls: they desperately need our prayer to go from Purgatory to Heaven. Ivan, a fellow visionary, has told pilgrims that the Blessed Mother said souls in Purgatory are extremely lonely. The only time they can see us on earth, is during those moments when pray for them. Yes, they can see us on earth when we pray for them by name. Please, tell people to pray for their own family members who are dead. (Please do remember this, at least each year, on All soul's Day, November 2nd.) Please tell people to pray and forgive each other, the living and the dead."

Question: "Why is forgiveness so important?"

Vicka responds: "Because not to forgive someone hurts us more than the person we won't forgive."

Question: "What must we do on earth so we don't go to Purgatory when we die?"

Vicka responds: "I am not sure.... The Blessed Mother calls us to a holy life."

NOW, TESTIMONY FROM JACOV, ANOTHER VISIONARY FROM MEDJUGORJE.

Question: "Jacov, would you describe your apparitions when they occur each evening?"

Jacov replies: Yes, the Blessed Mother arrives, her presence is preceded by a brilliant light that flashes three times. Then the Blessed Mother appears, and she always says, "Praise Jesus". After I greet her, she and I always recommend all the sick people who come to Medjugorje, to God. Then we pray together.

Question: "How do you pray?"

Jacov replies: "We pray the "Our Father" and the "Glory be" and other prayers from our heart to God."

Question: "Could you tell us a few things about your daily apparitions?"



"The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them." (MT 6)

The Apostles did what Jesus did.

Jacov replies: "Yes, I have a special place in my house where I pray. This is the place where the Blessed Mother appears to me. I begin the rosary every day at 6 p.m. At 6:40, the Blessed Mother arrives."

Question: "Do you always begin the rosary at home in that special place?"

Jacov replies: "Yes, on most evenings. Sometimes I go to church. Then, the Blessed Mother appears to me at the church."

Question: "What is the Blessed Mother like? Is there a word that comes to mind?"

Jacov replies: "The Blessed Mother of Jesus is pure love and the love she is giving me is, not only for me, but for everybody in the whole world."

Question: "Jacov, you have been visited every day of your life since you were ten by the Mother of God. How do you relate to her?"

Jacov replies: "It is very hard to find the words to describe this relationship we have. I am her child, and I am a messenger of God's plan. She has explained to me that she is the mother of all people on earth, not just me. She is available to each person on earth. Anyone who wants can have the Blessed Mother as his mother, to guide him or her and protect them on earth and bring them home to Heaven."

Question: "Jacov, have you been in purgatory? Do you suggest that people pray for people in Purgatory?"

Jacov replies: "The Blessed Mother showed Vicka and me Purgatory, but I have not been in it. Yes, (people should pray for the souls in purgatory) as an act of love."

Question: "Can you tell us about (Hell)?"

Jacov replies: "Very seldom do I talk about Hell. I choose not to think about Hell. The self-chosen suffering is beyond your ability to comprehend. (It causes more pain) than you can understand, because no one needs to go to Hell. It is the ultimate waste."

Question: "What can people do to keep from going to Hell?"

Jacov replies: "Believe in God, no matter what happens in their lifetime. 'Stay sober and alert. Your opponent, the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him. Solid in your faith.' 1 Peter. 5: 8-9. 'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die.' (John, 11:25-26).

Question: "Does the Blessed Mother seem worried about the West—the United States in Particular?"

Jacov replies: "The Blessed Mother has come here and is suffering because of the godlessness in the whole world not just because of Yugoslavia or some other specific country. My role is not as a prophet; I am a witness to the messages the Blessed Mother is bringing to the whole world here at Medjugorje."

Question: "Have you ever touched the Blessed Mother?"

Jacov replies: "There are no words to describe what it feels like to touch or be touched by the Mother of God. The Blessed Mother has a real body. It is three dimensional, but there is nothing about the Blessed Virgin Mary that is like anything I have ever seen before—her radiance, her greeting, her smile, her immense beauty. Such simplicity, simple goodness."

How can we deny the experiences of Jacov and Vicka? Telling the truth has cost them so much personal pain.



As unrepented sin piles up, stupidity grows. Brains and perception are dulled. Wisdom disappears. Remember people like Marx, Lenin, Stalin, -unrepented sin led to incredible stupidity. Sin and stupidity are twins; they go together. Today, jails, court rooms, lawyers and government offices are filled with unhappy people who keep doing unhappy things that affect all (even good) people. Our society, families, groups of people, keep praising and encouraging the WRONG THING and expect happy results. -CAN'T HAPPEN!!! I remember the nuns in grade school saying, "One bad apple ruins the whole bunch." Boy O Boy, were they correct." 80% of the votes cast for the avowed Communist mayor of N.Y. got were from women. Go figure! Anger gone awry. We used to call it sin. You won't hear this from any N.Y. City pulpit, but you should. God dies in Communism. -Ask the bishop of Moscow. Time to backoff and reevaluate. -and maybe talk to the grand and great grandmothers of Moscow. Stalin always had shoes that fit and a great meal every night. "Kill your enemies, then they don't bother you." Stalin. Change the hearts of people and you change society.

SO, "THE DEVIL MADE ME (HE/SHE DOESN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF POWER OVER US) DO IT", IS, AT LEAST, PARTIALLY TRUE. However, WE ARE ALWAYS FREE to choose the good. We NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, EVER, GROW BEYOND THE NEED FOR GOD, TRUTH, CHURCH, SCRIPTURES, PRAYER. If God would stop thinking about us for a nano-second we, our planet, the universe, would disappear. Our next breath is dependent upon Him/Her. We are ALL travelers just passing through!! At age 89 this reality is VERY clear!!! Don't buy into the NON-Sense of the age! To give Satan too much credit and time is wrong and to give him no time or credit is equally wrong. Let's not go crazy but this is a serious part of the explanation for the things we are experiencing.



Like first year med or psych students you don't want to get **hung up** on Satan. Satan, for ALL of us, knows our weaknesses, proclivities, tendencies and sinfulness and uses them to keep us squirming and unhappy. DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, DON'T GET HOOKED INTO HIS WILEY WAYS. Live in the freedom of the sons and daughters of God. PEACE!!! Is God's gift. Satan can often be a PAIN IN THE "SOUTHERN PORCH"; however, today, without a doubt, SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD AND IN PEOPLE'S LIVES.



Next month we will share a book review of the second book written by the exorcist, Monsignor Stephen Rossetti. No. we are not "Hung up" on the "Satan Thing" but it truly is a reality people living in this age must take into serious account if they are going to come close to RATIONALLY, explaining some of the events of the crazy age in which we live. The Governor of Minnesota just accepted a plaque from His state's Satanists praising him which he enshrined in the Capitol building. Is this a part of the explanation for the Somalia debacle his state and our tax dollars have endured? What goes around comes around!! **If Satan exists, does God exist? Where did Satan come from? Working backwards: If Satan exists does God exist? Have the Satanists proven the existence of God? Where did Satan come from?**

If **"Of Seeds and Flowers"** and Mary's Field is feeding your head and heart please, from time to time, would you think of feeding us?

WHY GO TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY? NO, no, no, I'm not leaving. I believe so I will never leave. I need this space. I need this time apart: I need others who think the truth, who love God and other people with their whole heart. I need to hear about God to make it through the week. We, Sunday worshipers, need each other to help us remember that we are disciples of Jesus, children of God, related to the saints who have broken "BREAD" in His memory. Remember: **God doesn't like to eat alone!** Mary, the Mother of Jesus, speaking to Mirjana, another one of the visionaries, at Medjugorje, said **"If you have to decide between coming to see me in a vision and having me speak to you or going to Mass, GO TO MASS!"**

The polls shows that 84% of women aged 18 - 29 voted for the avowed communist New York City mayor. Currently the studies, over and over, keep showing the people who want so many of the beyond reason changes in our society are white, college educated, women without children. Go figure?

"Every time I go out among men I come back less a man."

— Thomas a Kempis

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