

FMH Children's Club International

— A Company Of Prophets — P.O. Box 640109 El Paso, TX 79904 915-751-6789



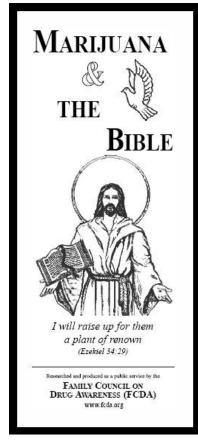
The following letter-form was brought about as a means of teaching my children the Word of God through the mail. And of course, quite naturally so, that's the reason I begin these letters with "Dear Children" and end them with "Love Dad". So for the rest of you who participate in these weekly messages, please keep their original intended purpose in mind.

9 December, 2007

Dear Children,

Well, seeing how our "<u>Dead Liver-less Frogs And The Word-Faith Movement</u>" sermonet was so very intense, what do you say we kind-a like mellow it on out in this week's message? I mean, after all, the subject for today, as directed by the Father, is "<u>Marijuana: The Weed God</u>!"

Now the discussion that's about to take place will be focused on a pamphlet produced by the Family



ake place will be focused on a pamphlet produced by the Family Council On Drug Awareness (FCDA). I mean with a name like that you'd expect something really wholesome for the family. Right?!?!?!

Well, to your immediate left is the front section of this blasphemous little tract entitled *Marijuana And The Bible*. And, as I'm about to show you, it is anything but healthy! In fact it's down right demonic!

You see what the Family Council has done through this "propaganda tract" is to "use" the Word of God – The Holy Bible – to promote "marijuana use" as being something approved of by God (godly). In fact, just in case you haven't caught on to their tactics quite yet, the Ezekiel 34:29 Scripture (shown below the image of Jesus) was meant to erroneously imply the following message:

"I [Jesus/God] will raise up [grow] for them [the people of the earth] a plant [marijuana] of renown [exalted reputation derived from the extensive praise of great achievements or accomplishments]."

So, that's the introduction to this message! But before we go any further, let me first of all give you the skinny on how I became privy to this MTB tract.

You see it was back in 2004, right about the time I was enjoying a little rest and recuperation at the J. Rueben Long Detention Center in Conway, South Carolina, when I ran into this fellow named Michael. We were both being held in the minimum security barracks – me for obeying my God and him for obeying his – when the Lord kind-a like directed me to befriend him. So I did!

And to give you just a quick profile of this man that God Almighty had me to meet in jail, Michael is a world-traveling, surfing-fisherman who's all about the business of seafood. He was raised Protestant, but believes Buddhist, and loves to smoke his "weed". In fact his reason for being in the slammer had everything to do with an unfortunate encounter with the cops: he got busted for possession of marijuana!

Now it was due to the Lord's revelation on the "human body and sin" that I was able to carry on a somewhat spiritual yet "mystical" conversation with my new Buddhist friend. I mean I tried my best, during the time we were together in jail, to show him the Truth about Jesus: how we can become born again in Christ (photosynthesis) by walking in obedience to His Word (the Light). But it didn't end there! Because you see Michael, shortly before his release from jail, gave me his phone number to re-establish contact whenever I got out. And even though the judge had promised that I wasn't going anywhere anytime soon (he said I was going to be there for a very long time), it was shortly after Michael got his freedom that the prison doors swung open for me...and we've been corresponding ever since. In fact Michael was the one who sent me the MTB tract on 10/15/06 by email! (See sermonets "Photosynthesis: The Key To This Life And The Next! (9/9/01)" and "Jailbreak: Busted Out By Jesus! (10/10/04)" for more on the subject.)

So that's "in the beginning" of this message on "Marijuana: The Weed God!" And even though I am no longer serving it with my life, there was a time when I did! I mean, I for one, just like Michael, know what it's like to bow down and worship the "god of weed". Because you see it was back in 1969, while stationed at Shepherd Air Force Base, that I ventured into the unknown by taking my first toke of the forbidden herb.

Marijuana! What a rush! What a feeling! It put a smile on my face! It became my reason for living! It became my god! In fact from that point on I began to fashion my life around getting high. Slowly but surely the changes came about. There were certain things (like piloting a plane) that I just wouldn't do with a buzz on, but, then again, there were other things (like driving a car) that I was willing to risk. I mean there was no doubting the fact that the weed made me wacky so that my coordinated movements became not so very coordinated. And of course there was this other side effect called "paranoia"; I felt like I was going to get busted at any moment! So along with the pleasure came the fear. But let's not forget the munchies! I mean it just ain't natural to try and eat a refrigerator!

Marijuana! It's called by many different names (grass, reefer, pot, killer weed, herb, Mary Jane, and dope to name a few), but the proper name for this "wonder plant" is actually "cannabis". In fact the following are just a few of the facts when it comes to getting a buzz from this drug:

"<u>Cannabis intoxication</u> is the state of being intoxicated to a degree that <u>mental and physical</u> <u>facilities are noticeably altered due to the consumption of cannabis</u>. Each user experiences a different high, and the nature of it may vary upon factors such as potency, dose, chemical composition, method of consumption and setting.

Highs vary from:

- A feeling of euphoria
- Intense relaxation
- Most experience pleasure, but one out of five users experience a great deal of anxiety.
- Decrease in nausea (used medicinally for this)
- Laughter, giggle fits
- Sensory enhancement (colours, taste, sensation)
- Increased appreciation of music

Side effects include:

- Forgetfulness
- Laziness
- Distorted perception
- Trouble with concentration
- Paranoia
- Increased heart rate
- Dry mouth and throat
- Increased appetite
- Sensory confusion (random bad tastes, smells, sensations)

<u>The major biologically active chemical compound in cannabis is</u> tetrahydrocannabinol, commonly referred to as <u>THC</u>. It has <u>psychoactive</u> and physiological effects when

consumed, usually by smoking or ingestion. The minimum amount of the required to have a psychoactive effect is about 5 mg." (*Wikipedia Encyclopedia*)

Now did you get that? Those are just a few of the "pleasures" that have made "weed god worship" so very popular...as in "an exalted reputation derived from the extensive praise of great achievements or accomplishments." And by taking this investigation just a little bit further, we're going to see that the "use" of this "**psychoactive drug**" called marijuana (cannabis) is not at all (in no way) authorized by the God of the Bible because it diametrically (completely, totally, utterly, entirely and absolutely) opposes the God of the Bible:

You see <u>a psychoactive drug</u> (or psychotropic substance) is a chemical that affects a person's central <u>nervous system by altering the "brain functions"</u>. The results are temporary (and sometimes permanent) changes in the person's perception, mood, consciousness and behavior. But in the pure and simple of it, psychoactive drugs produce an altered state of consciousness in the individual <u>by</u> <u>changing the normal state of the nerves in the brain</u>. Because everything we perceive, feel, think and do is a result of neurons (nerve cells) "firing" and "resetting" in the brain. When a neuron fires, the resulting chemical and electrical changes create a "domino effect" by which many other neurons fire in progression. In fact this process by which signals are generated and carried along a pathway of neurons is called <u>neurotransmission</u>...and there are many ways in which psychoactive drugs can affect it.

So, psychoactive drugs alter the transmission of information in the brain by modifying the way in which neurons send (neurotransmitter) and receive (neuroreceptor) their signals. And breaking that down even further, there are four groups of psychoactive drugs that manipulate the brain in four different ways:

- Antipsychotics sedate brain activity (tranquilizers).
- **Depressants** diminish brain activity and promote sleep (downers).
- <u>Stimulants</u> increase brain activity and inhibit sleep (uppers).
- <u>Hallucinogens</u> induce brain activity that produces an altered state of consciousness [trance, meditation, conversion experiences, and dreams] with "unreal" perceptions (hallucinogenics).

And having said all that, let's get back to our discussion on the "weed god". Because you see <u>marijuana</u> (cannabis) is <u>the "ultimate" psychoactive drug</u> in that it affects the brain in <u>all four ways</u>! In other words marijuana is an <u>antipsychotic</u>, a <u>depressant</u>, a <u>stimulant</u>, and a <u>hallucinogen</u> all rolled into one, with <u>the hallucinogen affects being strongest</u>. And of course that is the reason marijuana makes such a good "weed god"...<u>it's an entheogen</u>:

"<u>An entheogen</u>, in the strictest sense, <u>is a psychoactive substance</u> (most often some plant matter <u>with hallucinogenic effects</u>) <u>which occasions a spiritual or mystical experience</u>. In a broader sense, the word "entheogen" refers to artificial as well as natural substance which induce alterations of consciousness similar to those documented for ritual ingestion of traditional <u>shamanic inebriants</u>, even if used in a secular context. The word <u>entheogen</u> is a neologism derived from the ancient Greek : *entheos* and *genesthe*. *Entheos* literally means "god (theos) <u>within</u>", more freely translated "inspired". *Genesthe* means "to generate". So an entheogen is "that which generates God (or godly inspiration) within a person"." (*Wikipedia Encyclopedia*)

So with that in mind, what "god" is it that gets "conjured up" in the mind of the person who partakes of this ultimate "entheogen" called marijuana?

Well that's the question, but in order to get the answer we're going to take it step by step – one psychoactive drug at a time. Because by turning to "The Source" and "His Word" (as written in the Holy Bible), we're going to learn some amazing things from the One who knows it all:

"And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot. Ye have not eaten bread, <u>neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink</u>: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God." (Deuteronomy 29:5-6 KJV)

Now just in case you didn't "know" it, that particular Scripture has everything to do with the Lord God Almighty delivering His people (the Jews) out of Egyptian slavery. It was all about a journey – through the wilderness and into the Promised Land – that would have set the Jewish people free from the bondage of their past...that is if they would have only learned to totally "**trust and obey**" the Lord God Almighty. And of course their journey is very much so symbolic of what "all of mankind" must "experience and endure" in order to be set free from the bondage of "sin and Satan". Because in order to truly "**know**" God as "Lord and Saviour", we must also take our journey through life without the numbing affects of the psychoactive drug called alcohol:

"...neither have ye drunk <u>wine</u> (H3196) or <u>strong drink</u> (H7941): <u>that ye might know that I am the</u> <u>LORD your God</u>."

<u>Wine</u> (H3196) [*yah'-yin*] - From an unused root meaning to *effervesce*; *wine* (as <u>fermented</u>); by implication <u>intoxication</u>: - banqueting, wine, wine [-bibber]. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionary*)

Strong Drink (H7941) [*shay-kawr'*] - From H7937; **an** *intoxicant*, **that is**, *intensely alcoholic liquor*: - strong drink, + drunkard, strong wine. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionary*)

You see **<u>alcohol</u>** is one of those bewitching "psychoactive drugs" called <u>**depressants**</u>. In fact it does such a very fine job of depressing the mind that it can actually keep a person from "knowing God" by making them "stupid":

"See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore <u>be ye not unwise</u> (G878), <u>but understanding what the will of the Lord is</u>. <u>And be not</u> <u>drunk with wine, wherein is excess</u> (G810); <u>but be filled with the Spirit</u>; (Ephesians 5:15-18 KJV)

<u>Unwise</u> (G878) [aphro⁻n] - From G1 (as a negative particle) and G5424; properly <u>mindless</u>, that is, <u>stupid</u>, (by implication) <u>ignorant</u>, (specifically) <u>egotistic</u>, (practically) <u>rash</u>, or (morally) <u>unbelieving</u>: - fool (-ish), unwise. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionaries*)

Excess (G810) [aso tia] - From a compound of G1 (as a negative particle) and a presumed derivative of G4982; **properly** <u>*unsavedness*</u>, that is, (by implication) *profligacy:* - excess, riot. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionaries*)

Bud-wiser (Budweiser)? I don't think so! God's Word says that <u>alcohol</u> is an "intoxicant" that will keep a person from "<u>knowing God</u>" and "<u>being saved</u>" by making them stupidly "<u>mindless</u>"!

Now that's what the Holy Bible has to say about "<u>depressants</u>". But let's not stop there! Because what we are about to discover, through the following Scriptures from Matthew and Mark, is what God's Word has to say about the psychoactive drugs that work on the brain as both a "<u>depressant</u>" and a "<u>hallucinogen</u>":

"And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, <u>They gave him</u> [Jesus] <u>vinegar to drink mingled with gall</u> (G5521): <u>and when he had tasted *thereof*, he would not</u> <u>drink</u>. <u>And they crucified him</u>..." (Matthew 27:33-35 KJV)

<u>Gall</u> (G5521) [*khol-ay*] - Feminine of an equivalent perhaps akin to the same as G5514 (from the *greenish* hue); "gall" or *bile*, that is, (by analogy) *poison* or <u>an *anodyne*</u> (wormwood, poppy, etc.): - gall. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionaries*)

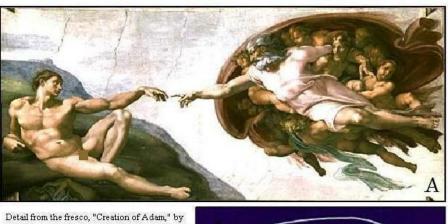
"And they bring him [Jesus] unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull. <u>And</u> they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh (G4669): <u>but he received *it* not</u>." (Mark 15:22-23 KJV)

Mingled With Myrrh (G4669) [smoor-nid'-zo] - From G4667; to tincture with myrrh, that is, <u>embitter</u> (as a narcotic): - mingle with myrrh. (Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionaries) So did you get the picture? The Roman soldiers were preparing to nail Jesus to a wooden cross. He was about to experience the most excruciating pain ever known to mankind through His crucifixion. In fact Jesus was about to do something that no other man could possibly do – save a lost and dying world from the burning flames of Hell by taking on the sin of the world, in His Flesh, and defeating it through His suffering on His cross. In fact Jesus knew that the spiritual and physical pain was going to be unbearable, but yet He refused the pain killing "drink" they offered! And, of course, the following is the reason why:

"<u>Opium water</u> would suit well for stupefying criminals in the agony of execution (<u>Psa_69:21; Mat_27:34; Act_8:23</u>). The vinegar offered to our Lord was mingled with "gall" according to Matthew, with "myrrh" according to Mark (<u>Mar_15:23</u>). The myrrh was the usual seasoning of Roman wine; the gall was added to stupefy, <u>but our Lord would</u> <u>meet His agony in full consciousness.</u>" (*Fausset's Bible Dictionary*)

You see "<u>narcotics</u>" (such as opium, codeine, heroin, and morphine) are psychoactive drugs that work on the brain in two different ways, both as a <u>depressant</u> and a <u>hallucinogen</u>. And seeing how the "<u>depressant</u>" makes the person "<u>mindless</u>", and the "<u>hallucinogen</u>" precipitates "<u>other gods</u>" in the mindless person, is there any wonder that Jesus refused this narcotic "<u>entheogen</u>"? I mean, after all, <u>Jesus</u>" <u>"victory over sin" was totally dependent on Him hearing and obeying the Voice of His Father</u> throughout His earthy life...which even included the time He was on His cross:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... <u>And the Word</u> was made flesh, and dwelt among us...<u>Who gave himself for our sins</u>, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will (G2307) of God and our Father...Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed...<u>For since by man *came* death</u>, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (John 1:1; 14, Galatians 1:4, 1 Peter 2:24 and 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 KJV)



– <u>Creation Of Adam</u> –

Detail from the fresco, "Creation of Adam," by Michelangelo Buonarroti, visible on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican at Rome, Italy, painted between 1508-1512. (A) Photograph of the fresco showing God giving spiritual life and intellect to Adam through his touch; (E) The contour of the same image is reminiscent of a midline sagittal section of the brain and includes the hypothalamus, pituitary and brainstem. (From Toni R, The human hypothalamus: clinical anatomy of endocrine, autonomic and behavioral responses, J. Endocrinol. Invest 2003, in press).

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So did you get the picture? Adam got "touched" by God! And believe it or not but Michelangelo's painting has everything to do with the way humans (which even included Jesus) "hear" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u> so that they might "do" the <u>will (G2307) of the Father</u>:

<u>Will</u> (G2307) [thele ma] - From the prolonged form of G2309; a <u>determination</u> (properly the thing), that is, (actively) <u>choice</u> (specifically *purpose*, decree; abstractly *volition*) or (passively) *inclination:* - desire, pleasure, will. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionaries*)

<u>Will</u> (G2307) [thele⁻ma] - From the verb thelo⁻ (G2309), to will. The suffix -ma indicates that it is <u>the result of the will</u>. The will, not to be conceived as demand, but as an expression or inclination of pleasure towards that which is liked, that which pleases and creates joy. When it denotes God's will, it signifies His gracious disposition toward something. Used to designate what God Himself does of His own good pleasure... Paul uses it especially with reference to <u>God's</u> <u>saving purpose</u> (Eph. 1:5, 9, 11)...<u>the will of God which must be done</u>. (*The Complete Word Study New Testament With Greek Parallel*)

You see the "will (G2307) of God" was what Adam was designed to do:

"<u>And the LORD God commanded the man</u>, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." (Genesis 2:16-17 KJV)

God commanded Adam to do His <u>will</u> (G2307), but seeing how Adam didn't do it he sinned! And it was because of that one little old sin that Adam, along with his descendants, (which even includes us), were destined to an everlasting fiery grave in Hell. Things did not look good for the human race, but yet there was still hope! I mean, after all, the Almighty had promised to give mankind one more shot at getting it right. Because you see God the Father was going to send another Man (Jesus), who would be born of a virgin, without the sin of Adam in His Blood, to live out His entire life in total obedience to the <u>Will</u> (G2307) of His Father and thereby defeat "all sin" for "all eternity" through His suffering on His cross:

"<u>Who gave himself for our sins</u>, that he [Jesus] might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will (G2307) of God and our Father:" (Galatians 1:4 KJV)

And having said that, let's get back to Michelangelo's painting...the one that has everything to do with the way in which humans "hear" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u> so that they might "do" the <u>will (G2307) of the</u> <u>Father</u>. Because you see when the Lord first directed me to that picture article on the "The Human Hypothalamus", the Holy Ghost goose bumps ran all over me. I shouted "<u>Hallelujah, thank you Jesus</u>!" I mean the subliminal message in Michelangelo's *Creation Of Adam* was the visible proof of what the Lord God Almighty has been showing me for some half-dozen years.

So would you care to guess what He's been showing me about the "hypothalamus"? Well, to give you just a clue, it has everything to do with becoming "born again":

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, <u>Except a man be born again, he</u> <u>cannot see the kingdom of God</u>...But as many as received him [Jesus], to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: Which were <u>born</u>, not of blood, nor of the will (G2307) of the flesh, nor of the will (G2307) of man, but <u>of God</u>." (John 3:3; 1:12-13 KJV)

Do you get the picture? In order to be "born again", and become one with God's kingdom, we must "do" the will (G2307) of the Father:

"<u>Not every one</u> that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, <u>shall enter into the kingdom of heaven</u>; <u>but he that</u> <u>doeth the will</u> (G2307) <u>of my Father</u> which is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21 KJV)

And taking that one step further, in order to "do" the <u>will (G2307) of the Father</u>, and become "born again" into His kingdom, we must first "hear" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u>:

"<u>And the LORD God</u> formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and <u>breathed into his nostrils the breath</u> <u>of life;</u> and man became a living soul." (Genesis 2:7 KJV)

So just what, you might ask, does that particular Scripture have to do with "hearing" the <u>will (G2307) of</u> <u>the Father</u>? I mean, after all, the Lord God breathed life into <u>Adam's nose</u> – He did not speak life it into his ear!

Well, let's see if Brother Job can help us clear up this confusion through the following Scripture:

"*As* God liveth, *who* hath taken away my judgment; and the Almighty, *who* hath vexed my soul; **All the** while my breath *is* in me, and <u>the spirit of God *is* in my nostrils</u>; My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit." (Job 27:2-4 KJV)

OK, so <u>God breathed life</u> into Adam's nose, and the <u>spirit of God</u> was in Job's nose, which brings us to this next Scripture:

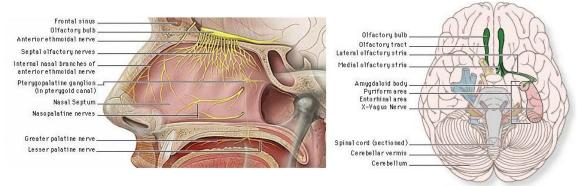
"It is the spirit that quickeneth [gives life]; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are <u>spirit</u>, and *they* are <u>life</u>." (John 6:63 KJV)

Now isn't that interesting! The <u>Word of God</u> is both <u>spirit and life</u>...and it was received by Adam and **Job through their** <u>nose</u>.

<u>SMELL</u>, n. - The sense of faculty by which through the instrumentally of the <u>olfactory nerves</u>; or the faculty of perceiving by the organs of <u>the nose</u>; one of the five senses. (*Webster's 1828 Dictionary*)

So, God made the nose to do some "spiritual" smelling, and the following is a brief description of how the "olfactory nerve" makes it all happen:

The olfactory system is one of the first nerve systems to develop completely in the human being. During the seventh week of gestation, the embryo develops remarkably. It is during this period of growth that the telecephalon (the most forward part of the embryonic brain) develops the olfactory lobes which ultimately produce the riencephalon (the lymbic lobes which process our olfactory senses)...From the olfactory bulbs, smell impulses bypass the thalamus (the sensory relay nucleus for all senses except olfaction) and travel directly to the olfactory cortex in the temporal lobe or to the limbic system (especially the hypothalamus)...The limbic system has two key components – the hypothalamus (below the thalamus) and the pituitary gland. The hypothalamus is considered a nodal point in the pathways mediating autonomic, emotional, endocrine, and somatic functions. The hypothalamus regulates eating, drinking, sex, emotions (rage, fear, and extreme anxiety), waking, sleeping, body temperature, balance and many other functions. Through a combination of electrical and chemical messages, it directs the pituitary gland – the master gland of the body.



Now isn't that interesting? I mean can you see how the sense of "smell" fits in with Michelangelo's *Creation Of Adam And The Human Hypothalamus*? Well, let me help you out. Because you see the human body is equipped with five (5) senses to receive information from the outside world: the sense of smelling, tasting, seeing, hearing, and touching. And, of course, as we have just discovered, **the brain's** <u>hypothalamus</u> processes the information from the <u>nose</u>, and the <u>thalamus</u> takes care of the rest (tongue, eves, ears, and skin).

And having said that, let's get back to our discussion on "hearing" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u> and "doing" the <u>will (G2307) of the Father</u>. Because the following is what Brother Webster had to say about it:

WILL, n. - That faculty of the mind by which we determine either to do or forbear an action; **the faculty which is exercised in deciding, among two or more objects, which we shall embrace or pursue**. The will is directed or influenced by the judgment. <u>The understanding</u> **or reason compares different objects, which operate as motives; <u>the judgment</u> <u>determines which is preferable</u>, and <u>the will decides which to pursue</u>. In other words, we reason with respect to the value or importance of things; we then judge which is to be preferred; and we will to take the most valuable. These are but different operations of the mind, soul, or intellectual part of man. Great disputes have existed respecting the freedom of the will. Will is often quite a different thing from desire. (***Webster's 1828 Dictionary***)**

So, the "<u>will</u>" is <u>all about making choices</u>! And when it comes down to choosing between the <u>desires of</u> <u>God</u> (the <u>hypothalamus</u> and the <u>nose</u>) and the <u>desires of the flesh</u> (the <u>thalamus</u> and the <u>eyes</u>, <u>ears</u>, <u>tongue</u>, <u>and skin</u>), well, what better example than Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden?</u>

"<u>And the LORD God commanded the man</u>, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: <u>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it</u>: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die...And when <u>the woman saw that the tree was good for food</u>, and that <u>it was pleasant to the eyes</u>, and <u>a tree to be desired to make *one* wise</u>, <u>she took of the fruit</u> thereof, <u>and did eat</u>, <u>and gave also unto her husband</u> with her; <u>and he did eat</u>. (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:6 KJV)

You see it was Adam (the man) who's "hypothalamus" processed the Word that he received from God through his nose: "Thou shalt not eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." I mean **Adam heard from God, and it was loud and clear!** However, it was this same Word from God that Eve was <u>only</u> able to receive through her ears (thalamus) as her husband (Adam) spoke what "thus saith the Lord" to her. And of course that's the reason Adam's sin was much more severe than Eve's – <u>he "knew"</u> <u>better!</u>

"For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And <u>Adam was not deceived</u>, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." (1 Timothy 2:13-14 KJV)

Adam never was deceived at all; neither by the serpent, with whom he never conversed; nor by his wife, he knew what he did, when he took the fruit of her, and ate; he ate it not under any deception, or vain imagination, that they should not die, but should be as gods, knowing good and evil. <u>He took and ate out of love to his wife, from a fond</u> affection to her, to bear her company, and that she might not die alone; he knew what he did, and he knew what would be the consequence of it, the death of them both; and inasmuch as he sinned wilfully, and against light and knowledge, without any deception, his sin was the greater: and hereby death came in, and passed on all men, who sinned in him... (John Gill's Exposition Of The Entire Bible)

So Adam "heard" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u> in his "hypothalamus", but yet he chose not to "do" the <u>will</u> (G2307) of the Father because of his "thalamus". And having said that, please allow me to explain.

You see what took place in the Garden that day had everything to do with that beautiful young woman God had given Adam to be his wife. I mean Eve really worked on Adam's "thalamus"! Without a doubt, she was one-more good-looking woman for Adam to behold! But "seeing" how looks ain't everything, Eve hit him with the rest: her soft skin was tantalizing to his touch, her gentle spoken words melted his heart like

butter, and the kiss of her lips tasted sweeter than honey. In fact, to put it in the plain and simple, she really turned him on! And it was because of what Adam "saw, touched, heard, and tasted" of Eve that he chose to please his "thalamus" instead of God. Adam knew what God had spoken to his "hypothalamus", (he wasn't on drugs), yet he "willed" to do the desires of his flesh. In other words, <u>Adam sinned!</u>

Now, with that in mind, let's get back to our discussion on "psychoactive drugs" and their very negative effects on the human brain. Because, without a doubt, when it gets down to the business of "hearing" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u> and "doing" the <u>will (G2307) of the Father</u>, "psychoactive drugs" are really and truly a bust:

"<u>Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will</u> (G2307) of the Lord is. And <u>be not</u> <u>drunk with wine</u>, wherein is excess; <u>but be filled with the Spirit;</u>" (Ephesians 5:17-18 KJV)

So how does it all work? How do the psychoactive drugs keep a person "hypothalamus" from **understanding the will (G2307)** of the Lord so that they might choose to do the will (G2307) of the Father?

Well a good place to start is with a proper understanding of God's perfect design of the human body. Because in order to protect the "hypothalamus" from fleshly (demonic) influences that might hinder a proper understanding of the <u>will (G2307) of the Lord</u>, God Almighty "enveloped" the central nervous system and it's brain with a protective barrier:

<u>The blood-brain barrier</u> is a membranic structure that <u>acts to protect the brain from</u> <u>chemicals in the blood</u>, while still allowing essential metabolic function. (*Wikipedia*)

You see the human body is actually operating under two separate systems – the **<u>natural</u>** (thalamus) and the **<u>spiritual</u>** (hypothalamus) – and it's the job of the blood-brain barrier to keep them separate so that the "spiritual" can take place:

"And so it is written, <u>The first man Adam</u> was made a <u>living soul</u> (G5590); <u>the last Adam</u> was made a <u>quickening spirit</u> (G4151). Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but <u>that which is natural</u> (G5591); and <u>afterward that which is spiritual</u> (G4152)...It is sown a <u>natural</u> (G5591) <u>body</u> (G4983); it is raised a <u>spiritual</u> (G4152) <u>body</u> (G4983). There is a <u>natural</u> (G5591) <u>body</u> (G4983), and there is a <u>spiritual</u> (G4152) <u>body</u> (G4983)...The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven. As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." (1 Corinthians 15:45-46; 44; 47-49 KJV)

So the Word of God says that Adam was made a "living soul"...that is after having first been given a "natural body". And of course the reason God gave Adam a "body" in the "natural" form was so that he could "prove" his love for Him by "doing" the <u>will (G2307) of the Father</u>:

Body (G4983) [so^{ma}] - From G4982; <u>the *body* (as a *sound* whole)</u>, used in a very wide application, literally or figuratively: - bodily, body, <u>slave</u>. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionary*)

Because you see the "body" that God made for Adam – the one that housed his "soul" and "spirit" – was designed to be a "slave" to something...but the question is, "<u>A slave to what</u>???" And of course in order to get the answer for that one we need to first come up with a proper understanding of the word "natural":

<u>Natural</u> (G5591) [psuchikos] -From <u>G5590</u>; <u>sensitive</u> that is, <u>animate</u> (in distinction on the one hand from <u>G4152</u>, which is the <u>higher or renovated nature</u>; and on the other from <u>G5446</u>, which is the <u>lower or bestial nature</u>): - natural, sensual. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionary*)

Now taking this "natural" thing back to the Garden of Eden, the <u>Word from God</u> that Adam received was <u>spiritual</u>: "Thou shalt not eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." Adam received the Spirit of God through his nose, and the olfactory system carried it to the "hypothalamus" without any interference from the "natural" man. Because you see the entire olfaction process took place within the protected confines of the blood-brain barrier. What Adam heard through his nose was exactly what "thus saith the Lord" to Adam! It was God's Truth!

Spiritual (G4152) [pneumatikos]- From G4151; *non-carnal*, that is, (humanly) *ethereal* (as opposed to gross), or (daemoniacally) a *spirit* (concretely), or (divinely) *supernatural*, *regenerate*, *religious*: - spiritual. Compare G5591. (*Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionary*)

So what Adam "heard" from God was <u>all</u> "<u>spiritual</u>". However, what Adam "felt" for his lovely wife – what he "saw, touched, heard, and tasted" of Eve – originated outside the blood-brain barrier and was totally "<u>natural</u>" (carnal/flesh):

Natural (G5446) [phusikos] - From G5449; "**physical**", that is, (by implication) *instinctive*: - natural. Compare G5591. *(Strong's Hebrew And Greek Dictionary)*

And having said that, we can now deal with the "<u>soul</u>" of mankind that makes "doing" the <u>will (G2307) of</u> <u>the Father</u>, after having first "heard" the <u>will (G2307) of God</u>, a matter of "<u>choice</u>". Because, without a doubt, it was Adam's "natural" feelings for Eve - his "<u>soul</u>ish" desires for the "fleshly" pleasures – that helped him make the choice to <u>not</u> "do" the "spiritual":

Soul (G5590) [psuche⁻] - that material part of man <u>held in common with animals</u> (Matt. 10:28; Rom. 2:9). Contrast soma (4983), body, and pneuma (4151), spirit (1 Thess. 5:23). The **psuche**, no less than the sarx (4561), <u>flesh</u>, <u>belongs to the lower region of man's being</u>. Sometimes psuche stands for the immaterial part of man made up of the soul, psuche in the restrictive sense of the animus, <u>the life element</u>, and the pneuma (4151), spirit. But animals are not said to possess a spirit; <u>only man has a spirit</u>, <u>giving him the ability to communicate</u> with God. (*The Complete Word Study New Testament With Greek Parallel*)

In the pure and simple of it, the "soul" is what makes the "body" do whatever it does...whether it's in the "natural" pleasing the flesh, or in the "spiritual" pleasing the Father. In fact, when you really get down to it, the "soul" is what actually gives the body the "life" that puts it into motion:

"For the life (H5315) of the flesh is in the blood..." (Leviticus 17:11 KJV)

And, taking that one step further, seeing how the "life" word in that Scripture was translated from the Hebrew word "nephesh" (H5315) [which is more often than not translated "soul"], we can also read that very same verse as follows:

"For the soul (H5315) of the flesh is in the blood ... "

You see the difference between the two is that the "life" word most often deals with the living/breathing aspects of human existence, while the "soul" word involves thinking and reasoning and making godly choices (spiritual vs. natural). So with the "**blood**" in mind, let's get back to our discussion on <u>psychoactive</u> <u>drugs</u> that can prevent a person's "hypothalamus" from <u>understanding the will</u> (G2307) of the Lord so that they might choose to do <u>the will</u> (G2307) of the Father:

The blood-brain barrier is a membranic structure that acts to protect the brain from chemicals in the blood, while still allowing essential metabolic function. For a substance to be psychoactive, it must cross the blood-brain barrier so it can affect neurochemical function. (*Wikipedia*)

Now <u>Adam knew what God had instructed him to do</u>, and he also knew that what his lovely wife wanted him to do was not what God wanted! <u>Adam had a choice to make</u>, and he fully recognized the

difference between the two! But just what do you think would have happened if Adam had been smoking some psychoactive drug called "marijuana"? Would Adam have still had a choice?

Well, if Adam had smoked a joint before his encounter with Eve, the THC in the smoke would have entered his blood through his lungs and slipped through his blood-brain barrier to radically modify the normal function of his brain. In other words, Adam would have gotten a buzz, but his hypothalamus would have taken a hit. In fact Adam's "spiritual" side would have all the sudden become very "natural" once his marijuana-tainted "soulish" blood entered into his brain. And, for those who might have doubts about what I'm saying, here's a Scriptural example from the life of Jesus:

"And God said, <u>Let us make man in our image, after our likeness</u>: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:26 KJV)

You see Adam was made in the "image and likeness" of God – body, soul, and spirit. And of course there's no better way to understand Adam's "spiritual" side than to look at the "spiritual" side of Jesus. I mean, even though Jesus was "God in the Flesh", He was also the "last Adam" who had to make the choice to be "spiritual" by "doing" **the will (G2307) of the Father**:

"Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, <u>he was afterward an hungred</u>. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, <u>command that these stones be made bread</u>. But he answered and said, It is written, <u>Man shall not live by bread alone</u>, <u>but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God</u>." (Matthew 4:1-4 KJV)

Now, if you will remember, God's "spiritual center" in man – **the "hypothalamus"** – is designed to not only regulate the human appetite (eating), but a whole lot more [drinking, sex, emotions (rage, fear, and extreme anxiety), waking, sleeping, body temperature, balance and etc.]. And seeing how we're trying to keep this very complex message as brief as possible, let's just focus on the "eating" part of God's "spiritual center" for today.

Because, getting back to what Jesus spoke in Matthew 4:4, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that the "natural" physical body must have "natural" nourishment (food) in order for it to live. In fact, as the Good Lord has designed it, the purpose of the "natural" life is so that the "natural" body can be developed into a "spiritual" body that will glorify it's Creator. And as this all pertains to Jesus in the wilderness, well, it was <u>the will</u> (G2307) of the Father that "Jesus eat nothing until His temptations had ended". I mean Jesus was really hungry for some "natural" food, but He also knew that the "spiritual" food – the will (G2307) of the Father that He received through his nose – was the "bread of life" that would prepare His "spiritual" body to defeat the "sin of the world" through His suffering on His cross so that all who believe in Him might be saved:

"Then they went out of the city, and came unto him. In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, <u>Master, eat</u>. But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him *ought* to eat? Jesus saith unto them, <u>My meat is to do</u> the will (G2307) of him that sent me, and to finish his work... For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will (G2307), but the will (G2307) of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will (G2307) which hath sent me...that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 4:30-34; 6:38-40 KJV)

You see it was often necessary that Jesus forsake the "natural" food in order to eat the "spiritual" food from His Father. And it was only because of His drug-free lifestyle that Jesus was able to do it:

"And seeing the multitudes, he [Jesus] went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying...<u>Blessed *are* they which do hunger and</u> thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." (Matthew 5:1-6 KJV)

Now "if" Jesus would have partaken of the "weed god" marijuana, the "hunger" produced in His "spiritual center" – the hypothalamus – would have been of a "fleshly" (carnal) appetite. In other words His desire would have been to the "god of this world" (natural) and not to the "God from above" (spiritual). I mean let's get real – Jesus would have wanted to "eat the refrigerator" instead of God's Word!

So, getting back to this thing about Adam, Jesus was the "last Adam", and He was severely tested in His "spiritual center". However, unlike the "first Adam", Jesus passed all of His test:

"For we have not an high priest [Jesus] which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin...Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him..." (Hebrews 4:15; 5:8-9 KJV)

Jesus was born in the "natural, but He died in the "spiritual" after having first suffered in obedience to <u>the</u> <u>will</u> (G2307) of <u>His Father</u>. And it's only because of what He did that we can do it too:

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: <u>he that cometh to me shall never hunger</u>; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." (John 6:35 KJV)

And now that we've said all that, what do you say we go back to the beginning of this message and that blasphemous little tract from the Family Council On Drug Awareness (FCDA) – *Marijuana And The Bible*. Because as I'm sure you must remember, it was their use of the Word of God to promote "marijuana use" as something approved by God (godly) that caused this sermonet to be written in the first place. I mean their erroneous use of Ezekiel 34:29 really made my blood boil. So, to set the record straight, the following is that Scripture and God's intended meaning thereof:

"And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more. Thus shall they know that I the LORD their God *am* with them, and *that* they, *even* the house of Israel, *are* my people, saith the Lord GOD. And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, *are* men, *and* I *am* your God, saith the Lord GOD." (Ezekiel 34:29-31 KJV)

<u>A plant of renown</u> - Equivalent to the "Branch," under which name Isaiah and Jeremiah prophesy of <u>the Messiah</u>. The contrast in this verse to hunger seems to favor the idea that **the** "**plant**" was for food, i. e., <u>spiritual food</u>, and in this sense also, applicable to the Messiah (compare Joh <u>6:35</u>). (*Albert Barnes' Notes On The Bible*)

You see the "plant of renown" is actually Jesus the Christ (Messiah). And it's only through a constant diet of feeding on His Word that the "natural" man can become "spiritual" by "doing" <u>the will</u> (G2307) <u>of the</u> <u>Father</u>. Jesus is the only "spiritual food" that will get anyone into Heaven!

But what about the psychoactive "weed god" called marijuana? What does it offer the user?

"...I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. <u>But the</u> fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and <u>sorcerers</u>, and idolaters, and all liars, <u>shall have their part in the lake which</u> <u>burneth with fire and brimstone</u>: which is the second death." (Revelation 21:6-8 KJV)

Marijuana is a magical potent that opens up the user to the spiritual powers of darkness. God calls the marijuana user a "sorcerer" (one who prepares or uses magical remedies) who's destined for Hell!

So you tell me: what do you hunger for - the will (G2307) of God or the desires of the flesh?

"<u>Love not the world</u>, <u>neither the things *that are* in the world</u>. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and

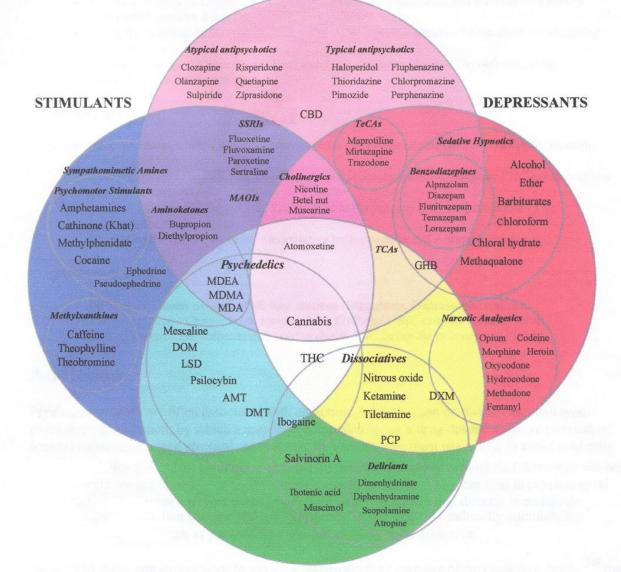
the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but <u>he that doeth the will</u> (G2307) <u>of God abideth for ever</u>." (1 John 2:15-17 KJV)

Feast yourself on the "Plant of Renown"...and you will "keep on keeping the faith in Jesus!!!"

Love,

Dad (Bruce Hallman) E-mail: bruce@fmh-child.org Web: http://www.fmh-child.org





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