

Maitreya's Deception

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Comments & Update (From Dr. Johnson):

Please understand I am not necessarily endorsing this information, but we know according to the Word of God that the 'Antichrist' will come with all lying signs, wonders and miracles and will deceive the whole earth by this 'Strong Delusion' that the Lord Jesus will permit according to II Thes. 2:11. **Maitreya** (a likely candidate for the Antichrist-see my teachings below) **has been advertising on major media outlets (including CNN, Anderson Cooper 360, History Channel, Discovery Channel, MSNBC, Nancy Grace, Rush Limbaugh, Wallstreet Journal, etc.)** that very soon a **bright star will appear in the sky both day & night for one week** and then he will be interviewed on a major US news network to announce his arrival to earth as: 'the Christ', 'the Messiah', 'the fifth Buddha', 'Krishna' & the 'Imam Mahdi'. He is calling this event 'The Day of Declaration'. See: <http://www.shareintl.org/introduction/introduction9.htm>

To watch the commercial mentioned go to:

<http://www.youtube.com:80/watch?v=3gkCTHvW0y0&feature=relatedhe>

Also see: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUGH2QvI5Ak>

There are some different variations of this commercial & recently a listener called the phone number (1-800-870-6108) given at the end of the commercial she heard & the recording directed her to **this website:**

<http://www.theemergence.org/welcome/>

They even have **their own PDF/Brochure at:** http://www.theemergence.org/docs/Intro_brochure_letter.pdf

From Share international (Maitreya's U.N. endorsed website) we read: "In the very near future, people everywhere will have the opportunity to witness an extraordinary and significant sign, the like of which has been manifested only once before, at the birth of Jesus.... Soon, once again, a star-like luminary of brilliant power will be seen around the world." **Maitreya's first interview>>** & **'The Star Sign'**

In the very near future a large, bright star will appear in the sky visible to all throughout the world>>



[Deception Afoot: Maitreya & 'Master Jesus' \(Part 1\)](#)

1,500+



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1

Scott A. Johnson • Current Events and Bible Study

SUN 02/01/2009

2 Timothy 3:13 <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=21092346480>

Current Events

📖 "Great Sermon!" 2/5/09 • i have noticed the bright star too and kept wondering what it was...



[The U.N., Lucis Trust, World Goodwill, Earth Charter, Maitreya-Pt. 1](#)

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5

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SUN 03/16/2008

2 Timothy 3:13 <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=317081955347>

Current Events



['Lord Maitreya' the Antichrist? \(Part 1\)](#)

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11

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SUN 12/02/2007

Matthew 24:24 <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=123071835192>

Current Events



[Mars, Lord Maitreya, The Ascended Masters & Strong Delusion](#)

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16

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SUN 04/29/2007

Genesis 6:1-4, Matthew 24:37

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=42907172424>

Current Events

📖 "Larry King Live" 12/28/08 • hopefully Maitreya will appear on Larry King along with Smiley...

Ephesians 5:11, 13-16: "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, **Awake thou that sleepest**, and arise from the dead, and **Christ shall give thee light**. See then that ye walk **circumspectly**, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

The 1828 Noah Webster Dictionary defines:

Reprove: To blame, to convince of a fault, or to make it manifest, to excite a sense of guilt.

Circumspectly: Cautiously; with watchfulness every way; with attention to guard against surprise or danger.

Matthew 24:24: "...if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

II Corinthians 2:11: "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

I Corinthians 2:15a: "But he that is spiritual judgeth all things..."

New Age adherents are terrifically excited that the long-awaited igniting of Jupiter into a new sun may have at last occurred!

This prophecy below may be being fulfilled right now!

"God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie" 2 Thess 2:11

NEWS BRIEF: "Jupiter Ignites!! We Now Have Two Suns", YouTube Video

"On 12th Candace Frieze channeled entity Christ Michael".

From: <http://www.cuttingedge.org:80/newsletters/> Let us stop for a moment right there. As you can see, **this belief that Jupiter will ignite at the end of the period prior to the appearance of the New Age Christ is firmly rooted in the New Age Religion, which is nothing more, nor less, than Witchcraft. This report comes from a channeler, who is channeling a demonic spirit/**ascended master** known as "Christ Michael", a fitting name since the most important goal in the New Age religion is the establishment of the New Age Christ.**

"Here is what he says about our new sun. Oh MY, my dearly beloved, we have a most bodacious glorious new sun! It, of course, is not a large sun, but big enough to stimulate the necessary changes for a solar system to enter Light and Life. This little sun will renergize your larger sun ... "

At this point, the creators of this video attempt to prove that Jupiter has ignited into a new sun. They show a NASA video segment purportedly showing a small speck of light behind the Sun which is identified as Jupiter; then, abruptly, a flare blows outward to the left of the image, and is identified as the igniting of Jupiter into a new sun.

You can see this same [NASA footage on the following websites:](#)

**"GF ignites Jupiter into a sun_Proofs@NASA_15 Feb 2009"
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-8xImR0wEM&feature=related>**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-8xImR0wEM&feature=related)

**"GF shows giant UFO behind the Sun_Proofs@NASA_15 Feb 2009"
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJ_pA7wFxTs&feature=related**

[New Age Sources:](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-NFNUH1dJo>

Channeling: <http://www.lightworkers.org/channelin...>

More Info: <http://www.lightworkers.org/channelin...>

As you will see, both these websites present this belief that Jupiter has now ignited in New Age religious language. We understand several realities very clearly here:

1) It is scientifically impossible for Jupiter to ignite into a Sun. We posted an article on this subject in mid-March, 1999, [NEWS1338](#).

BUT

2) The Illuminati Plan does boldly call for Jupiter to be verified that this is part of the Illuminati Plan, from a former occultist.

Do you remember the movie, "2010 Space Odyssey"? Watch the clip here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhMYgg-0cGI> That movie depicts the occult plan to light Jupiter into a second sun in the sky. Cooper further stated that he learned while on active duty in Naval Intelligence of this plan to ignite Jupiter and to call the new sun, "Lucifer" (P. 72).

3) The Bible does state that one of the End Times prophecies will be "signs and wonders in the heavens" (Joel 2:30).

Our conclusion is that if Jupiter is going to be ignited into a small sun, **occultic supernatural forces** will have to accomplish the deed. Since the only people talking about lighting Jupiter are practitioners of the occult, we have to conclude that God will have to allow Satan to ignite the planet. But, of course, Satan wants to get that kind of glory and he has prepared his followers to trumpet to the world that the igniting of Jupiter is a sign that the world is entering the New Age of "Light and Love", the world of the New Age Christ.

Indeed, such an event -- if God ever allows it to occur -- would immediately be recognized by many on earth as a supernatural event, and **New Age leaders would trumpet their belief that Maitreya had ignited Jupiter as a sign in the heavens that the Christ is about to appear to lead mankind into a new era of Light and Love.**

Such a belief would lead directly into the **"strong delusion"** of 2 Thessalonians 2:11, where untold millions of people would be doomed to believe the New Age lie.

We shall know what is really happening **in March when Jupiter again comes out from behind the Sun.**

The true story is that so many **New Age believers & luke warm Christians** are being set up for the "strong delusion" by which they will be doomed to follow Antichrist once he arises.

Video: The New Age of Change: The Star, Maitreya & Nibiru/Planet-X

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e96E0DVwpYg>



1

[2012, Mayan Cal., Pole Shift, Wormwood, Planet-X, Nibiru, Crystal Skulls- Pt.1](#)

2,200+



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SUN 09/07/2008

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2 Corinthians 2:11

Current Events

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=99080215210>

🗉 "A great service!" 10/31/08 • You have performed a great service to the church by collating...

Video: MAITREYA = 666 in Both Hebrew and Greek Gematria

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVkusRzq4Xo>

Video: Maitreya: The Name of the Antichrist (Riddles in Stone)

The clip in this video is taken from the documentary "Riddles in Stone"



regarding Maitreya

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2IWoxbY8DY&feature=channel>



Video: Another One of Maitreya's Deceptions to Deceive Christians-Crosses of Light

From the caption to this video: "Maitreya has created hundreds of Crosses of Light through which he has healed people of blindness, addiction, cancer, infertility, migraines, and more. He heals when you watch the images, even still images. His healing peaceful energies flow out to you. In an interview with Benjamin Creme, he said that how the healing happens is through increasing the awareness of those watching, with the empowered awareness one sees that it is possible to heal."

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1VLuxulCDg&sdig=1>



[The 'Cross of Christ' vs. the 'Accursed Tree' \(Part 1\)](#)


900+   [Play!](#) | [MP3](#)

1 **Scott A. Johnson** • Current Events and Bible Study

Acts 17:28-30 <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=218081636434>

SUN 02/17/2008

Current Events

 "Interesting information" 11/1/08 • The cross has been a part of Christianity for a long...

Video: More Deception-Maitreya & The Masters' Miracles

From the caption to this video: "A flood of Miracles has been occurring within the communities of numerous faiths, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Native American, and Jewish. Many crop circles and UFO sightings have now been proven to not be hoaxes, but miracles for all to wonder at. Could these happenings be signs all pointing to a great spiritual renaissance? Here we offer one possible explanation ~ that indeed Masters from ALL spiritual traditions are cooperating as one group, and alerting us to their presence, so that together we can

create at last a real universal brotherhood and caring for each other. They have been creating miracles and miraculous healings to alert us to our divine nature. Maitreya is at the head of this group of Masters of Wisdom."

Watch: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=luQP6WdO1cY&feature=channel_page



There is a significant level of cooperation between Crème's Share International, the United Nations' Alliance of Civilizations, and the [Aquarian Age Community](#). The Aquarian Age Community—the spiritual foundation of the United Nations—also recognizes Maitreya as the coming world spiritual and political leader. Both Crème and the Aquarian Community have expressed the opinion that the Alliance of Civilizations is the vehicle which will be used to materialize the new civilization.

According to the press releases, Maitreya is to be the Christ to Christians, the Imam Mahdi to Muslims, Krishna to Hindus, the Messiah to Jews, and Maitreya Buddha to Buddhists. Many people who subscribe to this universalist doctrine may find themselves in a bit of a dilemma. Does Maitreya fulfill your prophetic expectations or do your religious texts portray something altogether different? Is your Christ really Maitreya? If you reject the universalist doctrine, according to the Alliance of Civilizations you have an "exclusionary" ideology and are prone to violent radicalization and have terrorist leanings.

In the Armageddon Script, Theosophist Peter Lemesurier wrote that they have studied all the world religions and intend to fulfill all religions' prophetic expectations so they can get on with the business of creating a new heaven and earth of their own devising. Share International has consistently said that Maitreya would not appear until the United States has [economically collapsed](#) and the world feels the pain of a global economic meltdown.

I cannot help but believe the [economic collapse was assisted with a push](#). The Alliance of Civilizations has said it could not implement its agenda until the United States' sovereignty was redefined and subject to global governance.

Throughout 2008 Alliance of Civilizations' Co-chair Federico Mayor's message has been "no more delays. No more reports. No more meetings to agree on what has been agreed upon for years. [It is time for action](#)". It is time for action; these words sound familiar to those of us who have read Peter Lemesurier's Armageddon Script: "Their script is now written, subject only to last-minute editing and stage-directions. The stage itself, albeit as yet in darkness, is almost ready. Down in the pit, the subterranean orchestra is already tuning up. The last-minute, walk-on parts are even now being filled. Most of the main actors, one suspects, have already taken up their roles. Soon it will be time for them to come on stage, ready for the curtain to rise. The time for action will have come."

Let us remember the [history](#) of what happens when man attempts to become God.

Deception Afoot: Maitreya & 'Master Jesus'



Dr. Scott
Johnson

Teaching Overview: Share International is now advertising Maitreya's emergence on the The History Channel, Rush Limbaugh, Nancy Grace, Anderson Cooper 360 & the Wall Street Journal. Maitreya seems to have a strangely similar "share and save the world" agenda to that of Purpose Driven Pastor Rick Warren with his Global P.E.A.C.E. Plan and also President-elect Barack Obama with his Global Poverty Act and Universal Service Plan - men who apparently have no aversion to working with any or all of the world religions or non-religions to "save the planet". Share International says Maitreya is coming with the satanic counterfeit "Master Jesus": "In collaboration with...& Maitreya, the Master Jesus is deeply interested in unifying the religious thought of East and West. According to the Plan, this will lead to the One Universal Church, uniting all peoples into the One Humanity...It is forecast that the Master Jesus will yet occupy the chair of the Pope of Rome, and that from that seat he will then be able to re-inspire and re-orient the whole field of Christian religion, diverting it from its present political and temporal trends, towards a more spiritual approach." "Could you explain the relationship between the disciple Jesus and Maitreya the Christ?" "By the occult process of overshadowing, the Christ, Maitreya, took over and worked through the body of Jesus from the Baptism onwards."

Share International magazine January -
February 2009

This is an abridged version of

[Share International magazine.](#)

Through these electronic files, the magazine Share International makes available a compilation of its contents.



The magazine is published monthly, except bimonthly in January/February and July/August of each year.

The Master's article for
Share International magazine,
January - February 2009

Maitreya's first interview

**by the Master —, through Benjamin
Creme, 11 January 2009**

In the very near future, people everywhere will have the opportunity to witness an extraordinary and significant sign, the like of which has been manifested only once before, at the birth of Jesus. Then, according to Christian teaching, a star appeared in the heavens and led three wise men from the East to the birthplace of Jesus. Soon, once again, a star-like luminary of brilliant power will be seen around the world. What does this mean? How is it possible?

The answer lies in the fact that this mysterious event is a sign, and heralds the beginning of Maitreya's open mission. Soon after the sign appears in our skies, Maitreya will give His first media interview on American television.

Public

On that open, public occasion, still unannounced as Maitreya, the World Teacher will present His views on the economic and financial chaos which now grips the world. He will explain its origins and final outcome, and present, to some extent, His recipe for amelioration of the present heavy burden on the poor of the world. Thus He will prepare the way for a more detailed and specific announcement of His ideas.

How will viewers respond? They will not know His background or status. Will they listen to and consider His words? It is too soon to know exactly but the following may be said: Never before will they have seen or heard Maitreya speak. Nor, while listening, will they have experienced His unique energy, heart to heart. Also, this is a unique time in history with whole nations stunned and apprehensive for the future. Therefore it can be assumed that many who hear His words will be open and eager to hear more. It is not for nothing that Maitreya has waited patiently for this moment to enter the public world; America, for one, would not have responded sooner. Now, for the first time in many years, a new Administration has to cope with financial chaos, unemployment and social unrest on a massive scale. The moment of truth for America and the world has arrived.

Worldwide

Not alone in America but worldwide, people are awakening to the need for and the possibility of change. The politicians and economists call the present situation a 'downturn' and a 'recession'. In truth, we are witnessing the last stumbling steps of the old order. Millions are becoming aware that unbridled competition and greed are not the safest path for men, that such materialistic doctrines create a 'slippery slope' for the unwary, and, eventually, the

international crisis we have today.

Of course, many people of burgeoning wealth stand clear of the present loss of confidence in the ways which have made them rich, and think it only 'a matter of time' until we are back on course and thriving again.

Will they heed Maitreya and recognize the sense of His argument? Lost in their arrogance and self-esteem, possibly not. However, many are less sanguine about a return to the status quo. Many have suffered painful losses and have lost faith in the old methods. The peoples of the nations are ripe and ready for change. They call out for change and a more meaningful life. Maitreya will remind men of the essentials without which there is no future for man: Justice and Peace. And the only way to both is through sharing.

[\(Read more articles by the Master\)](#)

▲ Questions and Answers

Q. Is the Israeli attack on Gaza a reason for the delay in the appearance of the star predicted to appear some time between Christmas and early in the New Year?

A. No. From the viewpoint of the Masters there is no delay. In our press release to the media we did not say that the star would appear "some time between Christmas and early in the New Year" but that it would appear in the "very near future". In any case, this is being written on 8 January, still very early in 2009. My Master says: be *calm* and *expectant* (they are not mutually exclusive). The Plan is going very well.

Q. What will it take to convince both sides in the conflict that they must negotiate to arrive at a point where peace and tolerance become possible in Palestine and Israel?

A. It is easy to say they should negotiate

but the gap between the two sides is very wide and I am convinced that it will take Maitreya to bring them together. The problem is that a negotiated peace has to be fair to last. So far, the Palestinians have never been offered a *fair or just* solution. Nor has Israel been open to negotiation on crucial matters of difference.

I believe that a worldwide embargo of Israel, such as was applied to South Africa which led to the end of apartheid, would be the most effective way to bring Israel to the negotiating table.

Q. If the action Israel took in 1967 during the 6-day war constituted 'evil' are we seeing the same energy at work with regard to their actions against the Palestinians, particularly those in the Gaza strip?

A. Yes.

Q. Much, perhaps too much, is expected of the new American President. Do you think the world is being too optimistic? Barak Obama is expected to solve the major current world crises: the economic crisis, the environment, unemployment, collapsing industries, growing homelessness, rising poverty, conflict in the Middle-East and terrorism. Surely such a task would take a superman to get to grips with?

A. Absolutely true. Luckily, we do have a superman who really can show us the way to solve these problems – His name is Maitreya. The rest is up to us. We have to make the right decisions in the light of Maitreya's ideas. Obama could be a decisive voice for a 'new' America – co-operative and willing to listen to others – in the world.

Q. The elections and the prospect of a new era in US politics with Barak Obama as President seems to have lifted the spirits of Americans and many others around the world. Do you expect a new phase of moderation and negotiation instead of

warmongering?

A. Yes. He probably would not immediately withdraw from Iraq or Afghanistan, but as soon as possible, whatever that means; but we can look forward to dealing with a President who does not seem to speak or act from ideological demagoguery, who is empirical and moderate and who has a very sick country to restore to health. He has *this* in his favour – Maitreya and His vision, energy and love. What an example for him to follow!

Q. Israel's military power depends on American financing and supplies. Will the economic collapse in the US and around the globe have a positive impact on the conflict between Israel and Palestine?

A. Mr Obama has already said words to the effect that America would stand behind Israel but financial pressures may cause some lessening of US financial support. In any case, I am sure it will take Maitreya to reconcile these two groups.

Q. So many countries are beginning to suffer the fallout from the economic collapse. Vast amounts of money are promised to shore up crumbling industries and the financial sector, but surely it is the little people who are suffering even more than usual. What can the Masters do to help the already poverty-stricken and those now falling into debt, homelessness and unemployment?

A. It is not the Masters' place to solve our problems. We are responsible for the chaos. To directly interfere would be an infringement of our free will. During the 'good times' most people gave little thought to the poor and homeless. The Masters give the teaching which would rid the world of poverty and war at a stroke.

Q. Many people seem nervous about the economic health of their countries at present but there are still financiers promising that an upturn is just around the corner, that this is just a 'healthy

adjustment'. People don't know how best to proceed – save, spend, invest or carry on as normal. Your comments please?

A. As the Master says so clearly, this is not a temporary 'downturn' or 'healthy adjustment' we are all going through, but the collapse of the old, unjust order. It is necessary, and inevitable too, the logical outcome of our greed and selfishness. My advice, for what it is worth, is to save and learn to live more simply. This we all will have to do so that others may live at all.

Q. If all our savings and pension funds are going to go up in smoke, and if no one will be able to buy anything anymore because of the current economic crisis, how can the world keep on running?

A. The outlook is not as bleak and extreme as you think. The basics will continue to be made and sold – and Maitreya will show a better, more just and fair way to live. You can see now why Maitreya has had to wait so long to speak publicly. Humanity, apart from the developing world, was living in illusion for years, thinking that a totally corrupt and unfair economic system could continue for ever. They forget about the ever-increasing effect of the energies of Aquarius.

Q. We hear a lot these days about "bail-out packages" to jump start nations' economies, as well as increased government spending on their countries' infrastructures in order to create jobs. Also, countries already have enormous amounts of national and foreign debt, and are printing money around the clock. Will all this make it even more difficult to switch to an economy based on sharing? Do not the debts have to be paid off first?

A. These money-spending policies will not work. This is not a Roosevelt New Deal. The times are very different although the present situation resembles that of the 1930s. This is the end of the Age, and order (or disorder) is not a passing storm. It will help people to see sharing as the

only way to restructure the world economy.

Q. (1) Were there really historically genuine figures known as the "three wise men"? (2) Who were they? (3) Why were they looking for Jesus?

A. (1) Yes. (2) They were Masters. (3) They were not "looking for" Jesus. They came to pay their respects to the One Who would be overshadowed by the Christ.

http://www.shareintl.org/magazine/old_issues/2009/2009-01.htm

From Name: Alex

From Email: aldemchuk@yahoo.com

Message:

Scott have you seen this? Share International says Maitreya is coming with a "Master Jesus".

"In collaboration with the Masters KH and M, the Master Jesus is deeply interested in unifying the religious thought of East and West. According to the Plan, this will lead to the One Universal Church, uniting all peoples into the One Humanity...It is forecast that the Master Jesus will yet occupy the chair of the Pope of Rome, and that from that seat he will then be able to re-inspire and re-orient the whole field of Christian religion, diverting it from its present political and temporal trends, towards a more spiritual approach."

"Could you explain the relationship between the disciple Jesus and the Christ?"

BC: The disciple Jesus, who is now the Master Jesus, was born in Palestine as a third degree initiate. The five major Initiations which take one to Liberation have their symbolic enactment in the life of Jesus. That is what the Gospel story is really about. It is a very ancient story and has been presented to mankind again and again, in different forms, long before the time of Jesus. He was, and still is, a disciple of the Christ and made the great sacrifice of giving up his body for the use of the Christ. By the occult process of overshadowing, the Christ, Maitreya, took over and worked through the body of Jesus from the Baptism onwards."

Could that be the Beast and False Prophet?

Alex

From: <http://www.redmoonrising.com/maitreya.htm#Predictions>

<p>Predictions of the Emergence of Maitreya - from New Age sources.</p>	<p>Biblical Predictions of the Antichrist - as understood by the majority of Christians.</p>
<p>Maitreya to appear at a time when catastrophic events are overtaking the earth.</p> <p><i>"This 'end of an age' inevitably produces a certain number of natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes, and we are seeing a dramatic climax in the number of disasters taking place around the world... Maitreya says: 'The last time I came, as Jesus, it was written in the Bible that when I appeared again the very elements of nature would be disturbed.' " "...After the disasters have peaked there will come a period of calm -the violence and destruction will come to an end. As people gain awareness, their guilt will recede..."</i> <i>Maitreya's Mission, Volume Two, Benjamin Creme, Share International Foundation, 1993, pp186-187</i></p>	<p>The Antichrist to appear at a time when catastrophic events are overtaking the earth.</p> <p>The Biblical "Day of the Lord" begins with a Polar Shift of the earth. This period of judgement will include earthquakes, meteor impacts, (one large one in Rev. 8:8), major famines and plagues, intense heat from the sun, and many other catastrophic events.</p>
<p>Maitreya to appear in connection with a major shift in the world's economy.</p> <p><i>"When the US's "oasis of prosperity" begins to dry up, as it must in the current global financial crisis, stock markets in the West will plunge. This collapse will provide an opportunity for governments to re-evaluate their economic priorities, says futurist Benjamin Creme. The nations of the world will meet together to discuss how to cope with the future in an orderly fashion."</i> from the Share International website at- http://www.shareintl.org/maitreya/Ma_prior.htm Also see these articles: one, two, three and four, these are just a few. Also see <i>Maitreya's Mission, Volume Two</i>, by Benjamin Creme, Share International Foundation, 1993, pp. 8, 118-119, 137</p>	<p>The global economy will be immediately affected by the preliminary events of Revelation (especially the polar shift).</p> <p>End-times Babylon (the world's superpower) will cease to function as the world's economic center (Rev.18).</p> <p>The Antichrist will replace free-market capitalism with a single economic system connected with the Mark of the Beast, (Revelation 13), allowing no one to buy or sell without the mandatory Mark.</p>

Maitreya is predicted to establish a New World Religion, (despite the fact that Benjamin Creme often denies that Maitreya is here for that purpose).

1. Frequently asked questions

... and in celebration of this event, Pentecost will become one of the major festivals of the **new world religion** which the Christ will eventually inaugurate. Our response to his call will ...

2. The new civilization, by the Master –, through Benjamin Creme; Share International Archives

... the new science will demonstrate man's divinity and will lead to the establishment of the **New World Religion**. The ancient schism between religion and science will be healed and a new impulse ...

3. Maitreya's teachings on religion; Share International Archives

... between what you wrote in Maitreya's Mission, Vol. I. — that Maitreya had come to found the **New World Religion** and to inspire a change in the world's political/economic structures, and yet ...

4. Churches, theology and dogma, by Aart Jurriaanse; Share International Archives

... as members of the Church Universal, and they are building the spiritual nucleus of the coming **New World Religion**, which will finally encompass the peoples of the whole world into a single ...

5. Avatars down the ages by Felicity Elliot, Share International Archives

... A comparison of all religions shows their common elements. "Eventually a **new world religion** will be inaugurated which will be a fusion and synthesis of the approaches of East and West. The ...

(from a Share International SEARCH page)

The Antichrist will establish a single, mandatory religious system.

Revelation 13:8. *"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him (Antichrist), whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."*

13:15, *"as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."*

Maitreya will be aided by the Master Jesus, who is predicted to soon take control of the Roman Catholic Church and lead Christianity to accept Maitreya as the Christ returned.

"The disciple Jesus, who is now the Master Jesus, was born in Palestine as a third degree initiate. The five major Initiations which take one to Liberation have their symbolic enactment in the life of Jesus. That is what the Gospel story is really about. It is a very ancient story and has been presented to mankind again and again, in different forms, long before the time of Jesus. He was, and still is, a disciple of the Christ and made the great sacrifice of giving up his body for the use of the Christ. By the occult process of overshadowing, the Christ, Maitreya, took over and worked through the body of Jesus from the Baptism onwards. In his next incarnation, as Apollonius of Tyana, Jesus became a Master. He lives now in a Syrian body which is some 600 years old, and has his base in Rome. He has, in the last 2,000 years, worked in the closest relation to the Christ, saving his time and energy where possible, and has special work to do with the Christian Churches. He is one of the Masters who will very shortly return to outer work in the world, taking over the throne of St Peter, in Rome. He will seek to transform the Christian Churches, in so far as they are flexible enough to respond correctly to the new reality which the return of the Christ and the Masters will create. I am afraid that the Churches have gone very far away from the religion which the Christ inaugurated; which is to do with sharing, with love, with brotherhood and right relationship. But this monolithic institution has grown up in the name of that simple man and transformed his simple teaching into ... well, you know what it has taught."
From [here](#), also see the article at <http://www.redmoonrising.com/contFP.htm> for more information.

The Antichrist will be aided by the False Prophet, a spiritual leader, possibly to come from Rome, who will lead the world to worship the Antichrist.

The False Prophet is first described in Revelation 13:11-12, *"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast (Antichrist)..."*

The second beast is referred to as the False Prophet in Rev.16:13 and 19:20.

Revelation 13:14 describes how the False Prophet sets up the Abomination of Desolation (the image of the Antichrist). Daniel 9:27 describes how a future "prince" will set up the Abomination of Desolation. This "prince" will come from Rome (Daniel 9:26), therefore the False Prophet will come from Rome. *This interpretation is only this author's opinion, while the majority of scholars maintain that Daniel 9:27 describes a Roman Antichrist (rather than the False Prophet).*

See this [article](#) on the Biblical False Prophet for information on how the False Prophet may actually claim to be Jesus of Nazareth.

<p>Maitreya will play an important role in achieving peace in the Middle East.</p> <p><i>"...politically, the next problem [for Maitreya] is to solve the situation in the Middle East, solve the Arab-Israeli problem." from The Reappearance of the Christ..., p 187</i></p> <p><i>"There can't be true peace in the world until 'the Middle East' question is settled. . . . So deep are the feelings aroused in both sides, so entrenched are the positions which each adopt, that I believe Maitreya alone has the spiritual authority to point to the solution and achieve its implementation."</i> <i>Maitreya's Mission, Volume 1, page 128</i></p> <p><i>"I believe the Israelis will procrastinate endlessly and that it may well take the emergence of Maitreya to bring about reconciliation."</i> <i>Maitreya's Mission, Volume 2, page 100</i></p>	<p>The Antichrist will be instrumental in confirming a covenant with Israel that will bring peace and allow the Temple to be rebuilt.</p> <p>Daniel 9:27, <i>"He will confirm a covenant with many for one `seven.' In the middle of the `seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him. "</i></p> <p>Some interpret the above text as applying to the Antichrist, while this author applies it to the False Prophet (see the article linked above). In either case, it is ultimately the authority of the Antichrist that brings about the final seven year covenant of the earth's rebellious history, as the False Prophet is merely a lackey for the Antichrist.</p>

Bible-believers will reject Maitreya based on misunderstood scriptural warnings.

"There are many fundamentalists - Christian and others - who see my information as a travesty of the truth, and who will reject Maitreya in the first place, but not for ever. It may be that Christians will accept the Master Jesus before they accept Maitreya, but it could well be that they will not even accept the Master Jesus. The name is right, but He does not have holes in His hands and feet any more."

"For a time, it may well be that very orthodox Christians - in particular Fundamentalists - will reject both Maitreya and the Master Jesus, now in Rome. He has not come 'on a cloud at the end of the world' as they expect, nor does He have holes in His hands and feet. But gradually, many Christians will find it easier to accept the Master Jesus as the returned Christ (at least the name is the same) rather than Maitreya, and the Master Jesus is in charge of the Christian Church worldwide. Eventually, however, I believe that most people, Christian and otherwise, will accept that Maitreya is indeed the Christ, Messiah, Krishna - World Teacher for all."

Above quotes from [here](#).

"A great polarisation will take place in humanity, between those who are ready to go forward with the Christ, into the future, on the only rational basis of sharing and co-operation for the good of all, creating right relationships; and those who are holding on to the old separatist ways, who are ready (though they wouldn't see it in these terms, it would be the inevitable result) to plunge the world into chaos, and war..." [notice how "chaos and war" will likely be blamed on those who reject Maitreya, once the end-times events begin to take place]

From [here](#). Read another at

http://www.shareintl.org/archives/economics/ec_mas-coping.htm

Also read a sinister message from "The Master" [here](#) that speaks of **misinterpreted "scriptural warnings."**

Bible-believers will reject the Antichrist based on simple scriptural warnings that are almost impossible to misunderstand.

The prophet Daniel, Jesus, Paul and the book of Revelation are all crystal clear that this age will not end until the Antichrist has had his reign over the entire earth. The Bible is also crystal clear that the real Messiah, or Christ, will appear after the Antichrist, and on the clouds of heaven in plain site of all men.

Zechariah 12:10, *"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, **the one they have pierced**, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son."*

Revelation 1:7, *"Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, **even those who pierced him**; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen."*

Matthew 24:30, *"At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory."*

Christian expectations are not based on radical interpretations, rather, they are based on simple beliefs. We believe in a future Antichrist and a literal Second Coming simply because that is what Jesus and our Scriptures have always clearly predicted. The perseverance of Bible-believing Christians and their subsequent persecution by the Antichrist is described in many texts including, Daniel 7:25, 11:32-35, 12:10, Matthew 24:9-13, Revelation 12:17 13:7-10, 14:12-13, etc, etc.

Maitreya displays a strong dislike for the USA and especially for the American-dominated capitalist system.

*"America is the foremost expression of economic totalitarianism, based on the blind following of market forces, that is imposing its will throughout the world; even the Soviet Union is adopting a market-forces economy. **Maitreya calls market forces 'the forces of evil.'** Any government which bases its policies on the blind following of market forces, He says, is leading its people to destruction. That is what is happening now."*

End-times Babylon, the world's last independent superpower, will be attacked by the Antichrist and the ten kings who give him his power.

Revelation 17:16-17, *"The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute (Babylon). They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire. For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to give the beast their power to rule, until God's words are fulfilled."*

see http://www.shareintl.org/archives/political/faq_political-issues.htm on this page Creme also predicts the demise of "religious totalitarianism" (fundamentalism) and he describes Karl Marx as a disciple of the Master Jesus.

"Maitreya calls commercialization more dangerous to the world than an atomic bomb. It is killing life at its source, which is human. It is based on competition and greed. Greed and competition are at the basis of the commercial and social life of America, and therefore, through its influence, of a huge section of the world." from http://www.shareintl.org/archives/cooperation/faq_cooperation.htm

Much of the criticism that Creme levels at the United States is valid, and this writer does not seek to defend our corporate-dominated and oppressive foreign policies, rather, the intent is simply to demonstrate Creme's deep-seated resentment of America's status as the lone global superpower.

----- Original Message -----

From: Capatin

To: drjohnson@ix.netcom.com

Sent: Monday, November 03, 2008 3:55 PM

Subject: got this in a email

Obama said it himself:

In his memoir Obama describes the joy of meeting his father's family during his first visit to Kenya in 1988. Obama and the Messiah (just before he vanished) were yards away from each other in 1988. And now one of those 2 is running for President.

It seems he was present at the only photographed appearance , ever , of 'the Christ'

<http://www.einterface.net/gamini/maitreya.html>

----- Original Message -----

From: [Alex](#)

To: [Scott A. Johnson](#)

Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2009 4:35 AM

Subject: Someone has sent you an email from SermonAudio.com...

This message was sent to you using the contact-email form on SermonAudio.com:

From Name: Alex

From Email:

Message:

Hey brother Scott, praise the Lord for your watchman ministry. I'll pray for you tonight. I wanted to e-mail you tonight because I stumbled across something today that blew me away. I really don't know what to make of it to be honest with you but take a look at this. **If you're familiar with Share International, you'll know the claim that Maitreya appeared on June 11 1988 in Nairobi Kenya. Now take a look at this quote from Barack Obama's Wikipedia page.**

"In mid-1988, he traveled for the first time to Europe for three weeks and then for five weeks in Kenya, where he met many of his paternal relatives for the first time."

Lord Bless,

Alex

Wall Street Journal Promotes Maitreya/Share International & The 'Christmas Miracle'

Constance Cumbey: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL PUBLISHED THE SHARE INTERNATIONAL (BENJAMIN CREME - 'MAITREYA THE CHRIST') ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WILL BE 'EMERGING' AND DOING A MAJOR USA TELEVISION INTERVIEW IN THE USA 'SHORTLY AFTER CHRISTMAS.' Talk about 'the grinch who stole Christmas! The financial collapse seems tailor made for desperate people to fall for these anti-Christ lies. That the Wall Street Journal would lend credence by labeling it a "Christmas Miracle" is astounding.

<http://cumbey.blogspot.com/2008/12/betraya-oops-maitreyas-christmas-gift.html>

Here is the text of the Share International Press Release:

Wall Street Journal--Dec. 12, 2008--LOS ANGELES, Dec 12, 2008 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- For years the world has been filled with miracles of all kinds. In April 1995 Time magazine devoted an eight-page spread to its cover story on miracles and concluded: "People are hungry for signs."

Look now for the biggest miracle of all. In the very near future a large, bright star will appear in the sky visible to all throughout the world -- night and day.

Unbelievable? Fantasy? No, a simple fact. Around a week later, Maitreya, the World Teacher for all humanity, will begin his open emergence and -- though not yet using the name Maitreya -- will be interviewed on a major US television program.

In 1988, CNN and other media reported on Maitreya's miraculous appearance to 6,000 people in Nairobi, Kenya, on Saturday, June 11. A week before the event, a remarkable sign occurred: "On Saturday 4 June a big, bright star was sighted, unusually brighter than ordinary stars," reported Kenya Times editor Job Mutungi.

For over 30 years, artist, author and lecturer Benjamin Creme has been preparing the way for the emergence of Maitreya and his group, the Masters of Wisdom. In May 1982, Creme revealed at a packed press conference in Los Angeles that Maitreya had been living in the Asian community of London since July 19, 1977.

Awaited by all faiths under different names, Maitreya is the Christ to Christians, the Imam Mahdi to Muslims, Krishna to Hindus, the Messiah to Jews, and Maitreya Buddha to Buddhists. He is the World Teacher for all, religious or not, an educator in the broadest sense.

As a modern man concerned with today's problems, Maitreya works behind the scenes of our changing world. The outpouring of his extraordinary energy has been the stimulus for dramatic developments on many fronts: the ending of the cold war; the break-up of the Soviet Union; the reunification of Germany; the ending of apartheid in South Africa; the

growing power of the people's voice, leading to demands for freedom and justice; and the worldwide focus on preserving the environment.

Maitreya's message can be summarized as "share and save the world". He will seek to inspire humanity to see itself as one family, and to create world peace through sharing, economic justice and global cooperation.

With Maitreya and his group working openly in the world, humanity is assured not only of survival but of the creation of a brilliant new civilization.

<http://www.share-international.org>

SOURCE Share International

<http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/Share-International-Reveals-Christmas-Miracle/story.aspx?guid={9A9C5B6B-E962-411A-B219-B5A559182416}>

MAITREYA RISING?

By Paul Proctor--December 19, 2008--NewsWithViews.com--There was a very strange announcement made recently in the form of a press release posted on the Dow Jones & Company's Market Watch website dated December 12, 2008, that bears mentioning, if for no other reason, because it reads like something from a supermarket tabloid. Come to think of it, didn't Rupert Murdoch just buy Dow Jones & Company not long ago? If you're not aware, they also publish, among other things, the Wall Street Journal.

Anyway, whether this speaks to the decline of a once great business publication or the growing power and influence of a coming world leader, only time will tell. Either way, it is clearly another ominous sign of the desperate times in which we live.

The article in question titled, [Share International Reveals Christmas Miracle](#), advises readers to prepare for a coming miracle that all of us will see in the sky shortly before the "emergence of Maitreya and his group, the Masters of Wisdom."

Allow me to reiterate: This is a major business and financial news publication – not some obscure blog for Bigfoot hunters and UFO enthusiasts.

What I find fascinating is that this Maitreya fellow seems to have a strangely similar "share and save the world" agenda to that of Purpose Driven Pastor Rick Warren with his [Global P.E.A.C.E. Plan](#) and also President-elect Barack Obama with his [Global Poverty Act](#) and [Universal Service Plan](#) – men who apparently have no aversion to working with any or all of the world religions or non-religions to save the planet – which may explain, at least in part, why Warren is scheduled to [lead the invocation](#) at Obama's upcoming inauguration.

<http://www.newswithviews.com/PaulProctor/proctor169.htm>

----- Original Message -----

From: RAY H

Sent: Saturday, December 27, 2008 10:43 AM

Subject: sign of his coming

Today @ 9:39 am on the history channel they ran an advertisement **announcing to look for the bright star for the coming messiah**. Not Jesus by name, but the messiah of all religions and **then a picture of Maitreya (as was taken of him when he appeared in Kenya, Africa in 1988)** and then a message to learn more about Share International. The illumined ones are announcing the coming antichrist!--Raymond H.

My Response: Thank you! I had another listener tell me **he was listening to Rush Limbaugh the other night (out of the New Orleans area) and they made the same announcement over the airwaves. Bare in mind these are major "credible" media outlets. I have had confirmation from several other listeners that this is being advertised on:**

(The History Channel, Rush Limbaugh, Nancy Grace, Anderson Cooper 360 & the Wall Street Journal).

----- Original Message -----

From: Stacey

Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 2:32 AM

Message:

Hi Scott,

I really love and appreciate your sound teaching. I have been following your teaching on the anti-christ and today I was mind-blown when **I was watching the Nancy Grace show and a commercial popped up. It was about the Maitreya. It talked about a star that we will be able to see in the day and night and that would be the signal. They were vague about it. They gave a 1-800 # at the bottom of the screen to learn more. This was on "Headline News".** They are ramping things up. Makes you wonder what is going to happen next.

Thanks for your podcasts,
Stacey

The Approach of Maitreya

Share International magazine December 2008--The last few years a number of events occurred in which Maitreya left a personal 'calling card.' In several issues of Share International magazine photographs of these phenomena were published, including the following explanatory comments.

The Christmas Miracle of 2008

For years the world has been filled with miracles of all kinds. In April 1995 Time magazine devoted an eight-page spread to its cover story on miracles, and concluded: "People are hungry for signs."

Look now for the biggest miracle of all. In the very near future a large, bright star will appear in the sky visible to all throughout the world – night and day.

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In 1988 CNN and other media reported on Maitreya's miraculous appearance to 6,000 people in Nairobi, Kenya, on Saturday 11 June. A week before the event a remarkable sign occurred: "On Saturday 4 June a big, bright star was sighted, unusually brighter than ordinary stars," reported Kenya Times editor Job Mutungi.

http://www.share-international.org/maitreya/Ma_approach.htm#xmas

Maitreya's Response When Asked about Obama

Share International magazine December 2008--*On 26 October 2008, while being filmed for Slovenian television in Munich, Germany, Benjamin Creme received the following message, by mental telepathy, from Maitreya, the World Teacher.*

Q. Do you think Barack Obama will be more responsive to Maitreya's ideas than his Republican counterpart?

A. Yes, and he has come to presidential power at a significant moment for the world.

Q. Will Barack Obama be the last president of the United States? I believe it was either Maitreya's associate or your Master who said that eventually the US presidency will be replaced by a group of wise elder statesmen and that former president Jimmy Carter (in office, 1976-1980) will be invited to join them if he lives long enough.

A. That is still the Plan so there is every chance that Mr Obama will be the last President.

http://www.share-international.org/magazine/old_issues/2008/2008-12.htm

Share International magazine January - February 2009 This is an abridged version of Share International magazine. Through these electronic files, the magazine Share International makes available a compilation of its contents.

The magazine is published monthly, except bimonthly in January/February and July/August of each year.

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Maitreya's first interview, by the Master — Questions and answers

2008 Transmission Meditation Conference Keynote Talk Letters to the editor Signs From our correspondents Wise Words Maitreya's priorities Facts and forecasts Magazine subscriptions Previous issues Next update Remind me when this page is updated The Master's article for Share International magazine, January - February 2009 Maitreya's first interview by the Master —, through Benjamin Creme, 11 January 2009

In the very near future, people everywhere will have the opportunity to witness an extraordinary and significant sign, the like of which has been manifested only once before, at the birth of Jesus. Then, according to Christian teaching, a star appeared in the heavens and led three wise men from the East to the birthplace of Jesus. Soon, once again, a star-like luminary of brilliant power will be seen around the world. What does this mean? How is it possible?

The answer lies in the fact that this mysterious event is a sign, and heralds the beginning of Maitreya's open mission. Soon after the sign appears in our skies, Maitreya will give His first media interview on American television.

Public On that open, public occasion, still unannounced as Maitreya, the World Teacher will present His views on the economic and financial chaos which now grips the world. He will explain its origins and final outcome, and present, to some extent, His recipe for amelioration of the present heavy burden on the poor of the world. Thus He will prepare the way for a more detailed and specific announcement of His ideas.

How will viewers respond? They will not know His background or status. Will they listen to and consider His words? It is too soon to know exactly but the following may be said: Never before will they have seen or heard Maitreya speak. Nor, while listening, will they have experienced His unique energy, heart to heart. Also, this is a unique time in history with

whole nations stunned and apprehensive for the future. Therefore it can be assumed that many who hear His words will be open and eager to hear more. It is not for nothing that Maitreya has waited patiently for this moment to enter the public world; America, for one, would not have responded sooner. Now, for the first time in many years, a new Administration has to cope with financial chaos, unemployment and social unrest on a massive scale. The moment of truth for America and the world has arrived.

Worldwide Not alone in America but worldwide, people are awakening to the need for and the possibility of change. The politicians and economists call the present situation a 'downturn' and a 'recession'. In truth, we are witnessing the last stumbling steps of the old order. Millions are becoming aware that unbridled competition and greed are not the safest path for men, that such materialistic doctrines create a 'slippery slope' for the unwary, and, eventually, the international crisis we have today.

Of course, many people of burgeoning wealth stand clear of the present loss of confidence in the ways which have made them rich, and think it only 'a matter of time' until we are back on course and thriving again.

Will they heed Maitreya and recognize the sense of His argument? Lost in their arrogance and self-esteem, possibly not. However, many are less sanguine about a return to the status quo. Many have suffered painful losses and have lost faith in the old methods. The peoples of the nations are ripe and ready for change. They call out for change and a more meaningful life. Maitreya will remind men of the essentials without which there is no future for man: Justice and Peace. And the only way to both is through sharing.

(Read more articles by the Master)

Questions and Answers Q. Is the Israeli attack on Gaza a reason for the delay in the appearance of the star predicted to appear some time between Christmas and early in the New Year?

A. No. From the viewpoint of the Masters there is no delay. In our press release to the media we did not say that the star would appear "some time between Christmas and early in the New Year" but that it would appear in the "very near future". In any case, this is being written on 8 January, still very early in 2009. My Master says: be calm and expectant (they are not mutually exclusive). The Plan is going very well.

Q. What will it take to convince both sides in the conflict that they must negotiate to arrive at a point where peace and tolerance become possible in Palestine and Israel?

A. It is easy to say they should negotiate but the gap between the two sides is very wide and I am convinced that it will take Maitreya to bring them together. The problem is that a negotiated peace has to be fair to last. So far, the Palestinians have never been offered a fair or just solution. Nor has Israel been open to negotiation on crucial matters of difference.

I believe that a worldwide embargo of Israel, such as was applied to South Africa which led to the end of apartheid, would be the most effective way to bring Israel to the negotiating table.

Q. If the action Israel took in 1967 during the 6-day war constituted 'evil' are we seeing the same energy at work with regard to their actions against the Palestinians, particularly those in the Gaza strip?

A. Yes.

Q. Much, perhaps too much, is expected of the new American President. Do you think the world is being too optimistic? Barak Obama is expected to solve the major current world crises: the economic crisis, the environment, unemployment,

collapsing industries, growing homelessness, rising poverty, conflict in the Middle-East and terrorism. Surely such a task would take a superman to get to grips with?

A. Absolutely true. Luckily, we do have a superman who really can show us the way to solve these problems – His name is Maitreya. The rest is up to us. We have to make the right decisions in the light of Maitreya's ideas. Obama could be a decisive voice for a 'new' America – co-operative and willing to listen to others – in the world.

Q. The elections and the prospect of a new era in US politics with Barak Obama as President seems to have lifted the spirits of Americans and many others around the world. Do you expect a new phase of moderation and negotiation instead of warmongering?

A. Yes. He probably would not immediately withdraw from Iraq or Afghanistan, but as soon as possible, whatever that means; but we can look forward to dealing with a President who does not seem to speak or act from ideological demagoguery, who is empirical and moderate and who has a very sick country to restore to health. He has this in his favour – Maitreya and His vision, energy and love. What an example for him to follow!

Q. Israel's military power depends on American financing and supplies. Will the economic collapse in the US and around the globe have a positive impact on the conflict between Israel and Palestine?

A. Mr Obama has already said words to the effect that America would stand behind Israel but financial pressures may cause some lessening of US financial support. In any case, I am sure it will take Maitreya to reconcile these two groups.

Q. So many countries are beginning to suffer the fallout from the economic collapse. Vast amounts of money are promised to shore up crumbling industries and the financial sector, but surely it is the little people who are suffering even more than usual. What can the Masters do to help the already poverty-stricken and those now falling into debt, homelessness and unemployment?

A. It is not the Masters' place to solve our problems. We are responsible for the chaos. To directly interfere would be an infringement of our free will. During the 'good times' most people gave little thought to the poor and homeless. The Masters give the teaching which would rid the world of poverty and war at a stroke.

Q. Many people seem nervous about the economic health of their countries at present but there are still financiers promising that an upturn is just around the corner, that this is just a 'healthy adjustment'. People don't know how best to proceed – save, spend, invest or carry on as normal. Your comments please?

A. As the Master says so clearly, this is not a temporary 'downturn' or 'healthy adjustment' we are all going through, but the collapse of the old, unjust order. It is necessary, and inevitable too, the logical outcome of our greed and selfishness. My advice, for what it is worth, is to save and learn to live more simply. This we all will have to do so that others may live at all.

Q. If all our savings and pension funds are going to go up in smoke, and if no one will be able to buy anything anymore because of the current economic crisis, how can the world keep on running?

A. The outlook is not as bleak and extreme as you think. The basics will continue to be made and sold – and Maitreya will show a better, more just and fair way to live. You can see now why Maitreya has had to wait so long to speak publicly. Humanity, apart from the developing world, was living in illusion for years, thinking that a totally corrupt and unfair economic system could continue for ever. They forget about the ever-increasing effect of the energies of Aquarius.

Q. We hear a lot these days about "bail-out packages" to jump start nations' economies, as well as increased government spending on their countries' infrastructures in order to create jobs. Also, countries already have enormous amounts of national and foreign debt, and are printing money around the clock. Will all this make it even more difficult to switch to an economy based on sharing? Do not the debts have to be paid off first?

A. These money-spending policies will not work. This is not a Roosevelt New Deal. The times are very different although the present situation resembles that of the 1930s. This is the end of the Age, and order (or disorder) is not a passing storm. It will help people to see sharing as the only way to restructure the world economy.

Q. (1) Were there really historically genuine figures known as the “three wise men”? (2) Who were they? (3) Why were they looking for Jesus?

A. (1) Yes. (2) They were Masters. (3) They were not “looking for” Jesus. They came to pay their respects to the One Who would be overshadowed by the Christ.

Q. How do I deal with/overcome my resistance to service?

A. Keep on trying. You may even get to like it!

Q. According to New Scientist magazine, scientists have discovered that space is filled by an unknown radiation. Its radiation is six times stronger than all known astronomic sources within this frequency band taken together. The scientists were seeking to discover small changes in the cosmic background frequency, the microwave echo of the Big Bang. Instead they discovered something more exciting: a mysterious radiation, whose origin is absolutely unclear, which seems to fill the universe.

The astronomers believe that they have discovered something new: according to the NASA scientists involved, the signal was not discovered earlier since Earth-based telescopes were not yet sensitive enough.

What is it? Please could you comment on this discovery?

A. If the scientists are representing correctly what they are seeing, they are discovering for themselves what has already been discovered by Wilhelm Reich (1897-1957), the well-known psychoanalyst and later scientist, who discovered a primordial energy which he named ‘orgone’. He saw it as an energy which interpenetrated all forms of matter. He experimented with orgone in many ways: in healing and cloud-busting (making rain) where and when needed by very simple means. The US Food and Drug Administration had him arrested and imprisoned for his trouble, and he died in prison.

I believe that the vibration which astronomers have discovered, the ‘orgone’ of Wilhelm Reich, and the higher etheric levels of matter are one and the same. Scientists today recognize matter as being solid, liquid and gaseous but esoterists know that there are four further states of matter above gas known as the 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st plane of etheric matter. So instead of three planes, there are actually seven planes of matter.

All matter is a precipitation of light and so the field of matter is light precipitated into seven more or less material planes.
2008 Transmission Meditation Conference Keynote Talk Education, education, education by Benjamin Creme

The following article is the first section of an edited talk given by Benjamin Creme at the Transmission Meditation Conference held near San Francisco, USA, in August 2008. The quotations used are selected from the following articles by Benjamin Creme’s Master: ‘The New Education’, ‘The Family’, and ‘The Age of Light’.

The theme of this year’s conference is ‘Education, education, education.’ I am going to talk about a different type of education from that which exists today, with different aims, different ways and methods of proceeding. If the direction is as suggested by the Master, it will entirely change education on Planet Earth.

“In seeking insights into the directions which education in the New Age might take it will prove useful to establish the basic purpose which education serves and so throw light on the inadequacies of present educational approaches.”

This is obviously true. If we do not know the purpose of education, if we do not know the nature of the being of the people we are being asked to educate, and if the present educational methods and approaches are not changed, then it is obvious we will not make much progress in training the young and adults for the experience of life in the new age.

Life in the new age will be completely different from all previous experiences on this planet. None of us, except the most evolved, will have gone through the stages of enlightenment, and the growing meaningfulness of their lives, under the instruction of the Masters of Wisdom.

In this coming time the Masters will be living openly in the world. There are already 14 Masters plus Maitreya in the world. Eventually there will be about 40, though not all involved in education. However, a large number of the Masters are involved in education of some kind. Their disciples will become the teachers, in the first place, of the people who will most likely perform the main task of training and educating all groups, young and old, in this coming time.

As the nature of the human constitution and the aims of life on planet Earth are realized, as the world becomes more and more united through sharing, justice and peace, so more and more people will find in themselves the need to know: about who they are, their purpose in life, and their stage in evolution. People will talk a great deal about evolution which will become the most significant factor on planet Earth. The evolution of human consciousness, and the development of all the kingdoms in nature, will dominate the thought and purpose of men and women everywhere.

As people become more aware of their identity as souls in incarnation, they will begin to express more of their soul quality. Therefore, the intuition will begin to work in people in whom it hardly plays a part today. More and more, we will intuit the possibilities and meanings behind the outer appearances of life. We will want to know who we are in all aspects. Why were we born? Were we really born before? Are we really the result of a succession of lives through the Law of Rebirth? Is rebirth a fact of life?

Many people will take Maitreya's word for it on the Day of Declaration, but millions of people already believe in some way in reincarnation, especially if they are Buddhists or Hindus. Millions of people will start asking questions. They will want to know how their age-long religious beliefs relate to the new information given out by Hierarchy, the Ageless Wisdom Teachings, which will be simplified in the beginning and then gradually approach the core of the truth.

People will begin to understand that humanity is travelling together as one huge group, at different stages of the evolutionary journey. We are all travelling together along a path of evolution to something tremendous which our minds at present find difficult to truly understand.

It is easy for a Master to say: "You become God-like beings who demonstrate all the qualities of God." We do not even know all the qualities of God. We think we know the intelligence of God. We have an inkling of what a mighty intelligence might be like, or a capacity to love totally and unconditionally. We imagine God's love must be like that. It has to be unconditional, of course, otherwise there would be no evolutionary process because we would never make it past the point where it could be unconditional. We would never change or grow.

Something as mysterious as the Will of God will begin to attract the minds of many people. They will want to understand that extraordinary mystery – how the Will, the Purpose of God, can be known, what it is, how it demonstrates. What further aspects of God must we recognize in order to fully understand the aspects which we think we already know?

Over a period of time, all of this will begin to concern the minds of more people. If they are to make anything of it, they must be educated. It is that kind of education that the Master means when He talks about education for life, education for the new age, in which men and women recognize themselves as potential gods. If you recognize yourself as a potential god, you get some inspiration from the idea. Your aspiration grows accordingly. You want to become like that idea of divinity when the idea of being a soul really grips the imagination and rings true in the heart.

When you see Maitreya and the other Masters Who are coming out into the open with Maitreya, you will see what God-like men look like, how They behave. What kind of inspiration must that be for humanity? "Firstly, it must be understood for whom education exists and the process by which it carries out its function. This may be less obvious than at first sight may seem to be the case, for man has long been ignorant of his true nature and constitution, taking the part for the whole, and ignoring, to a large extent, his essential being."

According to the Masters, the human constitution at the very highest level is threefold. At the physical level, the level that we are familiar with, it is the physical body, the emotional body and the mental body. One makes us want to eat, the other makes us feel sad or happy, as the case may be, and one tells us the time, that if we do not hurry we will miss the bus. For most people, this apparently solid physical body, which we see in the mirror, is all we are. You see yourself getting older as you look in the mirror, week after week, month after month, year after year, the jaw slacken, the lines grow under the eyes, the hair recedes. Who or what is getting older? The body which is only equipment, a vehicle.

This is only equipment. The true human constitution, according to the Masters, is that we are sparks of the divine. The divine is everywhere. In fact, there is nothing else but the divine. We live in a divine, spiritual universe. That is the nature of life.

The spark of God, the divine spark, everywhere in cosmos – in us and not separate from us – is the ultimate, highest aspect of the human constitution. It is perfect and has all the potential of the divine. In this solar system, that potential will be X factor. In a higher solar system like Sirius it will be X plus, a potential that we cannot even begin to imagine. It is always an infinity, because it is creative, from our point of view manifesting at ever higher levels. As far as this solar system is concerned, when we have brought that which is our highest through every aspect of that which is our lowest, we have completed the journey of evolution on planet Earth.

We are physical, we are the soul, we are the spark of God. That divine spark reflects itself as the individual human soul. That soul is an individualized part of one great Oversoul, which is the human kingdom. The human soul is the intermediary between the divine spark (the Monad in Theosophical terminology), and the man or woman on the physical plane, with a physical, emotional and mental body. These three aspects

If we see life clearly at this level on the physical, emotional and mental planes, the soul likewise experiences clearly at this level. Unfortunately, so unevolved are the vast majority of people on planet Earth, that we do not present to ourselves as souls, the divine intermediary, a sufficiently clear, pure view of life to allow the soul to see it adequately. The soul sees exactly what we present to it.

It is a problem of illusion. Humanity lives in the illusion of its physical, emotional and mental view of life. On any of these three levels, if a person is seeing in an illusionary way – not true, not direct – that is the view of life they present to the soul. The aim on the physical, emotional and mental planes is to purify the response to the world around us. We have done it more or less on the physical plane. I doubt if there are very many people today who are polarized, as it is called, on the physical plane. Most people are polarized on the astral-emotional plane. To be polarized on the physical plane means your thinking, your view of life, your focus of consciousness is the physical plane. Perhaps there are some people who are little more than intelligent animals.

Today 95 per cent of people are polarized on the astral plane, which is a heavy weight on the evolution of humanity. However, in this coming time this will change dramatically. Already nearly 5 million people are standing at the threshold of the first of the five great planetary initiations which culminate in the resurrected Master.

The Plan of evolution is in the mind of that unbelievably high, evolved Cosmic Being Who ensouls Planet Earth. Our planet – with everything on it including ourselves and all the creatures that ever walked the Earth – is the means of expression of that great Being. He has a plan for the evolution of this planet in relation to the greater plan of the Solar Logos. The Solar Logos is an even more advanced Cosmic Being, Whose body of expression is the solar system, including this and all the other planets. All planets have a Planetary Logos Whose plans relate to that of the Solar Logos.

He has an even greater Plan because He sees a wider meaning and purpose beyond what the other Planetary Logoi are seeing and working towards.

As far as planet Earth is concerned, the custodians of this Plan are the Masters of Wisdom and the Lords of Compassion. Their task is to work out the Plan, through the human, subhuman and devic kingdoms insofar as this is possible. Not all the Masters will know all of the Plan, depending on Their status. The more advanced Masters like Maitreya will obviously know more of the purposes of the Logos than the Master of the fifth initiation, for example.

At each initiation, by token of the placing of the initiatory rod of power, the chakras of the initiate are heightened. The first two initiations are taken before Maitreya, and the third and higher ones before Sanat Kumara, the Lord of the World, on Shamballa. The initiations progressively give a greater and deeper sense of the extraordinary scope of the Plan.

The Plan touches on every aspect of life on planet Earth, and relate these different aspects to each other. Think of the human, animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms, the extraordinary variety and scope of the devic, or angelic evolutions: the subhuman elementals, the lower builders, the great devas whose bodies are so vast they could cover a continent. We cannot imagine the scope and variety of the devic evolutions. All these kingdoms and evolutions are interrelated. Nothing stands separate. There is no separation in the whole of cosmos. Every atom is related to every other atom. This is behind the reality of the two great Laws that govern the evolutionary process....

Letters to the Editor Wake up call Dear Editor, On a cold, rainy evening, 10 December 2008, the 60th Anniversary celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights took place in Amsterdam. Many people from the peace movement and outsiders were present and group members of Share International. We held torches and banners saying: "Only sharing and justice will bring lasting peace." At some point we all formed the peace sign – with torches and all. Many photographers from the press were present; photos were even taken from a crane above us. One photographer in particular was very interested in the small group of Share Nederland co-workers and also our banner texts.

Just then a remarkable man with long, flowing, white hair arrived on a bike. He radiated vitality and power, but we noticed that his teeth were bad. (He only had a few teeth in the lower jaw.)

Members of the organizing committee made speeches, at the end of which the remarkable man, who did not need a microphone to make himself heard, called in a loud voice to the people in the surrounding houses: "Wake up people! Are you awake? Step out and join in." Then the chant was started led by the organizers: "Love, power and joy." Somewhat overcome by the cold we probably did not chant loudly enough for his liking; he called out to us: "Louder, louder!" and set an example by chanting with us which had an energizing effect: we began to chant louder and more enthusiastically.

Then he said: "All those who are present are good pupils!" One of the Share Nederland group gave her torch to him. He accepted it, but gave it back again, saying: "You are the light and I am the voice. You are a good pupil." After the meeting three of us talked for a while and the remarkable man joined us, saying that he very often went to Amsterdam pubs to wake people up.

"Are you coming with me?" he asked, but we had to catch a tram. He then talked about the economic crisis, the greed of many and that as always the poor suffer worst due to wrong measures.

One of us had recently been preoccupied by Maitreya's Message No.72: "My Forces are gathering around Me. My Army strengthens from day to day, and in planned and full array will it march into the Light ..." and "Take your places, My brothers, in this Company of Light ..." She felt the words evoke the idea of war.

Quite unexpectedly the man started to explain that it is not a matter of waging war, but of putting up a fight against those who are really waging war. There is often too little counteraction because people are too inhibited by fear and/or modesty. "We must let our voice be heard!"

He talked again about Amsterdam pubs, where he often goes. He said: "I tell them that on 23 August it will be 100 years ago since World War One broke out but the discussion that follows [this remark] is usually rather passive." The man went on: "Then I say, if we continue as we are there will be a third world war in 2014! Only then do they wake up with a start. This is what we should do: not scare people, but wake them up!"

Miracle worker Dear Editor,

This New Year's Eve [2008] I was feeling a little disappointed having not yet seen the miraculous star manifest over Christmas. Whilst returning home from the theatre with my brother and daughter, we were approached by a black lady smoking a cigarette. It was about 7pm; she was in her mid 40s and looked dressed to go out. She seemed harmless and sober, just a little crazy as she was talking absolutely random nonsense.

We walked away but she followed us into a shop and started to talk again to my daughter and me. She then declared that she believed in miracles. She repeated this enthusiastically and then asked me: "Do you know why I believe in miracles?" She asked me again, looking directly at me with her endlessly dark eyes, so this time I asked her: "Why do you believe in miracles?", while wondering who this person really was. She smiled and replied: "Because ... 'I believe in miracles'" and proceeded to joyfully sing that classic 1970s song by Hot Chocolate. Then she pointed to my brother who was paying at the till and, in the words of the song, continued with "where you from, you sexy thing".

We left the shop with a smile on our faces. It was a timely and uplifting experience, but who was this crazy lady?

R.M., London, UK. (Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that the "crazy lady" was the Master Jesus.)

Confirmation Dear Editor,

About one week before Christmas 2008, I had a long talk with my friend from the Greek Transmission Meditation group on the outstanding news from the Share International website about the Christmas miracle that was going to happen in the very near future.

Although I became enthusiastic at first, my scepticism took over and I convinced myself and my friend for a negative outcome! After some time the other side of the argument popped up in my mind, that Mr Creme has information from an enlightened source, and who am I to argue about the news he is revealing on the internet for everyone to see!

When I went to bed soon after this another extraordinary happening took place! On my bedside table was the clasp from my wrist watch strap which I had long discarded because over the years its glue had evaporated and it had become unusable. But this formerly opened clasp was now a round shape, kept in place by fine threads obviously stitched by hand!

Could you please explain the meaning of this 'minor miracle'? Who stitched the clasp on my watch strap and made it appear on my bedside table

L.A., Athens, Greece.

(Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that the 'miracle' was manifested by Maitreya. The purpose? To reassure her that the information of the star is true.)

French connection Dear Editor,

On 15 December 2008, I was travelling on the underground. There was only one other person in the carriage. Even so, when two men got on, one sat right next to me and the other one opposite him. I had to move my shopping bag. The man said: "Thank you." He was smiley and friendly. He was black, wore glasses, had a green stud earring in his ear and held a half-smoked cigarette in his hand. He made an exaggerated comment on my love of colour. I thought he was teasing me. His French accent was so heavy I could barely make out what he was saying. When I got up to get off, he said: "You will see me in 2009." I wasn't sure I understood him correctly. In a daze I said: "But the changes are happening now." With great enthusiasm he said: "NOW, NOW." Then beaming he said: "Partage, Egalité, Fraternité". I said: "Absolutely," got off the train and walked down the platform. As the train gathered speed, we waved to one another.

Could this bubbly man have been Maitreya?

C.C., London, UK.

(Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that the "bubbly man" was Maitreya.)

Out of the snow Dear Editor,

Towards the end of a lecture at a New Age Center in Amsterdam on 23 November 2008, a Surinamese woman of about 45 entered the room. She gave the impression of being rather self-confident and declined the invitation to have a seat in the front. "No, I am late and wet," she said. It was snowing outside. She started immediately: "Do you have any books? And did Maitreya predict that Obama would be the elected presidential candidate?" I said: "No, he did not, however there is a considerable chance that Obama will be the last President and that the Presidency will eventually be replaced by a group of wise men (of State). She reacted: "Oh, I thought so! First Obama and then we can implement the changes."

After the lecture she came up to the book table and asked Nancy what kind of meditation she did. Nancy explained about Transmission Meditation. Pointing to the book Messages from Maitreya the Christ, she said: "I would like to buy this book, but I don't have any money with me." Nancy noticed that she was wearing a fur-lined raincoat, a red scarf on her head, big golden earrings with red stones; underneath a red cardigan she also wore a white one over a coloured sweater. She saw that I was looking in her eyes and asked me: "Are you well-known from television? I know you, because you have such a familiar face." Later she said: "We really have met before."

Could you please say whether this remarkable woman possibly was a Master?

N. de G. and M. o. t N., Holland.

(Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that the 'woman' was the Master Jesus.)

Signs Canadian woman has extraterrestrial contacts A woman from British Columbia, Canada, says that since a close encounter with a UFO in 1988 she has had numerous contacts and communications with extraterrestrial beings. Miriam Delicado was driving from northern British Columbia to the Lower Mainland with four people in October 1988. They were heading south along Highway 97, just past the town of Prince George, when Delicado said a pair of large, luminescent lights came up behind them and followed within 10 feet of their car.

"It was night time and we thought it was a truck but the lights would follow us when we were alone and then disappear when a car or a house came into view," she said. "After the lights had been following us for hours, we came to 100 Mile House and I thought we'd be able to lose whatever it was."

But soon after they left the town of Mile House, the lights once again followed them, often appearing and disappearing. Delicado asked the driver to pull off the road and stop the car. "As soon as we stopped, her head flopped back and she just had a blank stare and the back seat people were in animated suspension," said Delicado. "The two spheres were a foot behind us and the car was engulfed in bright light. I turned to the front of the car and saw a craft sitting on the road. It was luminescent and it was hard to see the details but it looked like there was steam coming off of it," she said.

Short beings, about four feet tall, with big round, black eyes and large, childlike heads approached her. "They had a small mouth and tiny nose and wore a one-piece suit. I heard instructions in my head to get out of the car. I was scared but not terrified, more in a state of confusion, but they kept saying not to be afraid, we will not harm you," said Delicado.

The beings took her hand and walked with her a short distance along the highway and up an embankment. When she looked up, she saw a larger craft with an open doorway. "There were two tall beings, seven feet tall, in the doorway," she said. "They had blond hair of the purest white, and large, water blue eyes. They wore long robes."

Delicado boarded the craft, which had a metallic interior with a sterile feel. "In the centre was a circular work area with stools and overhead was a hovering white light ball of what I think was energy. It seemed to be a control centre where information streamed from the ball to the beings," she said.

Delicado communicated with the beings telepathically. "They sat me down on some kind of light chair recliner and, in front of me, a screen appeared which showed pictures of possible futures of the Earth. I saw an earthquake aftermath and they explained what it was and seemed to have the ability to place the experience within me. They gave me the physical ability to experience the trauma," she said.

Delicado spent about three hours on the craft, watching what appeared to be a movie, before returning to the car. Everyone in the car woke up when she returned, and they spoke about the lights, but no one had seen or experienced what Delicado had. The following day Delicado began recalling memories of the previous day's events. She saw recurring images of war, meteors striking the Earth and other disasters. "They started to filter clearly into my mind," said Delicado. "All of these possibilities of a future we are heading for if we don't change the path humanity is on."

The experience convinced her of the importance of respecting the Earth, and caused her to believe humans are not alone in the universe. "We have a responsibility to ourselves and to all of life," she said.

Delicado believes the extraterrestrials are the caretakers of the Earth. "They are not allowed to interfere with what we are doing here on Earth, but they give people like me information and we have the free will to do what we want with the information."

Delicado kept her experiences a secret for 15 years but during that time says she had many telepathic communications with the beings. She says that she was telepathically instructed when to start publicly sharing her experiences and knowledge. For the past five years she has been speaking at conventions and other gatherings.

Delicado says the extraterrestrials' message is one of hope and encouragement. "These beings have been out there since the beginning of time and my understanding is that they take care of other planets out there," she said. "They are also in the dream world and some walk around us. I've seen them in public and they don't look like us, but others don't see what I'm seeing." Delicado has written a book about her experiences called *Blue Star: Fulfilling Prophecy*. (Source: bclocalnews.com)

(Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that this account is broadly true but with a small degree of astral embroidery to the story. The short beings were from Mars, the tall beings from Jupiter.)

UFO sightings Australia: Steve Jolliffe, from Sydney saw what appeared to be a UFO in a photograph of his neighbourhood on the Google Maps website in December 2008. The UFO seemed to hover above Millers Point in Sydney, near the Sydney Harbour Bridge. "I live in the street on the corner and it has a beautiful view of the harbour," he said. "I was just trying to get a look on Google when I saw it. It just caught my eye. I couldn't get back to bed. I thought it was a UFO straight away." (Source: Daily Telegraph, Australia)

Scotland: A 16-year-old boy and his family saw three UFOs in the sky over Dumfries on 26 December 2008. Macaulay Moodycliffe was on his way to a nearby fish and chip shop when he saw the unusual lights. He ran home to tell his family, who also say they witnessed the objects. According to Moodycliffe: "They were large orange balls with a circle of orange glow around them that was given off by the light. They appeared to be moving slowly but when I looked closer and I saw a plane in the sky, it was clear they were moving very fast indeed, a lot faster than the aeroplane."

The two objects were visible for about five minutes before disappearing into the distance. Shortly after the first two lights disappeared a third one appeared. Moodycliffe said: "The two disappeared out of my sight after a while as they faded away into the distance but then from behind the houses a third one appeared and followed the direction of the other two until it also faded into the distance. It was strange as they appeared to be pretty big but were silent." (Source: Dumfries and Galloway Standard, UK)

(Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that the above sightings were all spacecraft from Mars.)

Potato sign On 17 December 2008 Sharda Ganpat, a Surinamese Hindu living in The Hague, the Netherlands, cut a large potato in half while preparing for her meal. To her great surprise she discovered a cross shape in each half.

(Benjamin Creme's Master confirms that the cross was manifested by Maitreya.)

Right: Potato with cross as manifested by Maitreya. Please see above article "Potato sign".

Left: Blessing by the Master in Tokyo on photograph of university students at the Buaiso, memorial house of Mr and Mrs Jiro Shirasu, Tokyo, May 2007, sent by H.I.

Please click either photo to view it in a larger copy. From our own correspondents Strength through peace Interview with Colman McCarthy – an excerpt by Jason Francis

American journalist and peace activist Colman McCarthy has been teaching courses in nonviolence and the literature of peace since 1982. In 1985 he founded the Center for Teaching Peace, a non-profit organization that has been helping schools throughout the United States to create and expand programs in peace studies. His publications include *All of One Peace: Essays on Nonviolence* (1994) and *I'd Rather Teach Peace* (2002). Colman McCarthy was interviewed by Jason Francis for Share International.

Share International: What is your definition of peace?

Colman McCarthy: Among individuals, peace is the result of love. If love were easy, we'd all be good at it. Collectively, peace is the result of justice. And again, if justice were easy all nations would be good at it.

SI: You have said that strength comes through peace. Could you contrast your view with the commonly held view that peace comes through strength?

CM: Strength comes in many forms. Politicians who argue that peace comes through strength are referring to military strength – the strength of violence, from the violence of the nuclear bomb to the roadside bomb. If military strength were effective, the planet would have had peace eons ago. Yet against all historical evidence, we are repeatedly told, war after war, century after century, that this time violence will work. Hannah Arendt had it right when she said: "Violence, like all action, changes the world but the most probable change is to a more violent world." Currently some 35 wars or conflicts are raging, with an estimated 30,000 people a month dying in them – mostly the poor killing the poor. The wealthy rarely go to war. How many members of Congress had sons who saw combat in the 12 years of the Vietnam war? Only one. How many American soldiers in Iraq or Afghanistan right now are graduates of Ivy League schools? I doubt very many.

The opposite of violent strength is moral strength. Evidence that it works is not hard to find. In only the past 25 years, at least six brutal regimes have been overthrown by people armed with weapons of the spirit, not weapons of steel. In 1986, Marcos was brought down in the Philippines by a peaceful revolt. Pinochet in Chile was driven from power in 1988 by people who organized for three years to get a fair election. In 1989, the Soviets were driven from Poland by the Solidarity labor union. In 1994 in South Africa, the boycotts finally worked and Nelson Mandela – imprisoned for 27 years – became president of the country. Students in Yugoslavia drove out Milosevic in 2001. The bloodless “revolution of the roses” toppled Georgian President Shevardnadze in 2003. In each instance it was morally strong people who brought about these changes without guns, bombs or armies. They proved that right makes might.

SI: What inspired you to begin teaching nonviolence?

CM: As a journalist with The Washington Post, I interviewed many of the world’s true peacemakers: Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Mairead Corrigan from Belfast, Perez Esquivel from Buenos Aires, Mother Teresa from Calcutta, Rigoberta Menchú from Guatemala, Muhammad Yunus from Bangladesh – all Nobel Peace Prize winners. I’d always ask the essential question: How do we go about decreasing violence and increasing peace? The answer was always the same: Go where people are and teach alternatives to violence. So I took their advice.

Most recently I’ve been teaching courses on nonviolence and pacifism at three high schools, as well as American University, the University of Maryland, Georgetown Law School and the Washington Center for Interns. I also lecture at about 30 schools a year, from destitute ones in the inner cities to private university-preparatory schools like Exeter and the Cate School, as well as colleges and universities, and conferences involved in social issues....

SI: You once said that “too many schools process students as if they were slabs of cheese going to Velveeta High on the way to Cheddar U and Mozzarella Grad School”, and also that “you can earn all ‘A’s in school and then go out and fail at life”. How important is it to cultivate harmlessness and caring as an approach to life in the development of young people?

CM: Testing mania has overtaken our elementary and high schools. Teachers are demoralized by the constraints of pushing their students to spout the right answers at test time. Are we creating gentle children, kind children, creative children? I doubt it. In colleges and graduate schools, the pressure to ace tests is intense. Students who get a B in the course see themselves as failures. In my high school classes, I give no homework, no tests and no exams. It’s pressure-free education. History’s enduring teachers gave no homework, tests or exams. There was Socrates among the ancients and Maria Montessori among the moderns.

SI: How do you teach your students peace?

CM: We read the literature of peace: A Strength Through Peace: The Ideas and People of Nonviolence and The Solutions to Violence. The goal is to familiarize students with what has been written and is being written about the alternatives to violence. Schools rarely go near the philosophy of pacifism and the methods of nonviolent conflict resolution. That means large numbers of schools are graduating large numbers of peace illiterates. We wonder why we have a world overwhelmed with violence: military, domestic, economic, environmental, governmental, legal and illegal violence, verbal, emotional, and political, as well as violence toward animals.

I just teach one course to my students, probably the only course they’ll ever have that will explore alternatives to violence. Would we ever graduate someone from high school with only one class in math or science? Do we dare graduate our students from elementary school with one course in science, writing or math? They get those subjects every year. It should be the same with peace education.

SI: How are students able to apply what they learn in class in a practical way in their lives?

CM: Life brims with conflicts, ones we settle either with violent or nonviolent force. After I spent a couple of weeks in one of my high school classes reading and discussing some of Gandhi’s essays, a student came up after and said it was

useful to know about Gandhi's success over the British but said: "I live in a war zone. My parents verbally and emotionally abuse each other every night, and often it's physical abuse. How do I stop that war?" If we don't teach our children peace, someone else will teach them violence. I take field trips with my classes – to impoverished schools, drug rehabilitation centers, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, as well as to courtrooms and death rows – and Joan Baez concerts.

SI: How do you answer the skeptics who believe that violence such as warfare is a valid option and even that your class should also provide the arguments put forward by the proponents of violence?

CM: I don't teach the arguments for violence. Students come into class already steeped in them – as taught by films, video games, violent sports like football and hockey, war-whooping politicians, school textbooks detailing war-making, and often the lessons learned at home to "fight like a man".

SI: You point out that it is easy to blame militarists, sexists and racists for the violence in society but self-examination is more difficult. Adults most likely have already been conditioned to accept violence as a part of life, even if they may not overtly like it. What can we do as adults to find the source of and eradicate violence – individually and collectively?

CM: I am not much into blaming. Jim Douglass [Christian theologian and nonviolent activist] has a good line: "The first things to be disrupted by our commitment to nonviolence will not be the system but our own lives." The place to start is in our personal choices: where do we spend our time, where do we spend our money? Figure out the difference between what we want and what we need. Live simply so others may simply live.

The handiest place to practice peace is at the meal table. Do we have a cruelty-based or cruelty-free diet? More than 12 million animals are killed every day for food. I don't think we have any moral right to kill or harm animals just because we like how they taste.

SI: Share International magazine speaks about the importance of sharing as the only way to justice, justice being the only way to peace. What do you see as the role of sharing in the creation of peace?

CM: Desmond Tutu was asked in Boston a few years ago about his views on terrorism. He answered that "the war on terrorism will not be won as long as there are people desperate with disease and living in poverty and squalor. Sharing our prosperity is the best weapon against terrorism". The most liberated people, and nations, tend to be the most sharing. Unfortunately, out of 25 industrialized nations, the United States is near the bottom in the percentage of GNP shared with the world's poor.

SI: What is the most important thing we can do to create a world of peace?

CM: Ask the person next to you: "What are you going through?" and act on the answer. If it's hard times, unite to climb the hills and brave the winds. If it's good times, celebrate, sing and dance. And either way, buy them a lifetime subscription to Share International magazine!

For more information: www.peacejusticestudies.org

Swim against the Current Jim Hightower, with Susan Demarco – an excerpt Book review by Cher Gilmore

When confronted by the scope and scale of today's political, economic, environmental and social problems, many concerned and caring people feel hopeless, despairing of the possibility of real change even with their best efforts. Others don't know where to start to make a significant difference. A few, however, rise to the challenge and develop some creative new solution to a problem that has touched them personally in some way.

If you are among the discouraged, you would do well to pick up a copy of *Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go with the Flow*, the latest book by author and political activist Jim Hightower. It is full of inspiring stories of ordinary people who have abandoned corporate lifestyles and values to blaze new, more human, trails in business, politics and life itself. At the end of each section of the book (Business, Politics, Life) are 'Connections Lists', containing names, brief descriptions and contact information for local, national (US) and a few international organizations looking for like-minded activist volunteers.

Hightower, with his partner and co-author Susan DeMarco, traveled all over the US to collect the stories reported in the book. They provide a seven-word Executive Summary: 'Defy the Corporate Order/Live Your Values'. They believe that placing human aspiration above corporate avarice is a struggle as important as the human rights struggles of the 1960s and 1970s and the labor struggles of the 1920s and 1930s. The people they highlight are all working for the common good as well as their own welfare, creating a new, genuinely democratic and egalitarian model for America. But the model can be applied anywhere.

The Business section begins with Hightower's definition of corporations. "[A] giant corporation exists solely for itself, operating strictly to enlarge its bottom line and enrich the wealthiest elites who run it. Corporations are artificial legal fictions (a scrap of paper, really) that let their owners reap profits without having to be personally responsible for any harm done in pursuit of those profits." The tentacles of the corporations, he says, are tightly wrapped around the US economy, government, environment and culture, choking the grassroots potential of the country to death.

There are, however, other possible business structures besides corporations – such as co-ops, family enterprises, partnerships, sole proprietorships, supply associations, local markets, bartering, and buying clubs. The book describes nine examples in detail.

Peace Coffee, for example, is a fair trade organic coffee business that started when a small organization called Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) was talked into buying a container of coffee on credit by a Mexican coffee growers' co-operative. Fair trade means that growers are dealt with directly, treated with respect, and paid a fair price that allows them to practice environmentally sustainable agriculture and pay their workers a living wage. The IATP staff scrambled to find a place to store that first container, find eco-friendly bean buyers, make sales, ship the goods and collect their money. But within four years they had purchased their own roaster, rented a new space, developed relationships with 13 grower co-operatives in six countries, and founded Co-operative Coffees (a buying club for small, independent importers). The company now sells about 7,500 pounds of coffee every week, and is not only profitable but is growing by roughly 20 per cent each year. They do this while paying employees \$16 per hour (roughly median wage in Minnesota) plus healthcare and benefits, and paying their producers a minimum of \$1.61 a pound, even though the world price floor for fair trade coffee is \$1.51 a pound.

Equally serendipitous were the beginnings of the Union Cab Co-operative in Madison, Wisconsin. In the mid-1970s the cab drivers at Checker Cab in Madison decided that their working conditions were unacceptable – with unsafe cars, 40 cents an hour pay, no benefits or rights, no process for promotion, no respect from management – so they unionized. Management quickly retaliated by attempting to fire anyone who had been on the organizing committee, and stalled contract negotiations for months. The new union struck, with 99 per cent of the employees walking off the job, and in four days Checker agreed to a new contract.

A year later, when the owner again walked away from contract negotiations, the union struck a second time with nearly 100 per cent participation. Finally, after three months, the owner shut down Checker Cab, leaving the cabbies with a union but no jobs. The following month, five cabbies decided to form a worker-owned company. After struggling to raise the initial \$150,000 needed for start-up, they lost \$35,000 in the first three months, primarily because of spiking gasoline prices.

Three strokes of luck in close succession allowed Union Cab to get back on its feet: the Madison city council allowed its two cab companies to raise their rates, the second cab company closed, and the Madison bus drivers went on strike. Today, Union Cab Co-operative is the largest of three taxi companies in Madison and the third largest in the state, with annual revenues of \$6 million, over 200 employees who are all voting members of the co-op, wages well over Madison's living wage standard, a full-service taxi facility with their own mechanics, and 90 per cent customer satisfaction.

Hightower points out that there are more than 250 such worker-owned co-operatives in the US, in all lines of business, from high-tech firms to restaurants. Together, they are creating a new definition of business success. Their goal is to be smaller, simpler, more personal, and to "make a profit, not a killing"....

Wise Words Global marches for peace in Gaza Since the start of the Israeli invasion of Gaza on 27 December 2008 thousands of people have voiced their opposition in demonstrations across the world.

In the UK, marches on two consecutive Saturdays took place across the country. In London, on 3 January, thousands of protestors walked from the Embankment to Trafalgar Square, where there were speeches from politicians, activists and entertainers. There was a huge variety of ages, faiths and professions represented including Jewish organizations on the march, all united in their opposition to the disproportionate Israeli action in Gaza.

Sarah Malin, a 42-year-old actress, went along with her family. "I don't come along to a lot of demonstrations like this but I wanted to on this occasion because what is happening in Gaza is just so unjust," she said. Ali Jamal, 25, a student from north London, said: "I find it absolutely shocking what is going on in Gaza and the fact that all leaders of the world are just standing back. The horror of the Israeli attack was summed up for me in the pictures of the five young sisters who were killed by a bomb which hit their house."

A week later, on a freezing 10 January, there were larger numbers of protesters marching from Hyde Park to the Israeli embassy. Although violence marred the end of the demonstration the protest was largely peaceful and good-natured. Easha Tareen, a physiologist who had travelled from Colchester, Essex, to take part in the demonstration, said: "It is really unbelievable what is happening in Gaza but we are heartened by the solidarity people here are showing. We were coming here on the underground and met a Jewish lady who had written a letter to the newspapers condemning the Israeli action and we were really impressed by that. As you can see here today, it is not just Muslims – there are people from all parts of British life."

Demonstrations were held in 80 French towns and cities on 10 January, the largest in Paris where an estimated 25,000-30,000 people marched against the Israeli attacks. Marchers were angry that since they had demonstrated the previous week Israel had attacked a UN school, killing 40 and that the three-hour ceasefire was not enough to get in medical aid and supplies.

There were also protests in Bosnia, South Lebanon and Germany, where 10,000 marched in the city of Duisburg.

In Malaysia around 1,000 took part in a demonstration outside the US embassy in Kuala Lumpur and a rally and fundraising concert was held. In Australia people marched to the American and Israeli embassies in Canberra, calling on the US to stop its support of Israel, and in Kenya hundreds gathered outside Nairobi's Jamea mosque.

There were protests in cities across the USA. On 3 January in Seattle around 500 people gathered, carrying banners and beating drums. Many called on President-elect Barack Obama to speak out against the attacks. Maha Shabaneh, a 43-year-old who lives in Seattle and who has relatives in her homeland of Palestine, said: "He won't be successful until he tackles foreign issues," she said. "He needs to stand on these issues and prove that he is different."

In the crowd, Wendy Somerson, 40, a Jewish woman from Seattle and a member of Jewish Voice for Peace said: "We don't support collective punishment of the Palestinian people. All people are equal and all lives are equal."

(Sources: The Guardian, BBC News, UK; Radio France Internationale, France; <http://rainbowwarrior2005.wordpress.com>; english.aljazeera.net)

Maitreya's Priorities World hunger on the rise Despite a record world harvest in 2008, it is expected that 1 billion people will go hungry in 2009 because they are too poor to buy food. Prices of wheat, corn and rice increased to record levels in 2008. The global financial crisis and lack of promised aid are further worsening the situation.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization expects the number of undernourished to increase steadily and set back the progress that has been made in recent years to alleviate hunger. For 15 years prior to 2006, despite the increase in world population, the number of those suffering from hunger remained about the same. In the year 2000, world leaders agreed to the UN Millennium Development Goals, among them that between 1990 and 2015 they would halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. Many countries were actually meeting their target goal ahead of time. But the situation began to deteriorate over the last three years.

A series of circumstances has created dire problems: high food prices preventing the poor from buying food; currencies depreciating in the developing world; farmers in poor countries unable to afford seed and fertilizer; wealthy countries importing fewer commodities from the developing world as their economies collapse; increased unemployment in the developed world, reducing money being sent from wages to relatives in poor countries; and foreign aid disappearing. Governments in wealthy nations pledged \$12.3 billion in June 2008 to help alleviate the global food crisis, but have so far given only \$1 billion, while at the same time providing trillions of dollars to bail out failing banks.

British Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Hilary Benn believes that nothing short of a 'Kyoto-style' programme is needed to solve the food problem. "We have the knowledge and the technology to do this, as things stand," he said, "but the perfect storm of climate change, environmental degradation and water and oil scarcity threatens our ability to succeed." (Source: The Independent, Financial Times, BBC, UK)

Facts and Forecasts Stock markets worldwide crashed in 2008 "As already announced (SI Dec 1988) a world stock market crash will begin in Japan. Maitreya reiterates: a stock market crash is inevitable." (Share International, June 1989)

Many stock markets worldwide suffered their worst losses ever in 2008, and others were dramatically lower for the year. The main US stock index, the Dow Jones Industrial Average, fell 33.8 per cent, its worst decline since 1931 and its third-worst year ever. Some \$6.9 trillion in stock market wealth was lost in the US markets alone. Japanese shares suffered their biggest yearly decline, with the Nikkei dropping 42 per cent. Britain's FTSE 100 had its worst year on record, down 31.3 per cent, with similar falls in Paris and Frankfurt. Shanghai was one of the worst-hit major markets, ending the year 65 per cent lower, which was also a record loss.

The international financial crisis in 2008 pushed several major economies into recession, with banks particularly affected, many requiring government bail-outs. The meltdown of the US housing market led to a global reduction in consumer spending and industrial production. "No one saw an end to the bull run," said Kirby Daley from Newedge Group, a financial brokerage in Hong Kong. "What many failed to see was an endgame to the leveraged world we were living in and an endgame to the consumption-driven economy that the world had become." (Source: BBC, UK; Associated Press, USA)