An Article for Traditional Christians, Friends and Family – Answering Your Questions Regarding the Law of Attraction

I am writing this article because I have heard from so many traditional Christians since the popularity of *The Secret*. Actually, I have heard from them, their family and friends for several years wanting me to write a book just for traditional Christians in their language. Please know that I am writing as we speak and will make an E-book available ASAP. I will also have it published in hard copy, but I don't want you to have to wait because your questions are pressing and urgent.

I wrote my book, *Law of Attraction: Develop Irresistible Attraction,* for the masses in language that could reach the most people. Even so, I explained that I am from the Christian faith tradition and even placed Bible verses in Chapter 21 of my book that support this work. The law of attraction, as I understand it, is one of God's universal laws and like His law of gravity is predictable, unchanging and works no matter what words or language you use to describe it.

I am not speaking on behalf of every writer or speaker who teaches the Law of Attraction, including those in *The Secret*. None of the speakers in *The Secret* were my teachers regarding the Law of Attraction. I began my journey with this law in 2001, and first published my book in 2004 before *The Secret* was produced. I am making this point because I think it's interesting that this information is being given to so many at this time in our history to bring to the masses. This means each teacher will interpret the law according to their own experiences and understanding. I can only write to you based on what I know and have come to understand about The Law of Attraction. Just as I'm sure you don't believe what every Christian has to say about Christianity, I would ask that you also be discerning regarding information about The Law of Attraction. In other words, "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater," without first hearing me out. I believe I can explain it in a way that you can accept, understand and positively utilize in your life.

When a new idea hits the masses like the Law of Attraction it generates plenty of discussion and reaction. Some people react without fully understanding what they're reacting to. I believe it is important to make informed decisions. Therefore, I want to use this space to answer questions that have been asked by traditional Christians.

I have included in this article six frequently asked questions and their answers according to my best understanding. I will refer to God as "He" because that is the custom with most traditional Christians. However, I invite those who so choose, to add the feminine – Mother/Father God.

QUESTION NUMBER 1

Does the Law of Attraction require me to change my most basic fundamental beliefs about my Christian faith in order to work?

Absolutely not! The only thing a traditional Christian will do is "Thank God" instead of "Asking God," when they pray. They will "Thank God" that their prayer has already been answered because it has and the Bible tells us so. This is completely in line with every Christian doctrine I found no matter what the denomination. Every Christian I have asked says that expressing gratitude and "Thanking God," is completely in line with their belief system and doctrine. Thanking God is completely supported in the Bible. Thanking God that your prayers have already been answered demonstrates the greatest faith. "Your father knoweth what things you have need of before you ask Him." (Matt. 6:8 ASV) The Hebrew and Greek words for "ask" can also mean "claim." Demonstrating the greatest faith is the secret to a powerful prayer life. "Before they call, I answer" (Isaiah. 65:24).

You can rid yourself of doubts by turning them around into a positive prayer affirmation. If your doubt is that you are not confident, "Thank God" that you are completely confident and your prayer has already been answered. "You ask and receive not because you ask amiss" (James 4.3, ASV).

You are called to follow Jesus including the unique way in which he prayed. It was so different even the Hebrew religious leaders of his day commented on his forthrightness. John gives us a perfect example. Notice that Jesus didn't beg, ask or plead for Lazareth to arise from the grave. He thanked God and declared it was so and commanded him to come forth. "Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you BELIEVED, you would see the glory of God? So, they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father I THANK you that you have heard me. I KNEW that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe you sent me.' When he had said this, Jesus called out in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.'" (John 11: 40 - 44 RSV).

When you "Thank God" that he has already answered your prayer, you are praying like Jesus did.

QUESTION NUMBER 2

If the Law of Attraction is meant to be understood and used by traditional Christians, why didn't it first develop from the teachings of the Church?

Actually, the first Church understood and demonstrated the use of the Law of Attraction all the time. Just open your Bible to the Chapter of Acts and read through it. Jesus told the first followers, "He that believes in me, will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do ... (John 14:12). What works did Jesus do? He walked on water, turned water into wine, healed the sick and much more.

In Acts, the first Christians experienced and embraced the power of the Holy Spirit and, just like Jesus, they spent their days healing and manifesting their needs as they went along. It wasn't until the Church became institutionalized as a governmental body that this changed. When the Church became the official religion of the Roman Empire, its leaders fashioned their institution after the Roman government, developing a similar hierarchy and even wearing similar clothing. They told their followers they were illiterate and couldn't go directly to God but must come through the officials of the Church who would contact God on their behalf. At this point, the empowerment that was experienced by the members of the first Church in Acts went into the hands of governmental religion. The main purpose of any government is to ensure its power remains intact down through the ages. Having a bunch of empowered masses going around manifesting what appears to be all kind of miracles, doesn't leave a great deal of power for the governmental body.

In the middle ages, those who dared to question the governmental Church were killed in the public square. This left an impression on the hearts and minds of many Christians that has remained until this day. Even though our heads don't go flying off anymore when we disagree with Church rules, modern Christians in some denominations are left to wonder about the status of their afterlife should they question accepted doctrine. Over the ages, even when the Church broke off into many denominations, the people forgot the instructions of Jesus even though they remained in front of our eyes in the New Testament all these years -- "He that believes in me, will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do ... (John 14:12)

"Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen; it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for (claim) in prayer, believe you have <u>receivED</u> it, and it will be yours. (Mark 11: 22- 25)

[The Hebrew and Greek word for "ask" can also mean "claim."]

If you can't quite believe what I have surmised, I encourage your own investigation. You may want to begin with your own reading and then by asking your pastor about the history of the Church after the Book of Acts. Perhaps your pastor would be willing to give a sermon on this subject. A great amount happened during the 2000 years after Acts. Every theological school of which I'm aware teaches its pastors the history of the Church. So wouldn't it be wonderful if it was also taught to church members? It seems odd that, for the most part, the Church doesn't teach its own history.

If you would like to learn about the history of the Church, the History Channel will teach you in living color, with live re-enactments and with many experts to assist in your understanding. Don't be afraid to educate yourself. Once you investigate on your own, Jesus and God become even more wonderful, not less.

QUESTION NUMBER 3

Are some teachers of the Law of Attraction trying to say that we are God?

Traditional Christians are taught to revere God and to humble themselves before Him. When someone suggests we are all God, it certainly sounds like blasphemy to the ears of a traditional Christian. Let me see if I can give some clarity to this difficult to understand concept.

God made us -- body and soul from His energy. What else could we be made of? In the beginning there was God; God made humans and blew the breath of life into them; He made them of his energy. Therefore, it is a correct statement to say that we are God's energy manifesting as humans. Okay just a minute and let's review an example everyone can relate to.

Your physical body is made of your parent's DNA. Half your DNA came from your birth mother and half from your birth father. It is a correct statement to say that your physical body is the manifestation (as a body) of your birth parent's DNA. Even so, you are physically experiencing a reality independent from your birth parents. At the same time, your physical body would no longer exist if your parent's DNA was removed. Are you beginning to see the connection?

Even though humans are experiencing a reality independent from God, they are still made of God's energy and it can be said they are composed of God's energy in manifestation. In this sense, God is in you like the ocean is in a wave. Even though each wave manifests independently, it is still composed of the ocean water and cannot exist separately. You can never be separated from God energetically; you can only perceive yourself as separate from God in your mind. Even though you have independent function, your body can never exist separate

from your birth parent's DNA. It would cease to exist. However, you can perceive it is separate from their DNA in your mind.

I know these are deep concepts. There are people who spend a great deal of time pondering these mysteries. Some people even make the leap and make a statement similar to Paul's when he said that "The Church is the body of Christ." He didn't mean each Church building and its members make up the actual material body of Christ. He meant on energetic level and spiritual level, the Church makes up the body of Christ. When a speaker makes the statement, "We are God," most have the same sentiment as Paul -- meaning our energy is part of God's energy, and spiritually and energetically we are one with God. It doesn't mean we could take God's place or would even want to do that. It is a statement meaning "energetically" we are all part of the whole that is God our Father. Just as Jesus said "Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? -- John 10:34.

QUESTION 4

Why do some Law of Attraction speakers and writers act as if God is a force and does not have a personality?

This is simple -- because there are not multiple Gods, only multiple humans with multiple interpretations of what or who they perceive God to be. Some know God personally. Some know God only to be loving and kind, some believe He is angry and punishing and others see Him as both. Some people refer to God as, "The Universe," and some call him "a force." I know it may be difficult to believe, but current day humans, for all their wonder and achievements, are not even close to having all the intelligent understanding that is possible – even for a human. Therefore, they develop all kinds of interpretations with language and communication that is primitive on the scale of possibility. They do the best they can with what they have. It's only when they fight and kill each other over differences in belief and interpretation that the lack of their intelligence becomes a real problem.

I believe in the idiom, "As above, so below." Even though it's not really a matter of being "above or below," it gives us a reference point. We can tell a whole lot about the Creator by examining His children. All creatures great and small can be said to exude some sort of personality. Even with insects, different members, depending on their role, can exude differences in behavior — which can be seen as a type of personality. Intelligence leads to behavior which, in the broad scope of things, can be interpreted as "having personality." If this is such a persistent theme throughout our world, my guess is the Creator would have what we call "personality" as well. This means God can directly relate to us on a personal level. I believe most of us are loving and kind and would never tell people to

hurt or kill themselves or others, so neither would God. This is called inductive reasoning. Observing what is below can give us important information to what is above leading to the conclusion -- as above, so below.

QUESTION NUMBER 5

Is it OK for a Christian to have wealth? Isn't money the root of all evil?

Some people are surprised to discover that Jesus was a wealthy man. They picture a suffering savior, poor, skinny and dressed in rags. The Bible leads us to a different conclusion. Jesus was wearing an overcoat at the time of his crucifixion that was so extraordinary, the Roman solders threw dice for it. I don't think they would have taken the time to gamble for a rag. A wealthy follower, Joseph of Arthmathea, supplied a very nice tomb where the body of Jesus was laid. Jesus also manifested food, and shelter when it was needed for him or his followers. He didn't accumulate earthly goods, but manifested all He desired as He needed it and moved throughout His daily life. This is the sign of one who is truly wealthy and wise. He taught that the love of the material takes the mind of humans off the Kingdom within. He taught that the material world is temporary and should not be worshiped. This is very different from what came down through history -- that money is bad and will make you a bad person.

If you look where the "money is evil" adage was promulgated, again you find yourself back to the governmental Church who taught its followers that money is bad. However, they never had any trouble teaching people that it is fine to give their money to them. They even equated giving money to the Church the same as giving it to God. This teaching worked so well that at one time, the Roman Catholic Church owned 60% of the land in England. Can you begin to imagine how much that would have been worth?

Even though the people came to realize the corruption that existed in the Church at that time, they still never let go of the teaching that had been so drilled in their heads that money is the root of all evil. They continued to pass this teaching to generations that followed like a bad gene. Remember, too, that the actual quote from the Bible is "For the love of money is the root of all evil." -- Timothy 6:10. Money in and of itself is nothing more than an energy exchange. I could barter for a direct service you provide, and in exchange I could provide you with a coaching session, or I could pay you for your service and you could pay me for mine. Once we understand this truth about money, we can approach it without getting caught up in emotions that may block money from coming our way.

Once it is understood where the teaching originated, it is easy to let it go. The truth is that God loves His children and wants them to enjoy the fruits of His

kingdom. If this were not so, Moses, Solomon, David, and Jesus would not have been wealthy men. "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." (Luke 12: 32)

QUESTION NUMBER 6

Is the Law of Attraction a false teaching brought to us by "Satan?"

Almost every philosophy that I'm aware of has given thought to the issue of "Evil" -- where it originates and why it happens. The embodiment of "Evil" in traditional Christianity is represented by "Satan" or the "Devil." The governmental (meaning doctrine producing) part of the Church has traditionally held anything new -- either outside its understanding or doctrine -- as "suspect." Anything suspect is generally associated with Satan.

When Galileo determined that the Earth traveled around the sun and was not the center of the universe as taught by the Church, he was placed on house arrest by the Holy Office of the Inquisition, and it was suspected his teachings were from Satan. The only thing that saved his life was his friends who held high offices in the government of his day. Other scientists were not so lucky and lost their lives during this dark time. It took the Church 300 years to absolve Galileo of his crime – this happened in the 1990s many years after it was proven without a shadow of a doubt that the Earth travels around the Sun.

Copernicus, the predecessor of Galileo, didn't serve jail time and was a bit smarter in the ways of the Church. He was actually a Church official and knew what his fate would be if he published his scientific findings that the sun was the center of our solar system. Not to be completely deterred, he delivered his manuscript for publication on his death bed. Copernicus was savvy to how new and suspect information was handled by the Church during his day.

Therefore, with all this history regarding suspect new teachings, it is not surprising that Satan has already come up as the prime factor behind the Law of Attraction. After all, it meets the qualifications of being "suspect." It is not a new teaching, you will recall "As a man thinketh, so is he" – (Proverbs 23:7) -- but is new to the masses. As a law of the universe, it is not in conflict with the teachings of Jesus, but might be in conflict with the doctrine of some Churches – which still aren't keen on empowering the masses.

The good news is the example of Jesus is still right in front of us. Therefore, let's look at how he handled "Evil" or "Satan." If you read the entire New Testament you will discover that Jesus didn't give Satan the time of day. When approached by Satan he said, "Get behind me; No, I don't want what you have to offer," and Jesus ordered Satan to leave any individuals he was possessing. That's about it.

Jesus knew the universal truth that "what we focus on grows." The sure way to give *power* to the Devil is to give *focus* to the Devil. The Devil doesn't eat food for energy like you and me, he depends on our focus to gain energy and therefore power. The best way to create a fat Devil is to be constantly worrying about him, talking about him, thinking he's hiding behind every bush ready to get us, and giving him credit with coming up with every idea we don't understand or that may seem not to fit neatly into Church doctrine. Remember if you don't want a fat, powerful Devil, then follow the example of Jesus and don't give him the time of the day. If he bothers you, command him to "get behind you," call on Jesus and God to protect you, and move on.

CONCLUSION

I first attended Church when I was 5 weeks old. I grew up in the Church, and I love Jesus and God. I would never promote any teaching I felt would harm the Church. When I became an adult, I attended services at every type of Church I could because I wanted to compare the differences. Of course what I found is we have many more similarities than differences. Then, I attended services of the other major world religions. Guess what I found? We have many more similarities than differences.

I have lived my entire life in the Southeastern United States where the Church is a mainstay in our culture. True to popular belief, there really is a Church on almost every street corner. The Church not only attends to the spiritual and moral life of its members, but also it is their community of caring. It is a group of people who care when you're born, grow up, graduate from high school, go off to college, get married, have children, experience illness, and die. They are there for you during all your stages of life to support you.

The pastors of almost every Church I attended were all calling for a revival of the spirit of the Church. It seems the people of the Church had accepted that having a true spirit filled church with members who were empowered with the Holy Spirit like the Church in Acts was a thing of the past or to come in the future – second coming. However, the actual words of Jesus don't say anything about waiting for some future date to follow His way, pray like he did and heal people like he did. The actual words of Jesus say: -- "He that believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do ... (John 14:12).

I don't think any pastor would disagree that Paul of Tarsus was key in developing the accepted teachings of the modern day Church. However, we must remember that Paul thought that Jesus was going to return in his physical lifetime. Considering he was already an adult and a leader when Jesus died, Paul believed it would only be a few years between the crucifixion and the return of Jesus.

Therefore, he didn't develop a plan of action for Christians to follow in conducting their daily lives for the next 2000 and more years. As a result, the Church has spent a great amount of time concentrating on the way in which Jesus died instead of the way in which He lived. Repeating over and over the last supper and the story of the crucified Christ makes sense when you consider that Paul thought Jesus was returning before his death. If Paul had known otherwise, I imagine he would have concentrated more on the way Jesus lived and His example of teaching and healing, and how we could literally follow that example to empower each other and those around us to live spirit filled lives. It's not too late. We can still follow the empowering example of Jesus.

Whether you agree with anything I have said or not, I would highly encourage researching for yourself. History is a great teacher and eye-opener. If we don't carefully study history, but instead allow others to determine our truth, it has been proven we are destined to repeat the less savory events of the past. I would advise that you never take anything at face value, including what I have said. Always think for yourself and check facts yourself. Seek to become or maintain yourself as an active seeker of truth on this great journey we call "life."

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