



The General Church of the
New Jerusalem

PERTH CIRCLE

July 2004



*O Lord, Our Lord , How magnificent is thy
name in all the earth*

Discussions at the Beginners classes have touched on trying to understand and explain correspondences . Leon James Professor of Psychology at Hawaai University has a great web site that has bountiful information and explanations. Here is an excerpt from the glossary he has worked on. He found the writings fairly recently.

Excerpt from the Leon James Glossary of SWEDENBORG

Swedenborg was the only scientist in history who had the gift of *dual consciousness*. This refers to his ability to be awake simultaneously in his physical body, as the rest of us are, and in his "spirit-body," which we cannot until we die. He reported that this special gift or skill, was given to him by God, who appeared to him and sent him off to his Divine writing and publishing mission, which was, that he shall write up as a scientist what information he could gather by this special skill. He was 57 at the time and he passed on at 83. This Divine process of "intromission" of his consciousness into the spirit-body in the spiritual world is according to Swedenborg, the "greatest miracle the Lord has granted since creation." And this new gift to humanity was for the sake of the development of *rational spirituality*. The Writings of Swedenborg complete the Word of God that took three millennia to write by dozens of inspired authors -- The Old Testament, the New Testament, and The Writings of Swedenborg. These three collections of Divine Writings form a unit together called the Threefold Word.

What was unknown and unsuspected until the revelations of the Writings is that the Old and New Testaments are written in a code called "Correspondences," which is the same code that explains the scientific mechanism that governs the interaction between every natural phenomenon as an effect, with its corresponding spiritual phenomenon as its cause. For example, the names of the people and places are coded references to mental states, and so are numbers, objects, actions, and events. Swedenborg verified with his dual

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consciousness the observational fact that whenever he read the Bible in the physical body he was able to see the correspondence of each word and phrase appear before him in the spirit body.

The process is fully confirmed scientifically by the reversal effect, namely, that whenever he was discussing psychological topics about mental states while he was conscious in his spirit-body, he observed the sensory effects of the discussion all around him in the world of spirits. For example, when he was talking to people there who are mentally in evil states, the environment around them became darker, the sky was filled with dark clouds, the surroundings showed caverns, stinking marshes, and screeching poisonous animals and insects. But when he was speaking with the inhabitants of heaven, the surrounding environment showed beautiful houses and gardens on bright and sunny streets, with wonderful fragrances, melodious sounds, and friendly animals. What is amazing is that there was a one to one relationship or mechanism between particular objects in the environment and specific topics of discussion, to such an extent, that the people there, who all live in a marvelous spirit-body, are able to tell from a distance what a person is thinking and feeling, merely by looking at the surround that gets instantiated wherever people are in the spiritual world.

The mechanism that produces these natural looking environments in the spiritual world of the afterlife is exactly the same mechanism that is in the code in which the Old and New Testaments were written. Of course the existence of the secret code of correspondences was not known to the authors of the Old and New Testaments, but the visions and events they wrote down were inspired into them by God so that only those details are written down that will make a scientific series of linked concepts and explanations. This alone proves that the Old and New Testaments is Divine, for how could dozens of uneducated

pre-scientific authors, writing about their inspired visions, come up with a literal sequence of sentences that then form a meaningful rational unit together, in the whole of the Old and New Testament. Can you imagine another explanation?

Natural and Spiritual Correspondences

<u>Correspondence of ... & .</u>	<u>Function in the Natural</u>	<u>Function in the Spiritual</u>
Animals & forms of affections in the will.	Animals are warm-blooded.	Affections in the will provide spiritual energy.
Plants & forms of thoughts in the understanding.	Plant life is a partial image of Man.	Fixed 'tree' structures in the understanding receive illumination by Wisdom, which is part of the Divine Life.
Energy in food & reception of love from the divine source.	Animals consume food.	The will appropriates loves, as retained spiritual energy to be stored and reused as desired.
Light from the sun & Wisdom from God	Light is reflected from all objects to the eye.	Wisdom is the 'clear light' by means of which we perceive 'external' ideas by reflections into the understanding.
Oxygen released into the air & reception of truth	Oxygen is produced in plants from light by photosynthesis, and enters the local atmosphere.	Rational truth is produced in the understanding from Divine Wisdom, and gives a local 'spiritual context'
Metabolism & the conjunction of love and wisdom in use	Metabolism unites for use oxygen and digested food.	The conjunction of appropriated love and rational wisdom is the source of action in use.
Lungs/throat & our own understanding	Our lungs receive oxygen from the air into the blood.	Our individual understanding receives rational truth from the 'spiritual atmosphere' into affections for action.
The heart & our own will.	Heart receives food in the blood and distributes it as useful.	Our will receives spiritual energy in the affections for action and distributes it as useful.
The mouth & the initial reception of good	The mouth receives food initially.	Retained loves when initially received are tasted for their quality (good or otherwise)

The eyes & the explicit perception of truth.	The eyes see all things, by means of light, in their relations.	The understanding perceives all things, by means of 'clear' wisdom, in their relations.
The nose & the implicit perception of truth.	The nose discriminates immediate properties of the air.	We discriminate immediate properties about the rationality of the ideas we receive.
The ears & obedience to love and conscience.	We respond more immediately to spoken words, compared to written words seen by the eye.	We respond more immediately in the will to modulations of rational truth than to variations of truth received in the understanding.
The stomach & the assimilation of spiritual food.	Stomach and intestines digest the food and assimilate it into the blood.	Received ideas and affections are analysed and assimilated into affections for action.
Spoken words & thoughts.	Spoken words are vibratory forms in the air, generated by the lungs and throat.	Thoughts are local modulations in the atmosphere of rational truth, caused by variations in the local (re)articulation..
Feet & natural power.	We rest on our feet, and they are the means of changing place.	We depend on our physical effects, as they determine our spiritual place.
Skin & outer natural degree.	The skin holds everything together from the outside.	The natural physical degree holds everything together by its ultimate effects.
Hair & outermost natural effects.	The hair is produced via the skin, and is dead.	The utmost actual events are produced via the physical, and are inert.
Bones & general principles.	The skeleton holds everything together from the inside.	Our general principles hold everything together by their fundamental premises.
Hands/arms & power of action.	We do most of our work with our hands and arms.	Coordinated spiritual actions are performed by outreach.
Kidneys & spiritual purification.	Kidneys purify the blood.	'Spiritual kidneys' purify the affections (especially during sleep).
Brains & reception of loves.	We are governed by our brains, the general first source of all actions.	We are governed by our loves received in first principles, the general source of all actions.
Nervous system & derivative affections and thoughts.	The nervous system extends the influence of the brains.	The spiritual body extends the influence of the primary loves.

News

A wonderful **June 19th celebration** was enjoyed by young and old alike after our worship on Sunday 20th, to mark the sending of the 12 disciples throughout the spiritual world.

The betrothed couple gave a reading and a talk. Verity read about Divine Providence and how it descends into every detail of our lives. Tony described his experiences during his life with looking for meaning in the Bible and the Christian Church, and how some of the new teachings he has come across in the New Church since meeting Verity have affected him. Thank you Tony and Verity.

We sang a toast to the church, to the day, and for joy of the occasion. And we sang to the new life of a dear granddaughter to Bernice. How wonderful life is!

New Grand daughter to Bernice Brown. Congratulations and every good wish for joy and happiness to little Anny.

Retreat

A booking has been made to go to Moore River in the school holidays so that Ros and the other teachers /lecturers are free to join in. ***The dates are 8th and 9th October.***

Unfortunately Gary may not be able to spend a week with us so a decision has to be made whether to try to change the booking .

Doctrinal Study As we all need to read the Word for ourselves and discover precious teachings to apply to life, perhaps a sharing of individual discoveries would be a great way to go. If people are interested in presenting and sharing what they have read, whatever topic, then we can get together month by month to share and learn from each other.

If this is what you would like to do please contact Mary.

Church of the New Jerusalem

June 2004

JULY Calendar 2004

Sun 4th	Worship 10.30am followed by a cuppa	10 Broome Street <u>upstairs</u> South Perth (off Douglas St.)
Mon 6th	Beginners Class	35 Ewing Ave Bullcreek
Sun 11th	Worship 10.30am followed by a cuppa	10 Broome Street <u>upstairs</u> South Perth (off Douglas St.)
Thurs 15th	Doctrinal Class	35 Ewing Ave , Bullcreek
Sun 18th	Worship 10.30am followed by a cuppa	10 Broome Street <u>upstairs</u> South Perth (off Douglas St.)
Mon 20th	Beginners Class	35 Ewing Ave Bullcreek
Sun 25th	Worship 5pm followed by a cuppa	10 Broome Street <u>upstairs</u> (off Douglas St.) South Perth

10 Broome Street, South Perth

(off Douglas Street)

Worship at 10.30am every Sunday

*Experience a new meaning and level of understanding
the Bible and Creation.*

*Reach new satisfying states of peaceful tranquillity
and calm through inner faith and deep conviction in
God's Divine plan for us.*

*Enjoy happiness and joy by living principles of
charity and use in your everyday life as taught us by
the Lord God Jesus Christ.*

Reach out to others with love and understanding.

Contacts on the net

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New Church Radio Listen on line at

<http://www.newchurchradio.org/>

Walk to Emmaus *(an online discussion group)*

walktoemmaus@topica.com

SRLibrary@newchurch.edu for sound recordings and music