

# By Whose Power Does Bill Johnson Perform Healings

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## By Whose Power Does Bill Johnson Perform Healings?

JULY 21, 2011 392 COMMENTS

***"What have I done? This guy thinks he hobbled in here...wait until he tries to walk out!"***<sup>1</sup>

– Bill Johnson, 2009

Let me state from the outset that I'm not a cessationist. God still does perform the miraculous in this day and age.

Frankly, I don't see how anyone can take an honest look at 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12-14 and deduce that somehow these gifts of the Spirit are not for today. However, having stated this, I must admit in having difficulty with continuationism given all the excesses I've seen/read about. I am in a sort of mediated position believing it's the Spirit who gives to each one "just as He determines" [12:11; NIV 1984] on an individual and case by case basis.

God can heal through elders of a local church praying over and anointing with oil the afflicted individual [James 5:14-15]. He can heal through the fervent prayers of the saints. He can heal through praise. He can heal through the hand of the skilled (and, even the not-so-skilled) physician or surgeon.

But, does the enemy heal? There are purported accounts of healing in the Eastern religions. There are also claimed healings in Santeria and other religious traditions. There have long been accounts of healing in Christian Science, New Thought and Unity.<sup>2</sup>

### ***Bill Johnson on Healing: The Long and the Short of It***

Bill Johnson, of Bethel Church in Redding, CA, in his 2009 book *Release the Power of Jesus* recounts a few instances of healing legs that were purportedly either too long or too short compared to the other. The first account involves a contractor who had broken his left leg 25 years prior resulting in the injured leg 'healing' and somehow remaining 1.5 inches longer than the other. The gentleman asked Johnson if he'd ever seen a leg shrink.<sup>3</sup>

Recalling a purported prior healing of a pastor who was injured in a snowmobile accident in which the clergyman had a similar problem, Johnson responded to the contractor in the affirmative (it's not specified whether it was the formerly broken or the presumably uninjured leg of the pastor that was shrunk).<sup>4</sup>

Johnson explains his resultant thought process at the time just prior to the attempted healing of the contractor:

*...Then I paused for a moment and a thought occurred to me, "Should I shrink the long leg or lengthen the shorter leg? Most people wouldn't mind being a little bit taller." I caught him (and myself) completely off guard when I said, "Right leg, grow in Jesus' name."*

*The right leg began to grow out slowly. Then all of a sudden it **shot out past the other leg three or four inches and the guy screamed in pain!** It was as though years of growing pains were hitting him all at once. On the outside I'm sure I looked very calm, but on the inside I was wondering, "**What have I done! This guy thinks he hobbled in here...wait until he tries to walk out!**"<sup>5</sup>*

Recall that the 'now-healed', but formerly injured leg was already 1.5" too long (not sure how this could be understood as "healed"). This means that Johnson's initial attempt at healing resulted in a normal-sized leg increased to 4.5" to 5.5" beyond its normal length.

Notice all the "I" phrases: "Should *I* shrink the long leg," "when *I* said," "What have *I* done!" Is Bill Johnson claiming this botched healing for himself? Perhaps Johnson really meant it was he himself being used as a vehicle through which God worked? Of course, Johnson **did** say "in Jesus' name" – if that's any indication.

There are a number of options I can think of regarding this 'healing':

- 1) It truly was the Holy Spirit working through Johnson
- 2) It was Johnson himself
- 3) It was the enemy working through Johnson

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4) It was Johnson's imagination

5) Johnson was stretching the truth, as it were

Personally, I have a hard time with #1 as I find it very difficult to believe that God would inflict pain, especially to the point an individual would scream out as such, in the process of divine healing. As to numbers 2 through 5, I'll let the reader decide.

Continuing this account:

*I began to search my heart to figure how to pray when I remembered studying the word **shalom**. It means "peace."...**soundness of mind, health, prosperity**...I thought, "This situation has to be covered in that word." So I prayed, "And now Lord, just let the shalom of Heaven, your peace, rest upon this man." His right leg then shrank back to perfectly match the other one...<sup>6</sup>*

So, after the contractor screams in pain because of the previously non-broken right leg's sudden burst in length in response to Johnson's initial attempt at healing, the leg subsequently responds to Johnson's "shalom" prayer and shrinks back to match the man's left leg. This would indicate that the normal-sized leg was now 1.5" longer, resulting in the man now 1.5" taller. Was this second healing a true divine healing while the first attempt was not? But, note this 'healing' didn't involve doing anything to the 'now-healed' but formerly injured 1.5" too long leg. Also, the man purportedly specifically asked if Johnson had ever shrunk a leg. But that's not the end of this story.

After Bill Johnson's account of the contractor's 'healing', he recounts another leg length disparity healing which purportedly occurred six months after the contractor's. In this case, a 27 year old woman with back problems told of how she had a metal rod put in the place of a cancerous bone which was removed when she was 15. The account does not specify whether it was the femur or the tibia/fibula. The rod was made such that the leg would be one inch longer than the other one on the assumption that the unaffected leg would grow to the size of the one with the metal rod. Unfortunately, the woman did not grow any taller.<sup>7</sup> Johnson relates his methodology on this particular healing:

*Because of my recent experience, for which God **covered me**, I took her leg and commanded the one with the metal rod to shrink. It yielded to the command...<sup>8</sup>*

Note his words, "for which God **covered me**." He is referring to the second 'successful healing' after his first attempt with the contractor. Is Johnson admitting that the initial botched healing of the contractor was done by himself rather than God? It would appear that way. Given that it apparently was not God involved in the initial attempt at healing the contractor, which of the remaining options – numbers 2 through 5 above – do you think applies? Or, is there yet another option I've just not considered?

[Note: some verbiage has been added for clarity on 07/13/13.]

<sup>1</sup> Johnson, Bill. *Release the Power of Jesus*. 2009, Destiny Image "Speaking the Purposes of God for this Generation and the Generations to Come," Shippensburg, PA; p 107. Ellipse in original, emphasis added.

<sup>2</sup> McConnell, D. R. *A Different Gospel*. 1988 (4<sup>th</sup> printing, 1991), Hendrickson, Peabody, MA; pp 30, 44-48

<sup>3</sup> Johnson, pp 106-07

<sup>4</sup> Johnson, pp 106-07

<sup>5</sup> Johnson, p 107. Ellipse in original; bolding added.

<sup>6</sup> Johnson, p 107. Bolding from italicized original.

<sup>7</sup> Johnson, p 108

<sup>8</sup> Johnson, p 108. Bolding from italicized original.

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## Kris Vallotton and the "Mantle of Jesus Christ" / Bill Johnson on Corporate Anointing

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“...Not just the mantle of William Branham, how about the mantle of Jesus Christ? That’s even a bigger one there...”

– Kris Vallotton, August 15, 2010

Kris Vallotton is Senior Associate Pastor of [Bethel Church](#) in Redding, California under Senior Pastor Bill Johnson. The above quote of Vallotton follows an August 15, 2010 sermon of Bill Johnson titled, “The Real Jesus” (with complete context below). Johnson had just spoken of his desire for a “corporate anointing” and Vallotton was making a few comments after this sermon. The following YouTube video<sup>1</sup> captures both Johnson and Vallotton (my understanding is this video is available at [www.ibethel.tv](#) if one registers at the site):

Here’s a portion of Johnson’s “word”:

“...Here’s what I’m believing for – I know it’s never happened; but, I know that **it must before the end**. There must be, not just individuals – I’m thankful we have individuals that are rising up with such anointing, such strength, we have people scattered all over the planet right now that are just making a mess of things in all the right ways. We are so encouraged. But, what I’m believing for is a generation – **a generation that’ll rise up with a corporate faith, a corporate anointing to press into realms** because it’s my conviction that as much as God put on a William Branham, or a Kathryn Kuhlman, or a Wigglesworth, **He’ll put far greater anointing on a company of people than He ever would on an individual**. To do that, there must be that corporate sense of, ‘we have to deal with the issue of obeying the rules of this kingdom to tap into the resources of this kingdom’...we cannot use the principles of this world and expect to **tap into unlimited resource of the kingdom of God**...”<sup>2</sup>

After finishing his sermon and following up with some prayer, Johnson relinquishes the podium to Vallotton who goes on to reveal a purported conversation he had with God:

“...so, I was in a prayer chapel and laying on the floor and I said, **God would you give me the mantle of William Branham?**” And, He said, “Well, how could I do that? If I did that it would destroy you.” Then, I was layin’ there and it was like, the Lord asked ‘how could I do that’ so then I said – I waited about a few minutes – I was thinking about and I said, “**Well, you could put the same mantle on a whole generation then we wouldn’t stand out from one another.**” He said, “**Alright, I’ll do that.**”

Isn’t that awesome? That’s what the Lord wants to do. He wants to put the, He wants – not just the mantle of William Branham, **but how about the mantle of Jesus Christ? That’s even a bigger one there, and, uh, He wants to put it on every single person.**

So, wasn’t that just a great word that Bill brought us right there...<sup>3</sup>

I agree “that’s even a bigger one there” but not in the same way as Vallotton, I’m sure. First, note that by the usage of the word “mantle” Vallotton is equating it with Johnson’s “anointing.” Bill Hamon states these terms are similar in meaning if not synonymous. He defines “anointing”:

“An in-depth study of the word **anoint** reveals that it was used to consecrate people to a particular position or ministry...In present-day application, this means the manifest presence of God upon a person to meet specific needs.

“...**Mantle** has a similar meaning. If someone has prophesied that you have **apophetic mantle**, it implies that you can minister in prophetic ministry...”<sup>4</sup>

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It follows then that the desire to “put the same mantle on a whole generation” would be the same as what Johnson calls a “corporate anointing.” Further, this “mantle of Jesus Christ” would be akin to a “corporate Christ anointing.” This is the heretical manifest sons of God (MSoG) teaching. [For more on Bill Johnson and MSoG, see [Bill Johnson's 'Born Again' Jesus, Part II.](#)] The most extreme view of MSoG culminates in the “Birth of the Man-Child” teaching in which the “birth” of the corporate Christ is through the corporate Church body. More on this in a bit.

### ***William Marrion Branham's Doctrine and Practices***

Both Johnson and Vallotton promote William Branham. Who was William Marrion Branham? There's already quite a bit of info available regarding Branham, so, briefly: he declared a number of foretelling prophecies which failed to come to pass, he denied the Trinity, and his doctrine included a belief in pyramidology and astrology in conjunction with the Bible. He also taught the Serpent Seed doctrine in which the claim is that the serpent in the Garden of Eden mated with Eve resulting in a tainted lineage beginning with Cain and continuing to this day.<sup>5</sup> Apparently emanating from this perversion of the The Fall is the following from Branham:

*“Who does the world belong to? The Devil. Who controls it now? The Devil. Exactly right. The Devil controls the world...”<sup>6</sup>*

Yet Psalm 24:1 states, *“The earth is the LORD's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.”* [NIV 1984] In the book of Job, Satan must receive God's permission in order to test Job [Job 1:6-12 and 2:1-6]. And, in Job 38:33 is the following: *“Do you know the laws of the heavens? Can you set up God's dominion over the earth?”* [NIV 1984] God is sovereign over all.

Branham's son, Billy Paul Branham, reiterates his dad's claim that he was the end-time spirit of Elijah:



*“The Word of the Lord has promised that He would send to the earth once again the spirit of Elijah in the form of that end-time messenger who is the angel to the Seventh Church Age in the these final closing days of time. We firmly believe that this promise was fulfilled in the vindicated ministry of our precious brother, William Marrion Branham.”<sup>7</sup>*

Branham also taught that all Christian denominations lacked full revelation (Branham's, that is), that denominations were the mark of the beast [Rev 13:16], and, thus, all those attending denominational churches were not really saved and are, in fact, antichrist.<sup>8</sup> All congregants of denominations are actually the pale horse, death, of the fourth seal of Revelation [Rev 6:7-8] and will be killed off by the collective white horses made up of Jesus and the 'church' [Rev 19:14].<sup>9</sup>

In addition, Branham denied everlasting torment claiming the lake of fire was created and hence could not be eternal:

*“...Anything that was created is not Eternal...That's the reason there cannot be an Eternal hell. If anybody ever tells you that you're going to burn in an Eternal Hell, I want the Scripture for that...”<sup>10</sup>*

Well, here's the Scripture: *“And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”* [Rev 20:10, NIV 1984; see also Matthew 25:41-46, etc.] It should be noted that Branham affirmed eternal life for the believer<sup>11</sup> even though mankind is, of course, created thereby illustrating one of many contradictions in his teachings. Some claim that Branham was orthodox in the beginning yet went astray toward the end of his life and ministry.

*19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.*

*24 Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you will abide in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that He has promised us – eternal life. 26 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. [1 John 2:19, 24-26 NKJV]*

Clearly, Branham was a false teacher propounding heresy. Branham claimed – and others claimed as well – that he was a prophet and a healer; but, with such aberrant theology, why would we believe he was truly of God? Is the sole criterion of a Christian the miraculous [see Matt 7:21-23]? Aren't we to worship in **both** spirit **and** truth [John 4:23]? Given this, why would Bill Johnson promote Branham's “anointing” and why would Kris Vallotton want his “mantle” as a “corporate mantle” / “corporate anointing?” Would God **really** want to give anyone, let alone the entire church corporate, the “mantle” of one like William Branham? Does God really talk to Kris Vallotton in this manner?

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## The “Mantle of Jesus Christ”

Setting aside for the moment the obvious blasphemy of even suggesting such a thing, what would it mean to receive the “mantle of Jesus Christ?” The context of the message in the video/audio seems to be, in general, the “greater works” teaching prevalent at Bethel. This may point to the Jesus Christ during the Incarnation as the model for this “mantle.” If this is the case then, given that Jesus’ primary purpose was to lay down his life in propitiation for the collective sins of mankind, would this be a part of this “mantle” as well?

Or, does this “mantle” refer to the current glorified Christ and/or Jesus at the Second Coming, when He returns to complete all of God’s purposes including the final judgment and the consummation of the Kingdom of God? This is certainly a possibility as will be made evident below. Either way, however, or if this “mantle” includes Jesus **both** at the Incarnation **and** in His glorified state, this is blasphemy of the highest order as it equates mere men to God. While Christians will receive a new glorified body in eternity, we will never become equal to Jesus Christ who was, is, and always will be God.

This phrase “the mantle of Jesus Christ” is not without precedence, however, as “[The Mantle of Jesus](#)” is the title of a ten year old article in which it is claimed the entire Church body will “operate in all the anointing that He [Jesus] did” as we “transition into the manifestations of the sons of God”:<sup>12</sup>

“...As we come into the unity of the faith the **mantle of Christ** will arise upon us, in ONE HEART and ONE MIND. It is the will of Father for us to be in unity of heart and mind as this occurs the scripture will be fulfilled.

“...We will not come into the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, the perfect man until we stop causing separation of the **mantle of Christ**. There still is a season where these callings and anointings will operate separate but soon as we grow in Christ and become ONE MIND and ONE HEART we will beat together as the BODY of CHRIST.”<sup>13</sup>

Bill Johnson’s [friends](#) Bob Jones and/or Todd Bentley could not have been much more straight-forward than that in their respective manifest sons of God teachings.

In addition, “the mantle of Jesus Christ” is mentioned by [The Order of Christ~Sophia](#) [*Sophia* means “wisdom”] as it’s included in their “Purposes” statement which is based on the “ancient Wisdom Teachings,” or, in other words, New Age / New Spirituality teachings. Among other things, the site desires “that all may know the love of their Creator and the reality of their Divine Birth” and to demonstrate to all “the Christ Consciousness and the Way of Return to the Creator.”<sup>14</sup> Part of “ancient Wisdom Teachings” is the belief that we can attain sonship as fully manifested sons of God here on earth.

## The Manifestation of the Sons of God

As noted at the beginning of this article and evidenced by the immediately preceding section, this “corporate anointing” and “corporate mantle” which Johnson and Valotton refer to respectively in the context of the video/audio is tantamount to manifested sons of God (MSoG) doctrine. To illustrate further, I’ll quote from a few other proponents of this teaching. Bill Hamon explains this teaching in his 1997 book *Apostles, Prophets and the Coming Moves of God* [with foreword by C. Peter Wagner and endorsements by Oral Roberts, Cindy Jacobs among others] which come to the enlightened via so-called “present truths”<sup>15</sup> purportedly by the Holy Spirit. These manifested sons of God will emerge “in one generation”<sup>16</sup> displaying all kinds of “signs, wonders and miracles”.<sup>17</sup>

“...God has predestined a certain quantity of members with Christlike qualities for the full functioning of His eternal Church...”<sup>18</sup>

“The [New] Apostolic Reformation will cause believers to manifest the supernatural grace, gifts, and power of God. The one-man show will be over...”<sup>19</sup>

“God has released the Holy Spirit to bring His revelations and activation to the end-time Church. This will bring forth **the last generation of mortal people, unlimited power...dedicated to fulfilling God’s present-truth purposes.**”<sup>20</sup>

This will culminate in what Hamon terms the “Resurrection-Translation” (R-T) of the saints – his terminology and version of the Rapture:

“...We must realize that the Resurrection-Translation (R-T) of the saints does not take place because of a negative situation on earth. It is a positive event that takes place to fulfill God’s timely purpose.

“...The positive **purpose of the R-T is to enable the army of the Lord**[Joel’s Army, or MSoG militant] **to finalize the war against all evil**. The army of the Lord will progress on in the war until they have accomplished all they can in their limited mortal bodies. **The R-T is for the purpose of immortalizing their bodies. This will remove all the earthly limitations, thereby enabling the saints unlimited abilities. They will be able to travel in all space realms of the heavenlies the same as Jesus and the angels do now. They can move in and out of all dimensions of the**

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*natural and spiritual realms as Jesus did in His resurrected flesh-and-bone body.”<sup>21</sup>*

These fully manifested sons of God, or, Joel’s Army, will execute judgment on those who will not go along with their plans. Hamon claims Joel 2:1-11 is a prophecy for this near future ‘army of God.’<sup>22</sup>

**“God’s great end-time army is being prepared to execute God’s written Judgments with Christ’s victory and divine judgment decrees that have already been established in heaven. The time is set when they will be administered and executed on earth through God’s saintly army. All that is destined and needed will be activated during God’s restorative Army of the Lord Movement...”<sup>23</sup>**

Bob Jones and Todd Bentley are other proponents of the manifest sons of God teaching. Here, in the following, Jones calls them the “New Breed.” From August 08, 2008 [for full transcription, see “New Breed of Elected Seeds” section of [Bethel to Feature Bob Jones at Upcoming Prophetic Conference](#)]:



**“...The New Breed will be those that are partaker of the divine nature. As you begin to grow into the likeness of Christ you’re gonna begin to partake of the divine nature. And, once you begin to grow up in that-a-way you’ll continue to mature until you look like Christ all over the world. Jesus was one person. Now get ready for Jesuses [sic; plural of “Jesus”] all over the world.”<sup>24</sup>**

Johnson, himself has referred to a “**new breed** of believer” resulting in “a reformation [that] will impact society on all fronts”<sup>25</sup> in his book *Face to Face With God*. Recall Johnson’s words from the above transcription, “I know it’s never happened; but, I know that it must before the end.” Here’s Bentley from May 28, 2008 at Lakeland making explicit references to what is called “birthing the man-child” – the ‘birthing’ of the “corporate Christ” which he states is a prerequisite for Jesus Christ’s return:

**“Tonight is a crossing over and we have a moment,’ says the Lord, ‘where we can labor and travail until Christ is formed in you...’**

**“...I feel if we gave it a big push that we can literally form Christ – Christ in you. I’m talking about a maturing of what God has placed on the inside of your spirit. It’s gonna come out of the birth canal – it’s gonna come out of the womb – because there is a labor and there is a travailing that is going on in the spirit...**

**“...Under the anointing you make a declaration and it forms tonight...**

**“...We’re going to go back into travail right now until Christ is formed. God promised a day where heaven and earth must retain Him until the restoration of all things. Heaven will hold back the coming of Jesus Christ until sons and daughters come into maturity. It’s called the Manifestation of the sons of God.**

**“Heaven will hold back the Second Coming... A mature church manifests the glory of God. A mature church manifests the Word of God in truth and power. A mature church walks in holiness and character. A mature church walks in miracles, signs, and wonders.**



**“I’m talking about a maturity tonight – and it’s being formed in you. Let Christ be formed in maturity. Let the full man, let the fullness of God come forth, and let the womb open tonight... and let there be a great birthing...”<sup>26</sup>**

Obviously, MSoG is not Biblical. One of the proof-texts used is Romans 8:15-24. And, as the Apostle Paul writes in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:23-28, it is clear that Jesus is the one who puts “all His enemies under His feet” – not the Church. Heaven will not “hold back the Second Coming” due to the failure of the Church to somehow prepare the way for Christ’s return. If Jesus is waiting for a “perfected Church” as some erroneously teach (based on a faulty interpretation/proof-texting of Ephesians 5:27), He’ll be waiting for all eternity as we are inherently imperfect and will never be perfected this side of glory!

### **The New Age of the Manifested Sons of God**

Constance Cumbey, in her 1985 book *A Planned Deception* illustrates how an adamant New Ager from a Unity Church in Kansas City recognized the Manifest Sons of God doctrine as taught in hyper-charismatic churches, or “Neo-

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[Jesus Christ](#)

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[Joshua Mills](#)

[Judgment](#)

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[Neo-Gnosticism](#)

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Pentecostalism” as being New Age in nature [see also *Ascended Master* under “Glossary of New Age/Occult Terms and Concepts” and “Jesus of Nazareth / Master Jesus” in the “[Christ in the New Age](#)” article on this site]:

*“Rev. Ernest Ramsey, an associate pastor at Unity’s Kansas City Founder’s Church, Unity on the Plaza, is an enthusiastic follower of the Alice Bailey and Benjamin Crème teachings. In his Research Report #2, he tells of something he was led to by a spirit guide – what he terms ‘Neo-Pentecostalism.’ An aberrant branch of Pentecostalism, this is more commonly known as ‘Manifest Sons of God.’ That movement is also referred to as ‘Sonship’ or ‘Overcomers.’ **Ramsey concludes based on even less evidence than I have personally collected that this is part of the New Age Movement.***

*“...The most interesting section of Ramsey’s report dealing with ‘Neopentecostalism.’ Ramsey spent a semester at one of the Neo-Pentecostal or Manifest Sons of God seminaries – in upstate New York ‘at a location surrounded by tall pine trees.’ Already familiar with the Alice Bailey writings, **he was amazed to see that there was a branch of Pentecostalism that embraced the same teachings – albeit using different terminology.***

*“Like those seeking the ‘Age of Aquarius’ these people too were seeking a ‘New Age.’ **Like the other New Agers, these people taught that ‘The Christ’ was an anointing – not necessarily one man. They taught that Jesus was a pattern son who was to be a sign of something even greater to come – the ‘Manifestation of the Sons of God.’ They too believed the earth was to be cleansed of evil. And chillingly like the other New Agers, they believed they were to be ‘God’s’ instruments to do such cleansing.** The New Agers believed they were gods. The Manifest Sons of God likewise taught that if one accepted their ‘new revelation’ that they themselves would actually become Christ at the time of the unveiling or manifestation of the Sons of God....”<sup>27</sup>*

Theosophist/New Ager Alice A. Bailey (mentioned above by Cumbey), in her 1937 book *From Bethlehem to Calvary*, an occult rendering of the life and work of Jesus Christ, teaches the MSOG doctrine:

*“Let me state here briefly and succinctly, what it would appear really transpired when Christ died on the Cross. He rendered up the form aspect and identified Himself as Man with the life aspect of Deity. He thereby liberated us from the form side of life, of religion and of matter, and demonstrated to us the possibility of **being in the world and yet not of the world; living as souls, released from the trammels and limitations of the flesh, while yet walking on earth...**”<sup>28</sup>*

The asterisk above denotes a reference in the original text to John 17:16 illustrating one of many instances of proof-texting. Note that, according to Bailey, Christ did not die for our sins so much as He died for our own deification – becoming a model, a pattern to follow in attaining our own godhood. The last part of the last sentence above is describing manifested sons of God with the claim that Jesus Christ had released us “from the trammels and limitations of the flesh, while yet walking on earth.” Bailey is also describing the dualistic Gnostic concept which recognizes the spiritual realm as the ‘real’ with the material realm as illusion and/or intrinsically evil. This is also alluded to in Bill Hamon’s book *Eternal Church* in which he states:

*“...When the Church realizes its full sonship, its bodily redemption will cause a redemptive chain reaction throughout all of creation...”<sup>29</sup>*

This sounds not unlike the Kabbalistic doctrine of divine sparks which are within all matter requiring mankind to liberate and redeem them to perfection.

In the following, Bailey is a bit more explicit in her manifested sons of God teaching:

*“...Its form [orthodox religion] must be sacrificed upon the Cross of Christ in order that it may be resurrected into true and vital life for the meeting of people’s need. Let a living Christ be its theme, and not a dying Saviour... **Mankind can descend from the cross as Christ did, and enter into the kingdom of God, a living spirit. The sons of God are ready to be manifested...**”<sup>30</sup>*

The book goes on to quote Romans 8:16-24, just as those in hyper-charismatic churches do in promoting MSOG teaching. Continuing with Bailey:

*“Towards this glorification of God we are all moving. **Some of the sons of men have already achieved, through the realisation of their divinity.**”<sup>31</sup>*

In addition to the ability to travel between the physical and spiritual realms at will, other characteristics of the fully

[Post-Resurrection Era](#)

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manifested son of God are an impossibility to sin,<sup>32</sup> being group conscious<sup>33</sup> (the recognition of the imperative of unity), and a cessation of ongoing reincarnations.<sup>34</sup> In the following, Bailey equates the attainment of sonship with entrance into the Kingdom of God and describes how Christ's Incarnation furthered this possibility:

*"...Christ's incarnation, apart from its historical value, and apart from the keynote which He sounded, marked the closing of a great cosmic cycle, but it marked also the opening of that door into the kingdom which had opened only occasionally theretofore, in order to permit the entrance of those sons of God who had triumphed over matter. After the advent of Christ, the door stood wide open for all time, and the kingdom of God began to form on Earth..."*<sup>35</sup>

This "door into the kingdom" is also known as a "portal" or "veil." The initiate "triumphs over matter" through meditation i.e., seeking the 'presence of God,' which brings increasingly deeper levels of "Christ consciousness," or, in reality, increasing soul-control/possession. [See "Christ Consciousness" section of "[Christ in the New Age](#)."] Bailey makes it clear that the ultimate purpose is to build the kingdom **now** and this purpose can only be accomplished by both the individual and the entire human race attaining divinity.

*"It is time that the Church woke up to its true mission, which is to materialise the kingdom of God on earth, today, here and now..."*<sup>36</sup>

*"This divinity in man must be brought to the birth, both in the individual and in the [human] race, and thus can the kingdom of God on earth be brought into being..."*<sup>37</sup>

Obviously, this is not the true Biblical Kingdom of God which should make the reader wonder just which kingdom Dominionists/Restorationists/Kingdom Now adherents are seeking to build. [See *Fifth Kingdom in Nature* and *Kingdom of God* under "Glossary of New Age/Occult Terms and Concepts" section of "[Christ in the New Age](#)."]

### Which Kingdom?

The late Earl Paulk made a distinction between the "Gospel" and the "Gospel of the Kingdom" in a glossary near the end of his 1984 book *Ultimate Kingdom*. Here are the two definitions respectively:

Gospel: *The good news of God's redemption to man. [Luke 4:18, 9:6; Romans 1:16; Ephesians 6:15]*

Gospel of the Kingdom: *The good news principles of daily life taught by Jesus that the Church must demonstrate as a witness to the world in order to return the rule of the earth to God. [Matthew 4:23, 9:35, 24:14]*<sup>38</sup>

Notice again how it's the Church which must "return the rule of the earth to God" which is, as already noted above, unbiblical. Bill Johnson, in his book *When Heaven Invades Earth* also differentiates between the "Gospel" and the "Gospel of the Kingdom":

*"...the company of people who have joined this quest for an authentic gospel – **the gospel of the kingdom** – is increasing."*<sup>39</sup>

There is also a teaching in the New Age in which when "Christ" – actually the antichrist – 'reappears' (the belief is He never left the earth), He will have the ability to manifest Himself in many bodies at one time not unlike the "[Birth of the Man-Child](#)"<sup>40</sup> teaching of MSOG.

*"The Christ, when He comes into incarnation, will most likely project himself into many parts and be where he wants to be. This is called the Law of Divisibility, a term used in Agni Yoga that means a highly developed spirit—one who is able to contact, simultaneously, various people in various locations. For example, a Master can be seen in various groups at the same time. He can even be in different planes serving and teaching on different levels to meet various needs of the people. He can do different jobs in different places at one time. He impresses the space with his images, and so forth."*

41

Paulk also defines "Man Child" in his glossary as "Jesus Christ" (while referencing Revelation 12:5, 13)<sup>42</sup> Francis Frangipane, in his book *In the Presence of God*, espouses this "Birth of the Man-Child" doctrine implicitly in a chapter titled "The Virgin Shall Be with Child":

*"Secure this thought in your mind: when the **Spirit of Christ** comes into the physical world, **Hemust enter through a physical body**...When Christ first entered our world as a child, it was Mary whom God chose to give Christ birth. Mary's life symbolized the qualities the Church must possess to walk in the fullness of Christ...[God is preparing us] as He did Mary to give birth to the ministry of His Son. Even now, in the spiritual womb of **the virgin Church, the holy purpose of Christ is growing, awaiting maturity; ready to be born in power in the timing of God**...the virgin church is 'in labour*

[Walter Martin](#)

[William Branham](#)

[Word of Faith](#)

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and in pain to give birth (Rev 12:1-2)...even now, hell trembles and the heavens watch in awe, for I say to you, once again, the virgin is with child. **Before Jesus Himself returns, the last virgin Church shall become pregnant with the promise of God. Out of her travail, the Body of Christ shall come forth, raised to the full stature of its Head, the Lord Jesus. Corporately manifested in holiness, power and love, the Bride of Christ shall rise.**"<sup>43</sup>

As evidenced by the title of his 1985 book *Held in the Heavens Until...* Paulk believes we either hinder or hasten Christ's return. Paulk made no bones about his belief in MSoG as he writes:

"...When I say, 'Act like a god,' I can hear people saying, 'There he goes with the theory of the **manifest sons of God**' Forget about theories! Forget about doctrine! Just go back to the simple Word of God! We are 'little gods,' whether we admit it or not..."<sup>44</sup>

Paulk goes further by explaining that we are an "ongoing incarnation of Christ":

"...Jesus was the firstfruit of God's incarnation, a man living out God's perfect will. Now He says, **"...My people will bring forth life as they become the 'incarnate Word' on planet Earth" ...the Church is the 'ongoing expression' of God.**"<sup>45</sup>

"All things have been given to us, **even to the point of allowing us to share the divine nature of Jesus.** Sharing His nature is a definition of the **ongoing incarnation of God on the earth** 'Christ in us, the hope of glory.' His inheritance is already ours."<sup>46</sup>

"...**The Seed, Jesus Christ, multiplied Himself by sending the Holy Spirit to indwell His followers...**

"...**the Holy Spirit within us makes us become the incarnation of God** The seed begins to grow within individuals, and grows corporately into a tremendous church..."<sup>47</sup>

Bill Hamon wrote regarding Paulk on the Rapture that his view "to most Evangelicals and Pentecostals [is] a denial of the rapture bordering on heresy":

"He [Paulk] taught that the departed saints would be resurrected and the living saints would be translated in the twinkling of an eye, but this was not for the purpose of leaving the earth. Rather, it was for establishing God's divine order for the human race and Christ's rulership over all the earth."<sup>48</sup>

Please note this is essentially what Hamon teaches (see above). Even though Hamon does not specifically mention the already departed saints, it can be inferred from the "Resurrection" part of his "Resurrection-Translation" doctrine for "resurrection" can only refer to the deceased. While I may not have found what Hamon refers to explicitly regarding Paulk (if I do find something more definitive, I'll update this portion), here's Paulk, once again, from *Held in the Heavens Until...* implying this as he continues in his line of thought from above [this may well be the quote Hamon had in mind]:

"...'Christ in us' is God's continuing incarnation...**The Church is Christ's body, the incarnation of Christ today.** The mystery which has been hidden but is now revealed to His saints is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**' The mystery of this generation is Christ in us. We never understood that mystery fully. We pray to a 'God beyond the clouds in heavenly places' when Christ is in us. **The hope of glory is not in the heavenlies – the 'hope of the heavenlies' is on earth! Every departed saint is gathered, waiting to see how many of us are going to receive understanding and bring Christ from the heavenlies. They are waiting for total redemption as we are**

"If God's love is going to be manifested on planet earth, who is going to demonstrate it? Christ in us, the hope of glory. **God has no other place to show His love except through His body.**"<sup>49</sup>

I do believe God is quite capable of displaying His love apart from the Church body.

## Concluding Remarks

This article has shown that a "corporate Christ mantle" or "corporate Christ anointing" is akin to Manifest Sons of God teaching. Further, the logical conclusion to this teaching in most quarters is an establishment of the "Kingdom of God" through these manifested sons. These doctrines have a direct parallel to New Age teachings. Given that MSoG along with its associated doctrines are not Biblical, we must ask ourselves: Which Kingdom is Johnson, Vallotton, Hamon, Jones, Bentley, Frangipane, (and the late Paulk), et al actually attempting to establish?

Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup>"ChasingRiver" *The Real Jesus – Part 4 – by Bill Johnson*. <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHcRl60j0HI&feature=related>>; as accessed 07/03/11

<sup>2</sup>"ChasingRiver" 0:36 – 1:30, emphasis added; as accessed 07/03/11

- <sup>3</sup> "ChasingRiver" 7:28 – 8:10, emphasis added; as accessed 07/03/11
- <sup>4</sup> Hamon, Bill. Apostles, Prophets and the Coming Moves of God. 1997 (2<sup>nd</sup> printing), Destiny Image "We Publish the Prophets", Shippensburg, PA; p 282. Bolding in original, underlining added.
- <sup>5</sup> Branham, William Marrion. The Revelation of the Seven Seals. 1993, Voice of God, Jeffersonville, IA; pp 425-27. From sermon tapes of March 17-25, 1963.
- <sup>6</sup> Branham; p 426
- <sup>7</sup> Branham; introduction
- <sup>8</sup> Branham; pp 259, 249-95
- <sup>9</sup> Branham; pp 281, 249-95
- <sup>10</sup> Branham; p 435
- <sup>11</sup> Branham; p 436
- <sup>12</sup> Jesus "R" Ministries. "The Mantle of Jesus" <<http://www.jesusministries.org/Mantle%20of%20Jesus.htm>>; par 2, 3; as accessed 07/03/11
- <sup>13</sup> Jesus "R" Ministries; par 3, 5. Emphasis added. Also note the very last paragraph uses Joel 2:1-18 presumably for the Latter Rain version of Joel's Army as well as the IHOP version.
- <sup>14</sup> Order of Christ~Sophia (Centers of Light) "Purposes" <[http://www.orderofchristosophia.org/OCS\\_purposes.html](http://www.orderofchristosophia.org/OCS_purposes.html)>; points 3, 6, 5, 6 respectively; as accessed 07/03/11
- <sup>15</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 13
- <sup>16</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 11
- <sup>17</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 13
- <sup>18</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 11
- <sup>19</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 13
- <sup>20</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 18
- <sup>21</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; pp 264-65
- <sup>22</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; pp 255-56
- <sup>23</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets; p 252
- <sup>24</sup> MorningStar Ministries, Media Store, VS19-000D. "Todd Bentley Healing and Impartation Service, 08-08-08" DVD. A truncated version is on Jones' site: <[http://bobjonesnew.unionactive.com/Docs/Words%20of%202008/2008-09-The\\_New\\_Breed.htm](http://bobjonesnew.unionactive.com/Docs/Words%20of%202008/2008-09-The_New_Breed.htm)>
- <sup>25</sup> Johnson, Bill. Face to Face with God. 2007; Charisma House, Lake Mary, FL; p 139. Emphasis added.
- <sup>26</sup> Bentley, Todd. Monologue from Lakeland Revival, Day 57 May 28, 2008. Originally accessed here: <<http://injesus.com/index.php?module=message&task=list&GroupID-WB0062AX>> access date unknown, website link no longer valid.
- <sup>27</sup> Cumbey, Constance. A Planned Deception: the Staging of a New Age "Messiah". 1985; Point Publishers, East Detroit, MI; pp 171-172. Emphasis added. Also available as a free download: <<https://public.me.com/cumbey>> "A PLANNED...ULL BOOK.pdf" pp 78-9
- <sup>28</sup> Bailey, Alice A. From Bethlehem to Calvary. Copyright 1937 by Alice A. Bailey, renewed 1957 by Foster Bailey; Lucis, NY, 4<sup>th</sup> paperback edition, 1989; Fort Orange Press, Inc., Albany, New York; p 187. Emphasis added.
- <sup>29</sup> Hamon, Bill. Eternal Church. 1981 (2003 revised ed), Christian International, Santa Rosa Beach, FL; pp 359-60
- <sup>30</sup> Bailey. Bethlehem; p 189. Emphasis added.
- <sup>31</sup> Bailey. Bethlehem; p 189. As per original (sentence fragment in orig.). Emphasis added.
- <sup>32</sup> Bailey. Bethlehem; p 202
- <sup>33</sup> Bailey, Alice A. The Rays and the Initiations. 1960 Lucis, NY, 2<sup>nd</sup> paperback ed, 1976, Fort Orange Press, Inc., Albany, New York; p 694
- <sup>34</sup> Bailey, Rays; p 697
- <sup>35</sup> Bailey. Bethlehem; p 184
- <sup>36</sup> Bailey. Bethlehem; p 210
- <sup>37</sup> Bailey. Bethlehem; p 50
- <sup>38</sup> Paulk, Earl. Ultimate Kingdom. 1984, K Dimension Publishers, Atlanta, GA; p 335
- <sup>39</sup> Johnson, Bill When Heaven Invades Earth. 2003; Destiny Image, Shippensburg, PA; p 27. Emphasis in original.
- <sup>40</sup> Booth, Tricia (formerly Tillin), The Birthpangs of a New Age. "The Birth of the Manchild" <<http://www.birthpangs.org/articles/latterrain/manchild.html>>; as accessed 07/03/11
- <sup>41</sup> World Service Intergroup website. Dubois, J.D. "The Christ, His Reappearance, and the Avatar of Synthesis" <<http://www.worldserviceintergroup.net/#/christ-reappearance/4543145171>>; par 5; as accessed 07/03/11
- <sup>42</sup> Paulk. Ultimate. p 337
- <sup>43</sup> Frangipane, Francis. In the Presence of God. 1994, New Wine Press, UK; pp 153-57 as cited in Booth, Tricia "The Birth of the Manchild". Emphasis added
- <sup>44</sup> Paulk, Earl. Held in the Heavens Until...: God's Strategy for Planet Earth. 1985, K Dimension Publishers, Atlanta, GA; p 171. Emphasis added.
- <sup>45</sup> Paulk. Heavens. p 163. Emphasis added.
- <sup>46</sup> Paulk. Heavens. p 197. Emphasis added.
- <sup>47</sup> Paulk. Heavens. p 227. Emphasis added.
- <sup>48</sup> Hamon. Apostles, Prophets. p 199
- <sup>49</sup> Paulk. Heavens. p 229. Emphasis added.

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Boris Johnson was moved to ICU at St Thomas' Hospital in central London and given oxygen after his health deteriorated sharply over just two hours, leaving doctors fearing he will need a ventilator. Concerns over a power vacuum at the heart of government as the PM faces weeks out of action at least. Questions over who has control of the nuclear deterrent and whether Mr Raab can keep No10 running. By James Tapsfield, Political Editor For Mailonline. Boris Johnson is 'breathing without assistance' in intensive care and does not have pneumonia, Downing Street said categorically today. Forced to issue a statement to quash rampant speculation, the PM's spokesman said he was 'stable overnight and remains in good spirits' having received 'standard oxygen treatment'. Yet, Bill Johnson teaches that the devil has no power! It is in this and time, we are warned, that the antichrist will perform the

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