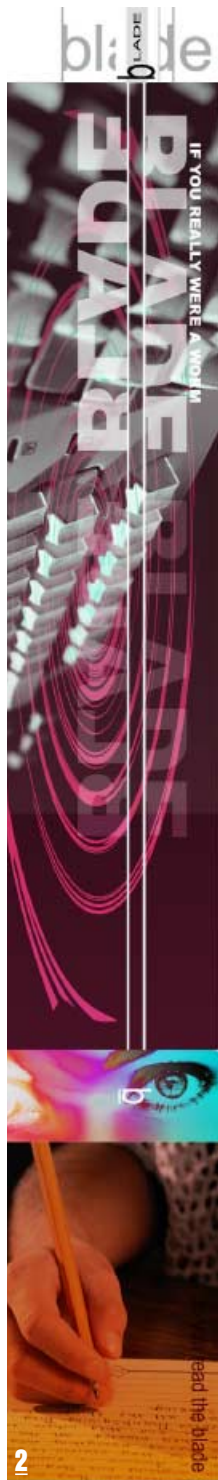


BLADE

ISSUE 18



WARRIOR LORD



If You Were Really a Worm...

There you are, a little worm, with your lower half in the ground and your chin resting in the dirt. You'd trip over your bottom lip if you had any legs. You're nodding your head, "Yes, you're right. You're *so* right."

Who are you talking to? Oh, that green and purple caterpillar there, the one smoking a pipe!

He's telling you, in his rich, thick little voice, "Too bad you're just a worm. You don't mean nuthin' to nobody! If you had wings like a butterfly, little girls might smile and chase you when they saw you. If you had legs like me, you could climb trees and see the green world in all its glory! But, nope! You're just a little, plain, one-colored worm, with no hands, no feet, no personality!"

You sigh, and one large teardrop trickles from the corner of your eye.

The caterpillar scurries away, calling over his shoulder, "Whoa! I don't want to see a dehydrated worm on top of it! See ya!"

Suddenly the ground around your little wormhole starts trembling, and a mighty roar fills your ears as the earth splits and sends clods of damp dirt everywhere. You're growing in size!

You shake your head and look up to see your shepherd reading a page of *From Jesus—With Love*. You sigh. That's right, it's devotions, and you're actually a person. But you're still a worm in your *mind*, and you can still hear that ornery caterpillar chuckling away as he puffs on his pipe.

Mind if I interrupt those thoughts for a moment? I have a question for you. Who do you think that is, telling you you're a worm? No, forget the caterpillar for a moment.—He's just a product of your imagination, and a make-believe character that I'm using to illustrate this important point for you. Where do you think that voice is coming from—the voice that's making you feel worthless, awful, unimportant, ordinary, and useless? Well, in case you're not yet wide awake this morning, I'll tell you. It's the Devil!

But, look at me, you think to yourself, I mean, it does seem like I'm just a nobody.

Now I'm talking as a friend—your *best* friend! I just have to expose that caterpillar-of-a-Devil. If you *really* were a nobody, what makes you think the Devil would waste his time telling you, all day long, how worthless you are? After all, he says you're a worm, right? If he's correct, you must be completely defenseless and no threat whatsoever to his dark kingdom.

You see, he's just shot himself in the foot—exposed himself. The reason he's paying so much attention to you, expending so much energy (and you can be sure he doesn't expend his energy for *anything* unless he thinks it might gain an advantage for his dark kingdom) is precisely because you are *not* a worm! If you were a harmless, useless, plain little nobody worm, he'd *ignore* you!

No, he sees that you are a warrior in the making, and he is *freaking out* inside! All his little imps are squeaking out questions: "What are we gonna do? Look at his strength, and he's growing stronger every day. Boss, what do we *do*?!" They fearfully chatter until the Devil can't *stand* it any more, and he decides that this is a job that he himself has to do. He tries to saunter over, in his caterpillar disguise, looking as unconcerned as possible. But if caterpillars could sweat, you'd see that he was sweating *buckets*.

Have you got that, My warrior? The only way the Devil can defeat you is by making you believe in your mind that you're a worm—already defeated, already useless. So don't fall for that big fat caterpillar's corny little verbal attack! Pull out your sword—the sword of the Word that you had all along—and carve him up, then invite the birds of My Spirit in for a feast on his green and purple flesh. He's defeated and you've won again!



Explore My Palace of the Spirit World!

EXPLORE MY PALACE OF THE SPIRIT WORLD

Did you know that there are worldlings who think that talking to invisible spirits and ghosts is really cool? It's the new fad for a lot of people—a lot of young people, too! Unfortunately, it's also one of Satan's latest lines: "Christianity consists of nothing but boring, stuffy churches where people look at hymn books. If you want to know *real* spirituality, *real* magic, and if you want to experience the spirit world, come to me!"

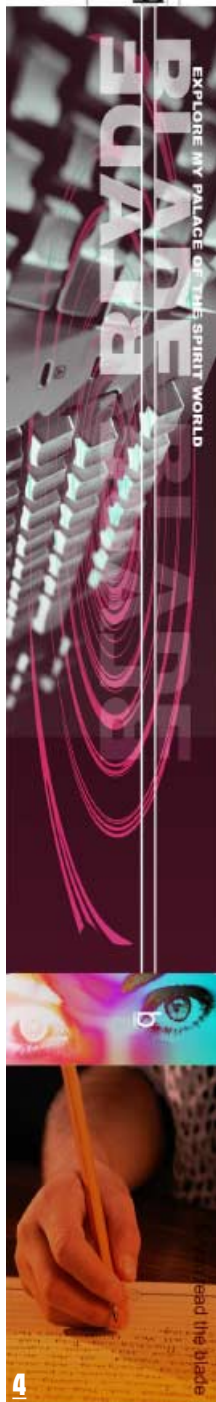
The sad thing about it is, there are a lot of Christians who have been deceived into thinking that communicating with departed saints is wicked and sinful! So the poor people who want to believe in the spirit world have to go elsewhere to learn how to communicate with those who are departed.

There aren't many Christians who show people how to communicate with the spirit world with My blessing and protection, so guess where people go? Unfortunately, they go to New Age groups, and even to practicing witches! Oh, the witches don't tell them about who they're *really* worshipping when they say the words and wear the icons. They try to assure people, "We don't cast bad spells that hurt people, we only practice *white* magic.—It's good and enlightening and you can have power if you do it!"

But guess what! There's no such thing as "white magic" if you don't have Me! They show people how to cast seemingly innocent spells at first—and there are even movies promoting this kind of thing—like making someone fall in love with you or helping the teacher to give you good grades. But that's just the bait! Then once people are hooked, Satan binds them up in fear and pride—another victim who wanted spiritual enlightenment, but only got spiritual torture and bondage.

I've given you, My children, an incredibly powerful weapon through prophecy. If you were ever tempted to think that prophecy was overly spiritual and uncool, well, think again! It *is* spiritual—as in, it has to do with the spiritual realm, and believe it or not, it's one of the coolest things you could tell young people about when you witness to them. You have a precious treasure they don't know how to get—communication with the spirit world under My protection and with My guidance.

Satan's not even *allowed* to go where I can take you! He's confined to the *dungeons* of the spirit world, where everything's dark and damp



and dreary. Explore My vast *palace* of the spirit world today, and tell others about the wonders that can be discovered through the power of My Holy Spirit.



blade

EXPLORE MY PALACE OF THE SPIRIT WORLD

BLADE

Anya and Her Ocean

ANYA AND HER OCEAN BREEZE

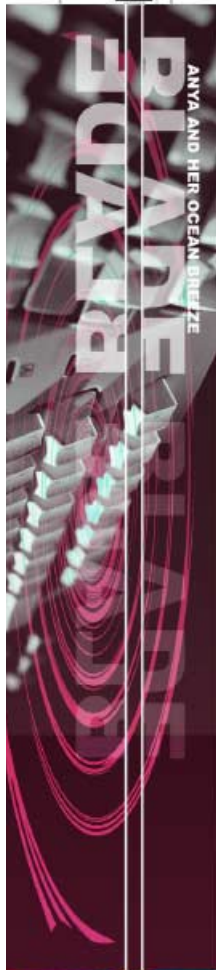
Breeze

Anya is another spirit helper among the many who want to befriend you. She looks about your age. She's happy and carefree. She has dark, straight hair and green eyes, and a smile is always playing about her lips. If you want to picture her personality, picture a girl splashing in the ocean on a hot summer's day, laughing and screaming playfully. That's like Anya. She loves Me very much, and she trusts Me, too.—That's why she doesn't have a single care or worry.

She loves being around people like you, because she understands that it's easy to become burdened in the temporal realm. There is so much spiritual pollution around you, almost constantly, but when she comes along—like so many other spirit helpers—she brings with her some of that fresh ocean breeze from where she plays. Even though you might not physically feel it, it brushes over your spirit, blowing away some of the pollution of cares and worries that settle on you when you're not looking.

She helps you be happy again, to be light and care-free, and to trust Me. Call her when you feel blue, and then when she comes, invite even more of her wonderful ocean breeze, by raising your hands in praise.

That's how she brings it down to you, did you know? She raises her hands high and pulls that Heavenly breeze along behind her, almost like a long filmy piece of material. When you raise your hands, *you* can catch even more of the breeze too.



We Will Ride

WE WILL RIDE TOGETHER

Together

There is the sound of a battle cry in the distance. Can you hear it? It's so faint now, but it will come loud and clear, ringing in the hearts and minds of everyone. Now, come and be prepared. Gird up your loins and don the garments of tanking up and training for the battle to come.

We will be battle buddies! We will ride together and fight the Enemy together; we will

be warriors of the faith. Come, can you hear My voice faintly calling in your heart, whispering, beckoning you to come? It's there—My whispering hope.

Won't you take up the challenge and be My armor boy now, yielding to My beck and call, and giving your heart and abilities—whatever they may be—to others? I want you! There's only one of you, and I want you. Don't think that you're lost in the masses of young people, old people, and babies, because I know right where you are, what you're doing, and what you're thinking. I'm thinking of you right now; I'm whispering in your heart, beckoning you to take up the challenge.

Won't you, please? Won't you answer the still, small voice of love whispering in your heart, and asking for your pledge to be My battle buddy? Will you not pledge your love and devotion to Me?



Start a “Seeking the Good” Notebook

It’s easy to criticize people in your mind when you think they’re a little strange, or you don’t understand them, or they don’t act the way you do. But then, because your thoughts are the parents of your words, in an unguarded moment you can slip and say something not so nice to someone. No matter what the topic, what comes out in your remark is that you don’t approve of the way he is, you don’t really like him, or you think he’s kind of corny. And then, even though you feel guilty that you said something a little cutting, you brush it off with the thought, *Well, I mean, what I said about him is true!*

So then, even though you liked the person okay before, your words lead you into *more* critical thoughts. You seem to catch him doing unwise or goofy things all the time,



Meg



and you start being disgusted more and more by this innocent person who just wants to be liked and to have friends. You can become even more careless with what you say, to where you're openly putting that person down around your friends, and making other people think that he's stupid or corny or something.

I know it can be tough to break the cycle once you've started it. Once in awhile you realize, "Hey, why is it that I don't like that person? He's not *that* bad!" But see, what you need to realize is that the Enemy caught you in an unguarded moment in the beginning, with your critical thoughts.

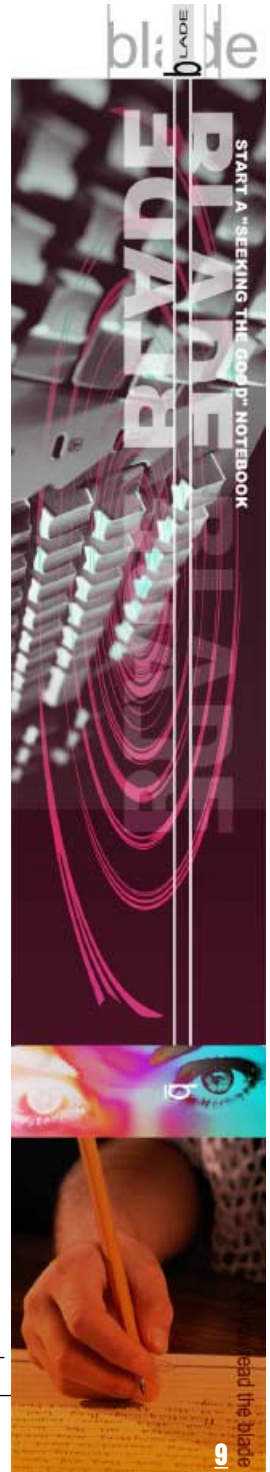
Want to know how to start thinking nice thoughts about that person again? Okay, I'll give you a few ideas. First of all, remember that this person is one of My children, and I see the secret tears he cries, his loneliness, and his desire to be accepted. He deserves to be accepted and loved by others just as much as you do.

For starters, I want you to keep a little log of that person. Start by making a list.—Whenever you catch him doing something good, saying something nice, or helping someone else, write it down in that notebook. Whenever you see him display good character, honesty, tenderness with children, or sympathy for those who are weak, make a note of that in your little book. You can call it your "seeking the good" notebook and you can keep a list on anybody you have had a hard time appreciating or liking. I promise you, this'll work wonders!

REMEMBER

REMEMBER THAT THIS PERSON IS ONE OF MY CHILDREN, AND I SEE THE SECRET TEARS HE CRIES, HIS LONELINESS AND HIS DESIRE TO BE ACCEPTED. HE DESERVES TO BE ACCEPTED AND LOVED BY OTHERS JUST AS MUCH AS YOU DO.

AND LOVED BY OTHERS JUST AS MUCH AS YOU DO.



Taste My Culinary

TASTE MY CULINARY DELIGHTS

Delights!

When you arrive in Heaven, make sure to stop by My very Own Heavenly restaurant. It holds a glorious buffet beyond description. Did you know I love to cook? I enjoy the culinary arts immensely, and love to create tasty edibles for you.

This isn't just any Heavenly restaurant.—This is My restaurant, and I'm the Head Chef! When I get into that kitchen, I can really cook up a storm. So get a plate and sample the cuisine. Everything is made perfectly from My special recipes, tailored exactly to the taste buds of the person I know is going to try that dish.

Circle the buffet as many times as you wish.—It's an all-you-can-eat joint.—But I doubt you'll be able to make the full rounds during one visit, as there's such a vast amount of dishes to choose from. You won't get full, but you may want to stop so that you can savor what you've already tried. Don't worry, you can always come back for more. My restaurant is open around the clock, and I'll always have the perfect treat ready for you fresh out of My kitchen.



Mike D.

New Concepts

NEW CONCEPTS OF FUN

of Fun

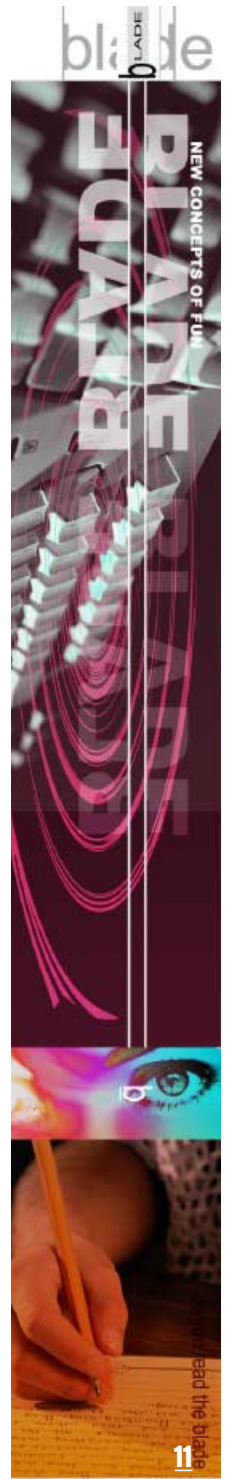
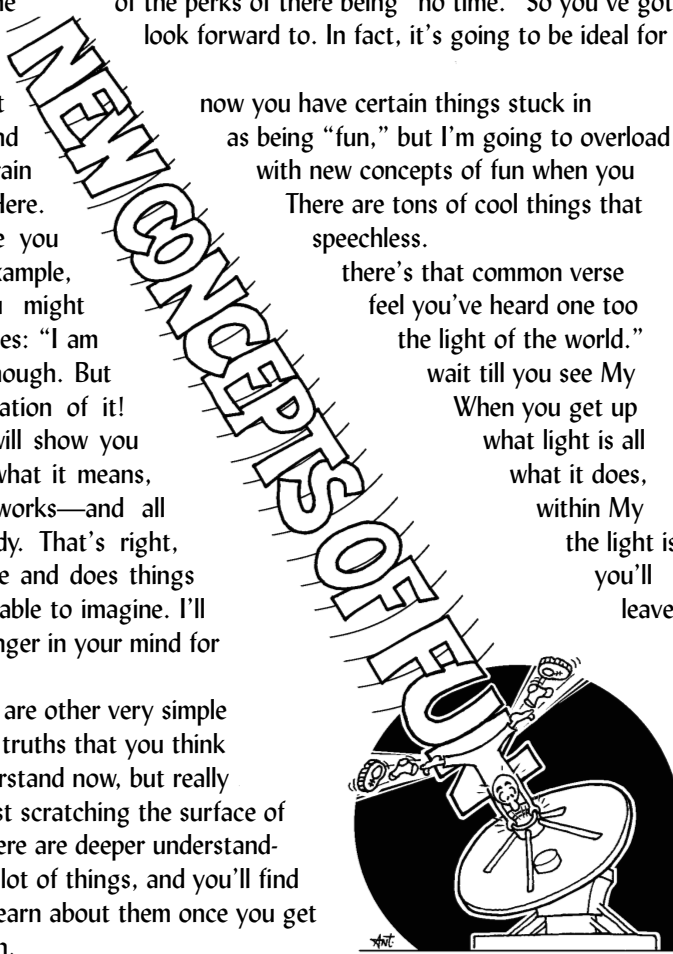
I know that one of your frustrations is that you sometimes feel there aren't enough fun things to do around where you live, or you're not able to hang out as much as you'd like. And sometimes you don't know what to do with yourself—where to go or what to do to really have a rocking time.

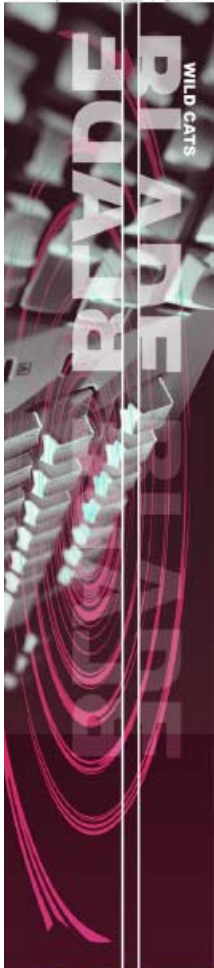
That'll never be a problem in Heaven. You'll always have a long list of cool places to check out for the first time, and tons of great friends to hang out with. And even though there is lots of work and exploration to be done up Here, there's still a lot of time for fun and relaxation, too. That's one of the perks of there being "no time." So you've got a lot to look forward to. In fact, it's going to be ideal for you.

Right now you have certain things stuck in your mind as being "fun," but I'm going to overload your brain with new concepts of fun when you get up Here. There are tons of cool things that will make you speechless.

For example, there's that common verse that you might feel you've heard one too many times: "I am the light of the world." Simple enough. But wait till you see My demonstration of it! When you get up Here, I will show you what light is all about—what it does, what it does, within My Own Body. That's right, the light is within Me and does things you'll never be able to imagine. I'll leave that to linger in your mind for a bit.

There are other very simple verses or truths that you think you understand now, but really you're just scratching the surface of them. There are deeper understandings to a lot of things, and you'll find out and learn about them once you get to Heaven.





Wild Cats

WILD CATS

Wild cats—aren't they beautiful? They're awesome, powerful, majestic, fascinating, intriguing, graceful, fearless, fearsome, swift, and sure. As you can guess, I enjoy them immensely. That's why I allowed Myself to be called "the Lion of Judah." The lion, as king of beasts, represents what I am in My realm—King of all. I'm the greatest, the fastest, the strongest, and the longest lasting—everlasting, in fact.

Unlike the lions, tigers, leopards, and panthers that roam the earth now, I am not a beast of prey in the sense of being on the hunt, ready to devour—although there are times that I roar with anger and wreak vengeance on those who harm the innocent.

On Earth, the food chain is necessary, and thus do these beautiful wild animals hunt. But in the days to come, in the Millennium, they will do so no more. Yet they will be present in all their beauty and splendor, just as they are in Heaven already.

I have a whole park devoted to wild cats. While they don't hunt in Heaven, they dwell in similar habitats to their kind on Earth—whether



plains, forests, jungles, or mountains. Some live in groups, some are solitary, but all are symbols of My majesty and power.

I chose to reflect a part of Me in each of My creatures, and in the wild cats I placed My attributes of power and majesty. They are an expression of how fearsome and mighty I am. Their keenness and sensitivity to their surroundings are also reflective of Me. You cannot be in My presence without My knowledge—not only My knowledge of your presence, but of what you are feeling and thinking. These beasts can sense fear or danger—but I can sense everything. I'm the original Wild Cat!



I Rule!

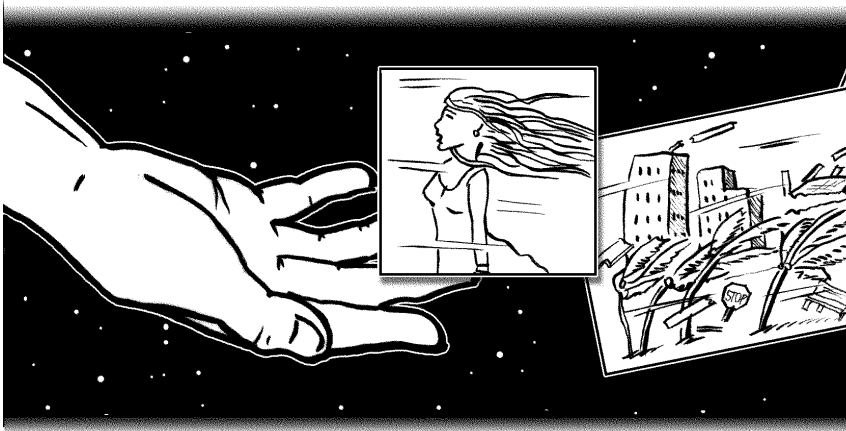
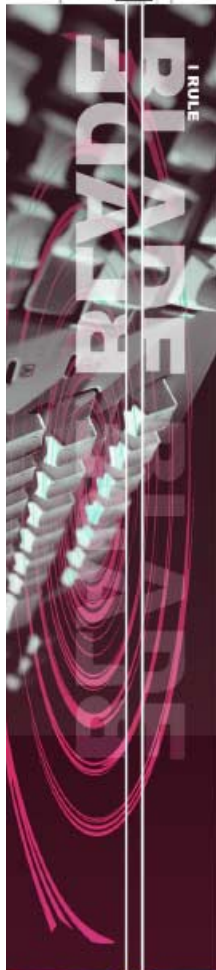
I RULE!

Where is God's power today? some people wonder. My power cannot be found in shopping malls filled with icons to the god Mammon. It cannot be found on man-made roads where man-made vehicles create noise, traffic jams, and pollution. My power cannot be found in most of television, which is full of mental trash designed to desensitize people to the godless path the world is heading down. My power cannot be found in the lives of the rich and famous, who parade themselves as little gods before the world. It cannot be found in the big industries of movies, music, fashion, or politics.

So where am I? Have I been muscled under? Has Satan won in the arm wrestle we're holding on the table of the world? It seems so, doesn't it? I have even allowed him to think he is winning, as he seemingly inches My arm down toward the table, gaining power and control over all that man is and does. You who are betting on Me can have your moments of doubt, wondering if you should just succumb to his worldly ways—as appealing and overwhelmingly present as they are right now.

Do you want to know how My power is physically manifested in the world? I'll tell you then. Go outside into your yard, or into a field, or onto a beach as a storm is approaching. Feel that wind blowing against your face and body? That's My power. When I show My face in the wind through a real storm, there is nothing man can do except batten down his home and business, and sit tight and wait out the storm.

Have you ever gone to a rocky beach and seen the waves pounding the jagged shore?—The spray splashes up sometimes ten or twenty feet.—That's My power. Ever seen a man surf on a large wave? His skill may be impressive, but just think who is behind that wave. That



is My power being manifested yet again. Man loves to try to play with the manifestations of My power, and part of the reason is the danger factor.—The waves cannot be controlled, only ridden.

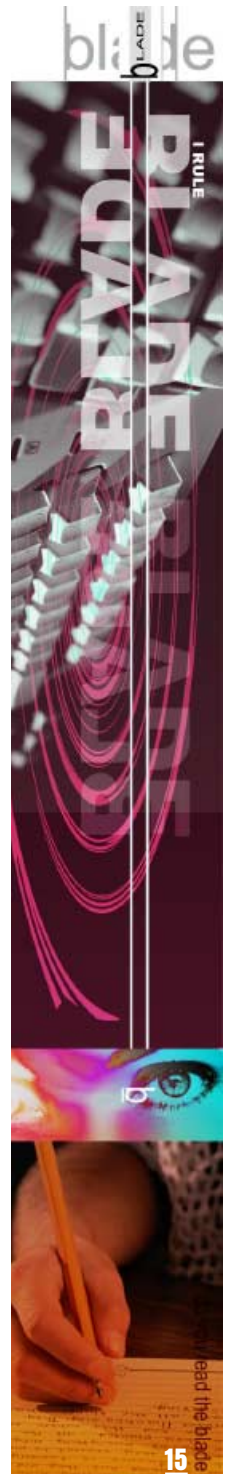
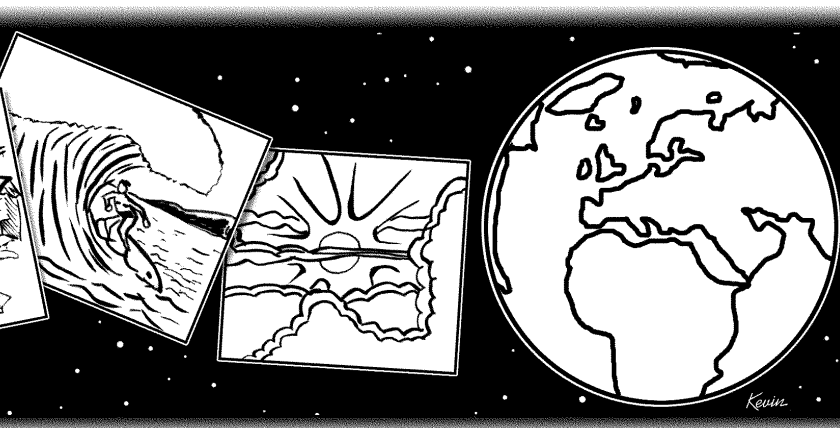
Have you ever watched a magnificent sunburst after a storm, as the sun shows its glory through the dark clouds? That is My power, once again. Man thinks he is so self-sufficient without Me, but just imagine for a moment what would happen if I removed the manifestations of My power. Imagine that I removed, just for a moment, the air, the sun, the water, the land, and everything that man depends on for life. There would be no question about who was in control, who ruled.

I rule! I am God!

That's not even to mention the way that My power is manifested in My children. You who worship Me, you who praise Me, you who pray to Me and put your trust in My manifold power, are living proofs of it! You are lights shining in the gross darkness that is falling upon the earth. As the days darken, so will your lights grow brighter, until you will be as conduits of My earthshaking power. I will perform miracles through you. I, creator of storms and of waves, ruler of the might of the ocean and the depth of the desert sands, will take you and will use you to demonstrate My Godhead.

See, man has grown numb to the power in My natural creation. He fights to control it, to prevent it, to overcome it, and pretty soon he forgets that it is I Who am behind it. So it is that the time will come when I will show new manifestations of My power—through you, My own precious children who have accepted to be known as My brides. Men will gasp at My power then, as though they had never seen it before, but this is just because they have closed their eyes and their ears to the reality of My creation that they see around them every day.

My power is present! My power is real! And more power is coming!



Heavenly Showroom of Great Battles

HEAVENLY SHOWROOM OF GREAT BATTLES

Come on inside the Pavilion of the Lamb. There's much to explore. You're free to roam wherever you wish within this grand pavilion. As you walk throughout, new dimensions are opened, and various facets of Me are revealed to you. What do you wish to know about Me? I will show you in the way you will understand best.

On the right is a showroom, with three-dimensional movie clips of the great battles that I've fought for My children. You can enter into any scene and partake of the moment. You can observe the great spiritual warfare that occurred—swords clashing, lightning flashing, and flame throwing. You can even experience a part of the mind combat that occurred between Myself and the Evil One.

I am always at war with the Evil One, but there are some memorable battles in history that I have recorded and placed here for you to see, so you can witness My strong might and power as the Warrior Lord. I am a valiant general who protects his soldiers, no matter what the cost.

Enter into this chamber, and stand back and see Me fight. You will praise Me for the victory, and marvel at My glorious might and power which is always at your side, to protect you and keep you from the forces of the Enemy.