

A Labor of Love 1984 - Reprint 2007

It is no mere coincidence that 23 years after the material in this book was originally published and distributed, this very candid and personal testimony of a Molokan elder from the past is generously being made available to the present-day generation of Molokans.

Earlier this year, a longtime Molokan couple from California were in their living room moving a piece of furniture. When they looked back to where their coffee table had previously stood, to their surprise and amazement, lying there on the floor, was a copy of the original 1984 publication of A Labor of Love.

As the husband leaned over to pick up the copy of the booklet, he realized that he could not remember if he had ever finished reading the publication back in the Spring of 1984, when he and his wife had initially received it, during the first evening observance of the Paskha (Passover) church holiday. Perhaps even more amazing is that from the time the original booklet was first distributed, this couple had moved three different times, and as the years went by, they had completely forgotten that they even had a copy of this booklet.

Realizing that 23 years had now passed and that there are many Molokans today, including an entire new generation of young people and newlyweds who have never had the opportunity to read the original booklet, God put it upon the heart of this Molokan couple to reproduce and redistribute this material, so that everyone who has chosen to include the designation of “*Molokan*”, as part of their socio-religious identity, will be able to read this life-changing testimony.

About 30 years ago, while in the intense heat and humidity of a Brazilian forest, the late Molokan elder, Paul A. Efseaff, collapsed to the dirt beneath him. As he lay there on the jungle floor, not truly knowing what it was that had caused him to crumple to the ground so suddenly, he thought that he might be having a heart attack, and he believed that he was going to die.

At this crucial moment of his life, convinced that he was literally staring death in the face, he made a commitment to the Lord that if God would spare his life, he would in return share with our Molokan people the truth that he had come to know about what M. G. Rudometkin, while in prison during the 1800s, had actually written in his own original, unpublished, handwritten letters to his followers in the village of Nikitino, in Russia.

The enclosed testimony is the result of that promise to God.

The relevance of this book is that the author was someone who was at one time a zealous disciple of M. G. Rudometkin and his teachings. He describes how he spent almost 25 years devoted to a religion based on the writings in the book, Spirit and Life, until God intervened in his life and he found himself confronted with the significance of a single, specific Biblical truth.

In what he could describe only as divine revelation, the Holy Spirit opened his mind to grasp the meaning of what is written in the Scriptures, that in one's relationship with God the Father, it is “*Christ in us*” that is the hope of glory, not anything of ourselves, nor anything of this earth (Colossians 1:24-27). Never before had these words ever made such an impact upon him, to leave such an indelible impression upon his understanding of the Holy Scriptures.

It is the hope of those responsible for republishing this material that our current Molokan community be reminded of the truth about the inception of our Molokan sect in Russia, which was founded on belief in the Bible as the ultimate, definitive authority, the written Word of God. The work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross is what our original Molokan forefathers proclaimed as the only foundation for their faith in God.

The message of grace, which our Christian Molokan ancestors shared with the people in Russia generations ago, is that Jesus was the One Who fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament scriptures. He is the only sacrifice good enough for God the Father, the only One acceptable as payment in full, once and forever, in order to redeem all of mankind for the sins of the entire world. He is the sinless sacrifice, the perfect Lamb of God. It is only through the Lord Jesus Christ, and His death and resurrection, that we have forgiveness of sin, and the promise of eternal life.

In Christ, we have much to celebrate! Our very salvation depends on our faith in Christ Jesus. It is the prayer of those who are responsible for this current project that republishing this book will help restore our faith in Christ, and keep our Molokan people focused on Jesus, that He will truly be the center and “*Lord*” of our lives.

The reprint of this publication is not intended to be an endorsement of any personal opinions that are expressed by the author. The statements made herein which convey Paul Efseaff’s own private interpretations and conclusions about the context of information that is presented as Biblical and historical fact, reflect his own personal views and understanding, and are solely the opinions of the author.

It is important for each reader to realize and understand fully that this reprint is being provided totally independent of those who are members of the author’s surviving family. Nobody in the immediate family of Paul Efseaff, not his widow, nor any of his children or grandchildren, have participated in the reprinting of this book.

This work is currently being translated into the Russian language. When completed, it will be distributed among the remnant of Jumper Molokans living in Russia today. Virtually none of those presently living in Russia have any idea about how Rudometkin’s followers here in America have hidden the truth over the years about what Rudometkin actually believed, and they are unaware that the Spirit and Life book is an edited and altered attempt to conceal the truth of what Rudometkin truly wrote in his original, handwritten manuscripts.

As the title states, this was a “*labor of love*” when this book was initially printed and distributed in 1984. So it is with this current project. Those readers who would like to contribute to the cost of this project, or provide support for this ministry effort, please mail your contributions to:

Kerman Bible Studies
c/o Bill and Martha Shubin
7033 Rialto Avenue
Fresno, CA 93723-9407

Kerman Bible Studies was organized with the primary goal and purpose of providing opportunity for Christian ministry and fellowship within the current population of Molokan people, concentrated mainly on those living in California, in the Central San Joaquin Valley. Kerman Bible Studies is legally registered in the state of California, with nonprofit status.

All donations received will be applied to the costs incurred to complete this publication here in America, as well as assisting financially with the completion and distribution of the Russian translation of this testimony, to Molokans living in Russia.

The Good News!

God's Provision for Salvation and Eternal Life

*And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God **that you may know that you have eternal life.** (1 John 5:11-13)*

Because God is holy, it is impossible for anyone who fails to live according to the Lord's righteous character, to have a personal relationship with Him. Sin began when man and woman first disobeyed the Lord and made the independent decision to exercise their own selfish and independent will over God's instruction to them. At that precise moment, the very basis of God's requirement for relationship with mankind was rejected, man became separated from God, and fellowship with the Lord was broken. Sin has thereafter created a barrier between man and God.

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. (Romans 3:21-26)

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him [on the person of Jesus Christ] the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

Sin will be judged by the Lord. There is nobody who is exempt from God's requirement of perfect holiness.

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:26-28)

Knowing that mankind is incapable of fulfilling God's requirement for holiness, the Lord has provided a way for man to be redeemed and be forgiven for our sins against God.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6-9)

The Lord loves us and seeks to restore a personal relationship with us, by removing the barrier of sin that humanity is guilty of, which keeps mankind separated from God.

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:10)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Because of God's love for mankind, we are assured of this promise from the Lord, according to what is written in the Bible:

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. (John 1:12-13)

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Romans 10:13)

When we repent of our sins, when we believe that Jesus died and resurrected from the dead as payment for our sins, and when we forsake all of our sinful ways, we are assured that God has granted us salvation and eternal life.

Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus.... (Acts 3:19-20)

Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)

We must believe in Jesus Christ as **the only way** to be forgiven for our sins against God, in order to receive salvation and eternal life in the kingdom of heaven. The forgiveness of our sins is something that is totally undeserved. It is a GIFT of love and kindness from our Creator God.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)

*Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. **Do you believe this?** (John 11:25-26)*

May the ministry of this publication bless you to seek the Lord Jesus Christ and to learn everything that is recorded about Him in the Holy Scriptures, so that you will make the decision to accept and receive His grace, His forgiveness, and His gift of salvation and eternal life. Amen.

This book is the frank and personal testimony of a Molokan elder who, as a young man, at a particularly impressionable age in his life, was attracted by his own curiosity to the world of “*spiritual activity*”. This initial intrigue led him to eventually become a follower of the man, Makcim Ghavrilovitch Rudometkin, and the writings that are published in a book entitled, *Spirit and Life*.

In his own words, Elder Paul A. Efseaff candidly shares personal details about the path of “*spirituality*” that he chose to follow during the early stages of his life’s journey, which he believed was in obedience to the Lord God in heaven. Lured by his attraction to what he perceived at the time as “*deep spiritual mystery*”, that decision ultimately led him to wander life in spiritual deception, as he became a faithful and devoted disciple of Rudometkin, until the day when he unexpectedly found himself in a life or death crisis, deep in a Brazilian forest.

In that jungle setting, he was convicted by God to face the truth about what Rudometkin had indeed written in his own original, unedited and unpublished handwritten manuscripts, and to also confront the unthinkable, that a deception had been orchestrated by past Molokan elders to purposefully and intentionally keep the truth hidden away from the general Molokan public about what Rudometkin actually believed and taught, and in fact had instituted the very practice of in his own hometown village of Nikitino, during the mid 1800s, in Southern Russia.

This work is dedicated to the exposure of that attempt to conceal the truth about Rudometkin and the content of his unedited original writings, a deception that the apologists of Rudometkin today still deny in their attempt to salvage the credibility of their religious beliefs, to defend and protect the reputation of the man who they revere as the leader of their belief system.

“A Labor of Love”

1984

Book One

and

Book Two

This booklet is a reprint of what Elder Paul A. Efseaff originally distributed at the beginning of the 1984 Pasxa (Passover) observance to those individual member families who were in attendance at their respective Jumper Molokan congregations, at the seven churches in Los Angeles, California, at the one church in Shafter, California, at the three churches in Kerman, California and at the one church in Gervais, Oregon.

This material has been reproduced with no changes in content from when it was first distributed. Initially printed using originals that were typewritten, the copy has been typeset using a larger font size, and the body of the copy itself has been separated into shorter paragraphs than what was printed in the original booklet, in order to make it easier to read.

In the original publication, at the end of each book were two separate sections which were printed on yellow paper, containing the different Scriptural passages that were referenced to in the body of the text. The references were quoted from the King James version of the Bible, and were inserted as a convenience to the readers. In this reprint, those reference sections have been omitted, in anticipation that each reader appreciates the choice of being able to read the applicable Scriptures in a version or translation of the Bible which they prefer.

On March 15, 2005, Elder Paul A. Efseaff was called home to begin his life in eternity with the Lord Jesus Christ.

This “Labor of Love”, Book #1 and #2, is dedicated primarily to those Molokans who think in English and to those who realize that it is *Christ in us* that is our hope of salvation. If you find this labor a blessing, help us so that we can share it with the others.

All Biblical quotes are taken from the authorized King James Bible and are numbered for easy reading at the back of each book. Any material quoted from Rudometkin or Klubnikin, not found in the 1928 version of the book, *Spirit and Life*, are taken directly from the original handwritten text.

I wish to thank Daniel H. Shubin for the copies of the original writings, Elder Bill Pavlov, Jr. for aid in the translation of them and all the others who assisted in putting this book together.

Written By:
Elder Paul A. Efseaff
PASXA - 1984

“A Labor of Love”

Book #1

The Faith Of Your Forefathers And Mine

THE FAITH OF YOUR FOREFATHERS AND MINE
“An Appeal to the Molokan Brotherhood”
By Elder Paul A. Efseaff

About nine years ago, I read something that was like being fitted with glasses for the first time. I got a good look at myself, what I was, and at first, it filled me with grief, then anger and finally, Godly fear.

What I share with you hereafter is like lending you these glasses to use or to discard. Should you choose not to use them, maybe it is because ignorance is bliss or maybe you already see more clearly than I do without these glasses of mine. I’ve used them sparingly myself for the glare hurts my Molokan pride even while causing my spirit to rejoice and my mind to be filled with thankfulness that some of my blindness has been corrected.

The thoughts herein are dedicated to those in the Molokan brotherhood who have a similar, deep, sincere desire to be Christian as well as Molokan. This can only take place if we give the written word of God priority over all other revelations, doctrines or writings. Then the connection (please remember the word ‘connection’ for I will use it often) can be made between us, stretching in a continuous chain through all our forefathers, all the way back to the Faith of Jesus Christ and the members of his Church, established in the days of the Apostles.

For you see, you and I are really privileged to be able to make such a connection through our Molokan background. This connection determines our source of inspiration which provides a direction that produces our ultimate destination. It is vitally important that we each closely examine what we in the present day are connected to and what specifically we are inspired by.

Our Molokan Beginnings

Our not-too-distant forefathers were, of course, connected to the Russian Greek Orthodox Catholic religion. They became what they were by being separated from the exclusive use of the Bible as their source of spiritual inspiration and began to depend, in part, on their forefathers, the church fathers, as they are called, what they believed and what they had written.

This religion was the original organized Gentile Christian religion formed in the days of Constantine. All other Gentile Christian religions were borne out of it. (The Roman Catholics, for example, then of course the Lutherans, Calvinists, Presbyterians and the like.) Of course, due to our present day, privileged position of having free, full access to the best translations of the entire revealed and preserved word of God, we can clearly see that this Russian Greek Orthodox Catholic religion bore almost no resemblance to the simple, original Jewish-Christian Faith of Jesus Christ.

Now some might take offense at my use of the words “Jewish-Christian” Faith and “Gentile-Christian” religion, but as we share these thoughts, you will see the need. The religion of these distant forefathers resembled little the Faith of Jesus Christ because all “Jewishness” had been systematically eliminated from organized Gentile-Christian religions in order to make things more compatible for the nominal conversion of the Gentile heathen by allowing them to be believers without changing their Gentile lifestyles.

The fact that Jesus, the Christ, the original Christian, was an orthodox, law-keeping son of David in thought, Godly inspired daily lifestyle and belief, was somehow overlooked entirely. The fact that all of the inspired word of God, in the Bible, had also been spoken and written by such devout Jewish men living such lifestyles, was also lost sight of. It somehow escaped their attention that God was completely satisfied with this Lamb, without spot or blemish, saying of him long *before* his death on Calvary, “Behold my Son in whom I am well pleased.”

But this Old Testament-inspired, law-abiding life of Jesus was not lost sight of by our more recent forefathers. They took special note of what he considered holy and profane and what he had taught, by example, his Apostles to observe. These Molokan Christian forefathers saw how Christ had answered the Gentile woman who came seeking help from him - referring to her symbolically as a dog (Matthew 15:21-28).

Our Molokan forefathers knew, from the example of their forefathers, that Christian Gentiles, without the daily exclusive use of the entire word of God to change them, would live lifestyles that would resemble animal conduct more than Christlike conduct. For it is only by hearing, believing and applying the word of God that faith and illumination to become Christlike is born. Only then the work of

transformation into that same image (Christ) begins (Ephesians 4:13).

Therefore, our Molokan Christian forefathers devoted themselves to trying to copy the conduct of the Old Testament-inspired lifestyle of the members of the original Church of Christ - to make that connection which we spoke of - that vital connection with the old olive tree that had been planted by God in the days of Abraham, into which they were devoutly, by this newfound enlightenment, becoming grafted into (Romans 11:13-24).

They saw, in their own forefathers, the results of this very high-mindedness that Christ inspired the Apostle Paul to warn the new Gentile converts about. These results are everywhere seen in organized Christian religion to this very day. High-mindedly, they worship God and Christ, while using the models of their forefathers and even of their heathen past, that had been inspired by Satan, to determine holy days, food laws, conduct and daily lifestyle.

And, they have even continued the worship of the heathen god of war, blinded to the difference between dying for one's loved ones while trying to kill one's enemies and the love of God in Jesus that taught self-sacrifice, dying if need be, for one's enemies rather than taking the life of another, even as Jesus had done (Matthew 5:38-48 and Romans 5:6-8).

Ezra had been inspired to foresee that God's Son (the Apostolic Church, his Body) would die symbolically within 400 years (Apocrypha, II Esdras 7:28-29). This took place when the first organized Gentile-Christian Greek Orthodox Catholic church took legal control of all Christianity under King Constantine's iron hand 400 years after Christ's Jewish-Christian Church was established.

During the following Ecumenical Councils, all Jewishness was removed and Gentile high-mindedness began to prevail. All of this was done by a deceiving spirit that entered, slowly turning the faithful away from the exclusive use of the revealed word of God. They, instead, became connected to visions, angelic visitations, revelations and the wise sayings and commentary on Scripture by their Elders.

This produced writings, just like the Rabbinical writings of the Jews, which in turn produced the same myths, fables, doctrines of men,

ways of worship and lifestyle that were even contrary to the will of God (Mark 7:3,8-9 and I Peter 1:18). Of these kinds of teachers, the Apostle Paul had also warned in Acts 20:28-30. In this manner, slowly, the simplicity of the God-pleasing daily life of Christ was hidden and covered over by layer after layer of Ecumenical Councils, ritual, ceremony, visions, dreams and prophecies.

When our Molokan forefathers finally took hold of the Bible, in their own hands, for the first time in Uklein's day, it was like finding some powerful steam shovel with which they could dig all the way down to the original Jewish-Christian Faith and find the solid foundation upon which to rebuild that daily life of Jesus and his Apostles, which had so completely pleased God. They received no great visions and no great miracles or signs were done - only the simple study of the word of God.

It caused them to see that the Truth was a Godly daily life like the one Jesus had lived and which God had meant to serve as an everlasting example (I Peter 2:21-22) for all of those who would thereafter first believe in His Son and then acquire His Son's beliefs (I John 2:6). This belief is the same as what Jesus Christ had believed to be right and wrong, based upon the word of God he had known, inspired in the Old Testament and expounded upon in the New.

That is what our Molokan forefathers began to build upon and to become connected into as their sole source of inspiration. They had grasped the spiritual truth of beginning by faith *in* Christ and ending with the faith *of* Christ (Galatians 2:16-20), not just being reconciled to God by Christ's death on the cross, but going all the way and becoming saved by his life lived in them as in Romans 5:10.

All of this began to be accomplished by our simple peasant forefathers through a sincere desire for the written word of God. There was no need of special church buildings, no need of priests, no need of rituals, ceremonies, special clothes - it was the life of Christ in them that *was* the Church. The *body* of Christ, his Bride, could only become a reality when they themselves became this body by doing with their body what he would do with it if he were its head.

When this head, *when* this mind of Christ is in us, we become instruments of righteousness (Romans 6:12-13), like the Apostle Paul (Philippians 2:2-5), exhibiting the characteristics of love, joy, peace,

long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. Then we, as well as others, *know* that we are being indwelt by Christ's Spirit. For our natural man, in its humanness, seeks only its own. Christ's Spirit in our forefathers' *inner* man caused this enlightenment to spread far and wide in Russia, bringing transformation to millions of lives.

“New Israel Runners and Jumpers”

This steady growth continued for quite some period. In the early 1800s, the first Pentecostal experiences began to be manifested on the *outer* man of believers in the Molokan brotherhood. It began in Lukian Petrovitch Sokoloff and took the form of prophecies, visions, visitations, rebukes, etc.

Wisely, it seems, none of these manifestations were ever published to be *added* to Scripture so it (the Bible) remained the sole basis upon which such manifestations were measured and their fruit or their content judged. However, during the relatively peaceful period that followed our exile to the Transcaucasus, three things happened that began to change all this.

First, the simple, concerned letter writing of such Elders as Lukian P. Sokoloff and David Yesseyvitch Bulhokov, from prison, progressed to those of Maxim G. Rudometkin and Efim G. Klubnikin. These latter two men claimed their writings to be the actual word of God and so whatever they wrote began to be venerated as of divine origin, by Maxim's followers, and thought of as equal and even superior to the Holy Bible.

The fact that heavy editing had to be done, before these could finally be published in the United States, didn't seem to worry or deter many from this view, to this very day. (In Bulhokov's case, 40% editing was done; additions as well as editing was done in Rudometkin's case.) Now, I ask you, *“How can divine words need editing?”*

The second thing that happened was that through Rudometkin's letters, his “New Israel” followers began to view themselves not just as a grafted *part* on that ancient olive tree, as the Molokans did. No, they began to view themselves as an exclusive, special, holy-covenanted people, something like the Jews of old. They began to think of themselves as a “New Israel” and not just “Molokans.” (Molokans

believed that the body of Christ was created by the *merging* of the Gentile with the Jew, to create one new man whose ideal was to reproduce the daily life of Jesus Christ - Ephesians 2:11-22.)

Third, from this view, a new religion actually began to be formed through a second “new” spirit that appeared to Maxim G. Rudometkin and told him to call it “New Israel - Runners and Jumpers.” This “new” spirit, gospel and religion, given through Rudometkin (because of something our Elders did in 1928), is in the process today of changing us into what our Molokan forefathers were not and, in part, into what our ancient forefathers were. This has been occurring through the veneration of the writings of these church fathers, especially Rudometkin’s, in our current brotherhood. It has disturbing echoes of the past, producing a non-Scriptural connection and source of inspiration.

To illustrate this point, at a recent funeral of the daughter of a close friend of mine, I observed that out of eight principal sermons, there were only two that were solely based upon the Scripture. How we’ve come to view ourselves through these new writings is un-Scriptural and therefore dangerous and deceptive. The full extent of this deceptive view and what we’ve become connected into, through them, only became known to me fully about nine years ago as I sweltered in the Brazilian jungle and read the *uncensored* writings of Maxim G. Rudometkin.

I apologize to you for remaining silent all of these years. I did try to share it with other Elders, hoping they would do something, but I found none willing to jeopardize their comfortable positions by speaking out. What I read there first made me sick, then angry and finally, very afraid. It was like some great kick in the stomach. I found that because of what these Elders did in 1928, this spirit, that had come to Maxim, had been deceiving me for many years.

We had been using, as a source of inspiration, writings from the book, *Spirit and Life* that were, in fact, *not* what the spirit had revealed at all but a clever, double deception to make them *appear* divinely inspired. This occurred first when Maxim was deceived by this “new” spirit and second, when the Elders deceived us even more by altering them enough to make them *just* believable.

To pick up the beginnings of this deception, we must go back again to the early 1800s, with the exile to the remote Caucasus and the

new freedom they found there from religious oppression. There, the Molokan brotherhood began to grow and flourish. But the very Elders that were endowed with this initial outpouring of the Spirit, in 1833, began to fight and argue amongst themselves over who was the greatest.

The discord began over the issue of rewarding medals and ribbons for fastings and for doing good deeds, for which Maxim began to rebuke his Elders, Sokoloff and Bulhokov. Denouncing of one another followed, creating “Davidisti” and “Maximisti” factions.

It was during the conflict of this Molokan Elder competition that our Molokan high-mindedness reached its peak, through the appearance of a second “new” spirit, revealing itself to Rudometkin. (This was approximately 20 years after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in 1833.) He was told by it to go beyond the Scriptures and the Molokan Elders (who this spirit said were, in fact, “corrupted” by Satan himself and who had become fearful enemies of the Spirit of Truth) and to establish a new, purer religion, revealed to him.

This “new” religion, to be called “New Israel - Runners and Jumpers”, was to rely not on the written letter of the Scripture but upon this “new” spirit in prophets like himself, speaking directly to and from God. This radical evolution in direction, introduced by this spirit to Maxim, is in need of close review by us all today. We should personally read everything it said to Maxim and Klubnikin so that the beginnings of this new religion can be seen and so that a distinction can be made between it and the Molokan Faith of Christ of our forefathers.

True Molokanism

Our Molokan beginning was through forefathers who read the Bible exclusively. Through constant reading of all such Scripture, enlightenment and the *same* Faith, as had been in Jesus and the Saints of old, was built up in their inner man. Through it, they put off believing the un-Scriptural things their own forefathers (Russian Greek Orthodox Catholics) had believed in. Though faith was built up, much carnality remained in them. The ability to stop ungodly thoughts from becoming ungodly words and deeds required the presence of the same quickening Spirit that had aided Christ in his sinless life.

So, in 1833, this second means of enlightenment and power began

to be manifested upon their outer man. They physically experienced Spirit-presence upon themselves as an indisputable proof of the existence and influence of the angelic world in their lives; religious *philosophy* became living reality.

Through its physical presence and power, they were further strengthened to put to death the deeds of the flesh that their Faith, gained through the Scriptures, had revealed to them. This Spirit comforted and quickened them in their tribulations and transformations into Christ's image. These two divine sources of connection with God, Scripture and Spirit, quickened and comforted their inner *and* their outer man in its battle against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual wickedness in high places.

In contrast, when you finally take the time to review exactly what this "new" spirit in Maxim accomplished in him and in his followers, you will be in a better position to decide whether you think it wise to accept the decision of the Elders in 1928 to allow it and its revelations to remain a grafted on part of what we as Molokans wish to be connected to as a source of inspiration and direction for our children. You will be able to decide if it is just some form of deceptive, carnal and willful high-mindedness.

Also, consider the fact that God, in the Scriptures, never asks us to develop a special "new" religion, worship or lifestyle. Our Molokan forefathers were not trying to create a *Molokan religion* but they were trying to recreate the *Faith of Jesus* and his Apostles. They were labeled by the Catholics as "Molokans." These forefathers sought to establish the *Faith of Jesus Christ*.

Our Molokan forefathers understood that there *already* was one religion, one Faith (Ephesians 4:4-16) and they sought to recreate in themselves *that* Faith which Jesus had and shared with his Apostles. They knew this Faith or mind of Christ is not our exclusive Molokan possession but the property of *anyone* willing to make the changes in his beliefs and mind to allow this to be. Ephesians 4:4-6 speaks of one faith, one love and one hope that we as the Bride should be concerned with.

No two religions agree completely on what to believe. Each has a slightly different belief - things and ways in which they love, things they hope for or are in expectation of. All this confusion was eliminated from

the minds of our original Molokan forefathers, for they saw, as Paul did, the one Faith, the one love, the one hope or expectation was in the one mind of Christ. Obtaining that mind is what must be achieved. This is accomplished by simply changing our minds from what we believe, hope and love until it accords to what he did and loved.

“How much am I to love?” Until it accords with his love, even to the loving of my enemies.

“How great is my hope to be for all the others in the earth and for myself?” Until it becomes the same hope that Christ had of reconciling the entire universe unto God (Colossians 1:20,22 and II Corinthians 5:19), even the reconciliation of poor Russian Catholic peasants like us, almost 1,600 years later, after hearing His words and keeping them.

To the extent that we have *that* faith, love and hope, we are the body of Christ and his Bride. What God asks for is a Bride, willing to be a sacrifice, without spot or blemish in her daily life, living a submissive, law-abiding life like that son of David had. We each are asked to become and present such a sacrifice (Romans 12:1) of ourselves, in our own daily lives, not to glory in anything else but the amount of *Christ* we can see growing in one another.

To the extent our Molokan lifestyle reflects that lifestyle, we can glory, but let's not cause God's disfavor by thinking of ourselves more than is Scripturally honest. Let us certainly not glory in this “New Israel” religion and its strange doctrines that this “new” spirit told them to observe, spiritually and physically, in their daily lives. The question to be asked is, “If Christ were living right now among us, would he conduct himself as they did in that ‘New Israel’ Zion or in church worship or when inspired?”

If the answer is in any way “no”, then we must check what spirit we walk in and the source of inspiration into which we have become connected. “What and whom are we trying to pattern ourselves after?” “Our forefathers like Maxim or our Lord, Jesus Christ?” “Did Maxim and Klubnikin in fact show us a more perfect way of life than the life and words of Jesus and his Apostles?” “Can the life of Christ be improved upon?” “In fact, did Sokoloff, Bulhokov, Rudometkin or Klubnikin *add* something that was more pleasing to God?”

If the Molokan faith of our forefathers was so good, you might ask, what inspired Maxim and Klubnikin to create a new one? Perhaps it will help to understand the content of these writings better if we point out the fact that Maxim spent the first and most impressionable years of his life as a Russian Orthodox Catholic, as did Klubnikin's father, who spent his first 17 years as a Catholic and who had been in the Molokan faith only *two years* when he began to raise and teach his son Efim G. Klubnikin. Twelve years later, this son would proclaim that Maxim was the Pope-like King of the Molokans, a second Lamb of God, king of spirits (or angels), a King over the whole earth and over Christ's 1000-year kingdom and in fact, the third person in the Trinity!!

How beautiful that the Elders of the Molokan faith of our forefathers, of that day, were so actively concerned with not just their own flock but with the others like these, *outside* the Molokan faith, that they would seek and accept such raw converts right into the heart of the church, even those of such dubious backgrounds. How sad that such newly converted novices would be used later in such a way by this "new" spirit.

You will discover for yourself, as you read, many striking similarities to their pasts, such as Maxim's reigning within this new religion, much like an infallible Pope, answerable only to this spirit and not unto his brethren. The virgin girl-queens were used much like Catholic nuns, which explains the tremendous wrath of this spirit, through Maxim, when they did not keep their celibate vows of chastity and rejected Maxim's marriage, marrying instead, normal young men. It also explains the seven girls living with Maxim before imprisonment, as wives but without interc—, like nuns married to the church.

It also gives insight as to the origin of the candle lighting ritual to open "New Israel" church services and these girls occupying the privileged front bench, in church, in the un-Molokan belief that celibacy was a more holy calling than childbearing. You will also understand the striking similarity of certain prayers and rituals to Catholic ones and the elevation of common brothers to the rank of priests, which Molokans never had. The odd Catholic-like thought that lengthy daily prayer and ritual, instituted by Maxim, lasting until midnight each night, was *indispensable* to salvation and resurrection (Page 710, *Spirit and Life*, 1928 Edition).

We can see why the Elders so quickly hid the part of the wedding ceremony, in which the groom is crowned (like the Catholic), not the bride, like in the old Molokan ceremony...which part the Elders added and omitted his “inspired” instructions.

I am thankful that the Elders in 1928 at least omitted that much before grafting the whole revised thing into our Molokan tree. I guess you could argue, as some do, that it doesn’t really matter now what source inspired our way of worshipping God. But as for me, I’m sorry they grafted any part of it into our Molokan heritage, through the publishing of the book, *Spirit and Life* and adding this “Book of the Sun” to the Molokan “Book of His Son.”

Well, a major part of the tree still produces the same peace loving, soft, gentle, warm Molokan fruits it always did. For their edification, this is written. But, as for the domineering, high-minded, self-deluded, militant, snobbish, fanatical bitter fruit of the “New Israel” graft, I’m quite sure most of us could do without. Oh well, no great cause for alarm. It is still *our* Molokan tree. It’s really quite simple to correct that 1928 mistake.

All we Molokan Elders need to do is to prune our tree of what is not Molokan and not Biblical, or to say it more clearly, to prune that 1928 “New Israel” graft, which has its total origin and strength and legitimacy in those non-Scriptural writings through Maxim and Efim. “After all, why should we have our children leave our Molokan faith because of the effect the presence of this graft has on our tree?” “Or, why should we suffer the loss of our Molokan ideals in our grandchildren when we give them in marriage to those poor souls who wish Maxim as their Messiah and Millennial King rather than Christ?”

“Are we not members of Christ’s body (his Church) and therefore answerable to what grows on our tree?” “Are we not answerable to the Lord of the harvest?” “If we have lost some, will we *now* fight the good fight of faith for the little ones and those yet to be?” Please say “yes.” (Jude 3)

I find myself in the same unenviable position as Apostle Paul was when he had to inform his Jewish brethren that the blessings promised by God through Abraham had nothing to do with them, their forefathers’ blessing or membership in their religion (Galatians 3:16). The blessings

came *only* through the “Seed” (not seeds), Christ, and consisted of the things *he* believed in being shared by them and us. No forefather *could* add anything to that.

The much repeated myth of our being blessed through such forefathers as Maxim and his sufferings is misleading and untrue. It is good to remember that Christ was neither a Russian, a Molokan or a “New Israelite.” The blessing through him to us consists solely of his way of life replacing our way of life or, to say, the dying of the old man and replacing him with the new creature, who is Christ living in us, as proved by our daily conduct (II Corinthians 5:16-21).

To Understand the “New Israel” Religion

These thoughts have disturbed me now for nine years and I finally found the courage to share them with you, knowing full well that this decision could mean the loss to me of the only thing I’ve really desired in my life - that of becoming a good, respected Elder and a source for good in the Molokan brotherhood. I am not ignorant of the censor, prejudice and peer pressure that this will bring upon me and my family and I am willing to make the sacrifice because of the ever-increasing loss of our youth, who are the price we pay for our unbending, blind adherence to the letter of this “inspired”, “New Israel” religion and ritual and not to servicing *their* needs for the truth.

The reason that our youth are leaving is because they are now getting the simple Gospel truth elsewhere. This is because we place emphasis on other things and the simple Gospel message is seldom heard and rarely understood, because of the language barrier. Our Elders refuse to remove it so that our youth can be consistently reached.

We seem to be more concerned about speaking Russian than the fact of how completely these writings of Maxim’s have come to dominate our Molokan worship, faith and way of lifestyle and how they’ve contributed a certain dangerous, irrational, high-mindedness and un-Scriptural expectation and the piling up of some of the very same un-Scriptural thoughts and practices on the very foundation that our Molokan forefathers had used a symbolic steam shovel (the Bible) to clear away, at the cost of their very lives, in many cases.

Of course, make no mistake - some of what these Elders wrote is

good but none is equal to or above Scripture. This is no attempt to diminish the fact of their suffering for what they believed in or their attempts to share with us what they believed. Its aim, rather, is to focus attention on just *exactly* what they *did* believe.

And, of course, my words are primarily *not* directed to that small percentage of the brotherhood who have *already* given themselves over to *worship* this “new” spirit, these men and their words. It’s an appeal to those who still seek the firm foundation of the Faith of our Molokan forefathers to build upon, which will allow them to be Molokan as well as Christian (Christlike).

To these we say, “Come, let us reason together” and let us test the *entire content* of this “New Israel” religion, which this “new” spirit that came upon Rudometkin and Klubnikin inspired. Let us not test the edited 1928 version of the book, *Spirit and Life* only, but let us test the original, uncensored writings also.

I hesitated these nine years because half of our present worship service is already taken directly from these writings. Very little remains of the original Molokan way of worship. The Holy Scriptures are being used mostly to justify the content of the book, *Spirit and Life*. We’re turning the body of Christ into this “New Israel” religion by some of us coming to the conclusion that the body of which Christ is head (his Church) is actually, exclusively our Russian-speaking Molokan churches. This ritual, this holy Russian language, these songs, these prayers are what is going to be used exclusively in Christ’s kingdom.

Be not deceived. Though there be 1,000 different faiths *in* Christ, there is still only one Faith *of* Christ. Anyone striving to be his Bride and wife in eternal, constant and actual contact with him, would do well to know and seek after *that* Faith.

Before anybody gets the wrong impression, let me state here and now that I am a faithful, active member of the Molokan church here in Oregon. I am a Molokan. I believe in the faith my Molokan forefathers had in Jesus Christ. I believe my Molokan forefathers were striving to abide in Jesus Christ’s Faith long before Maxim or Klubnikin were even born of their Catholic parents.

I believe in manifestations of the Holy Spirit - the Spirit of Truth

that Christ prayed the Father to share with us. I believe in the usefulness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit but only when these gifts and manifestations produce the fruits of the Spirit of Christ in us and in the others who witness the manifestation....not the fruits we see in Maxim's writings.

“Do we understand Christ's warning, ‘to test the spirits’, to mean that there *are* spirits that produce fruits of the *flesh* together with signs, prophecies, healings, tongues, etc.?” “Have we built some high-minded assumptions as to who we are, based on the writings in the book, *Spirit and Life* and other proceedings of the spirits to this day?”

Be not deceived. We are simple Russian Gentile peasant converts, given access to God by Israel's temporary stubbornness (Romans 11:25-32). The rest is simple ego, fed by the high-minded deceptions found in these writings and proceedings.

I firmly believe that once the original complete writings of Rudometkin and Klubnikin become known and compared to Scripture, by this generation of Molokans, in a language they can fully understand, there will be a shift away from them and similar manifestations of spirit, toward the proven promises and the word of God in the Holy Scriptures.

There will be a seeking after the *fruits* of the Spirit in the daily life more than the *manifestations* of it during church services *only*. For we know that the greatest possible manifestation of the Holy Spirit, greater than prophecy, healings or flaming unknown tongues (as Maxim stresses), is when through its influence in our daily life, Christ is formed in us (Galatians 4:19), transforming the normal reactions of our human nature into those of his divine nature.

A New Israel Novice

Let me qualify myself to you for what I am about to reveal. I am not some outsider being critical from a distance about something I do not intimately know. I am a Molokan Elder, Spirit-anointed for service as a singer, evangelist and preacher. And, I know of what I speak. For at the age of nineteen, I became a fervent follower, student and participant in this “new” spirit that had come to Maxim. I became so convicted by it that I submitted to its instructions, through its appointed prophets, to stop attending my home church in Porterville because its preacher, my

grandfather, was convinced that these writings in the book, *Spirit and Life* weren't all of divine origin.

This spirit went so far as to prohibit the attending of funerals of such "nonbelievers" and I did not attend the funerals of my grandfather and my grandmother, two of the finest people I've ever known. We gave ourselves over to live completely in accordance with these inspired writings of Rudometkin and Klubnikin, committing whole chapters to memory, in weekly classes conducted by the Elders.

Because the rest of the brotherhood (we were told) were in a state of apostasy for utilizing only a *portion* of these writings, we were to *separate* ourselves from them completely and to attend only that church in the brotherhood where the Elders openly confessed unreserved belief in and submission to this "new" spirit's urgent messages.

I've always been an avid student and what I read and studied in this book, *Spirit and Life* set my very soul on fire with its promises. We were encouraged also to read the Bible but we sought justification there for what we now read in these writings. For the next 22 years of my life, we faithfully followed this spirit so as to realize the fulfillment of its promise to show us a special place to hide during the impending tribulation period that was to come upon the United States and the world.

It had been said that all those who would resist this spirit and its appointed leader and divine king, Maxim, would be punished by remaining here in the United States. They would suffer the atomic war, famine and pestilence that would follow immediately after our departure to this place of hiding, as it is stated in Klubnikin's writings.

I was anointed, by this spirit, to be a writer, keeping a record of the hundreds of revelations it brought forth to us over these long years of separation. Soon after joining that Maximist church, as a very young man (hardly 20), this spirit brought me before the altar and required the Elders to tie my hands together. For this spirit said that it foresaw me as if a star flying swiftly from the North and that if not bound securely, I would slam into that church's "prestol" or altar and overthrow it completely. No one had the slightest notion what this could possibly mean but the spirits know the future, especially the part they help create.

After I spent 22 years as a novice, this spirit, in the late 1960s,

revealed that the time had finally come to flee the United States. (A full account of this period of my life and this “pahod” is contained in another part of this series of books, which will soon be available for the student who would like, to see just how this divisive spirit works in the unaware.) But, unfortunately, the spirit produced two major prophets, at the very same time in the brotherhood, who were inspired to accuse the other of being a false representative of this “new” spirit of the King of Spirits, Maxim. Instead of uniting those in the brotherhood who believed in migration, this ever-divisive spirit divided us into two groups and in the 1970s moved them to the opposite ends of the earth.

We know now, of course, in the 1980s, that nothing came of these prophecies. Instead of catastrophe or the U.S. being reduced to radioactive ash, all have been safe here. Once this spirit had gotten us down into Brazil and Australia, it abandoned us and both prophets returned to the United States. Of course this was after, in some cases, families lost their entire life’s savings and became so disillusioned that it led to their forsaking the religion of their fathers and leaving the Molokan brotherhood.

There was no fulfillment of the words spoken, which were to occur within five years, as promised - just as Maxim Rudometkin’s own predictions in this same spirit had failed to materialize in Russia. The stigma of these failures has somehow been transferred to those who had believed, while the spirit itself remains unrepentant and actively believed in unto this day.

Part of What This “New” Spirit Actually Revealed to Maxim

I thank God for that bitter experience for it led me to discover the real content of this spirit’s revelation to Rudometkin and Klubnikin. As I viewed the disaster it had led us into in Brazil, I was moved to take the time to read the uncensored writings of this spirit. For the first time, I was struck by the great contrast between the spirit that came upon Christ and the spirit that came upon Rudometkin and the fruits they produced in each of them.

The Spirit that was acting on and in Christ caused him, who was in fact divine, to humble and empty himself (Philippians 2:5-8) and to take on the likeness of a lowly man and while living in flesh, just like you and I, to remain sinless by living daily with the aid of the Holy Spirit,

which empowered him to resist temptation while that temptation was still in his thoughts only, before it could grow into sinful action. He was meek, humble, full of forgiving grace, even for his tormentors. He revealed, fulfilled and taught obedience to the law of God. He was even able to forego marital bliss for he was completely in control of his vessel by the Holy Spirit's presence *in* Him. He was willing to die for, rather than take the life of his enemies, demonstrating not just human love that loves those who love us, but demonstrating this divine, Spirit-produced love of God that he wished us to receive and share with one another. In this love, he gave his life so that we, his enemies, might be reconciled to one another and God by using his example (Romans 5:6-8).

The spirit that was acting on and in Maxim caused, in contrast, a simple, proud, lustful, sinning Russian peasant to think that he had become divine, the third person in the Trinity. And, instead of serving his fellow man, he began to demand worship from them as well as honor and privileges - granting forgiveness of sin to those whom he would and to curse with everlasting damnation, without possibility of resurrection, any that would resist him. He even boasted of putting some to death, ruling by fear and terror.

During Christ's 40-day fast, he spurned the offer of power and prestige here in this age. During Maxim's 40-day fast, in contrast, he embraced all of these promises and began to reign before any sacrifice of himself had even been offered. This newly assumed position of divinity and authority caused him to organize an entire new religion which was meant to supersede the Molokan faith of our forefathers. "Have you ever wondered why we have an old Molokan and a new Molokan worship service, the 'Novee Abryat' and the 'Staree Abryat'?" "What inspired the need for a new one?" Keep reading...you'll be sickened to find out, just as I was.

Let me offer a brief outline of what this "new" spirit that came upon Rudometkin revealed and which, thereafter, was substantiated and witnessed to by his brother-in-law, the then 12-year old prophet, Efim Klubnikin. Both were from the small village of Nikitina. While you read this, bear in mind, by way of comparison, the effect that the Spirit of Truth had on the Apostle whom Christ sent to us Gentiles (Paul), who in striving to be a slave to Christ, became a slave to his fellow man and never allowed any of his giftedness to be turned to honor or worship of himself in word or deed, even unto his martyred death. Whereas, Maxim,

while still living comfortably at home with wives and children about him, at about the age of 30, came to believe what you will read next.

The “New Israel” Faith of Maxim and Efim

Due to Rudometkin’s dissatisfaction with the faith and the Elders of the Molokan church (especially David Yesseyvitch and Sokoloff), he decided to fast 40 days to receive a more “complete” revelation than that available in the largely man-corrupted (in his opinion) Holy Bible. During his fast, he (in vision) was taken up to a misty place, which he took to be heaven, where he saw two men, whom he took to be God and His Son, discussing Maxim’s fate saying, “His portion is the cross and the god of the faithful; his first birth of sinful bones but by his second birth the lord from heaven.”

It was revealed to him that because of the corrupt nature of *all* Christianity, God would complete His judgment on it and on all the earth in the 1800s. Immediately thereafter, the 1000-year kingdom would begin. Maxim was chosen to establish an acceptable, complete new way of worship which would prepare a people to populate this kingdom. To create this, a “new” spirit would cause the faithful to run, jump and speak in new, flaming, *unknown* tongues.

In contrast, the spirit that was already sent on the Molokans in 1833 caused them to speak various *languages*. This “new” spirit empowered Rudometkin to assume many of Christ’s own titles and prerogatives. He was elevated, by it, to the third person in the divine Trinity so that “New Israel” members should now pray in the name of God, Jesus Christ, and Maxim G. Rudometkin, as Maxim’s devout followers do to this day. This spirit said that God was ruling over the angels of heaven while Christ ruled upon heavenly Mount Zion (the 144,000 Jews who resurrected with him) whereas Maxim would take Christ’s place and rule the 1000-year kingdom and the earth as king and god of the faithful. To begin this process, the Russian Empire and Greek Orthodox religion was to be destroyed in the 1800s and his “New Israel” kingdom religion was to be established in its place.

“Novee Abryat”

To aid Rudometkin in this tremendous work, this spirit chose seven very young, virgin girls for him to marry, to serve as co-rulers with

him during the 1000-year reign. They were his wives and so titled “queens” - to be used to rule and produce holy children to fill this somewhat empty, exclusive New Israel kingdom.

Because this “new” spirit had caused in him and in his male followers a rebirth into a new spiritual manhood, they were instructed to marry again. They were to have a wife for their carnal birth and another wife for their spiritual birth. This second inspired wife was to conceive spiritual children now for the populating of New Israel. But Maxim would choose and live with as many as he wanted to for he was a king, “like Solomon, who produced many, many holy children by his multitudes of wives and concubines!!” The seven queens, however, were not to become pregnant until the kingdom began. All nine women lived in one house with him and played together, by Maxim’s account, in one bed, like a young man would with his wife.

For all of these great new things to take place, *of course* a new religion would *have* to be established because there was *no way* that these types of “goings on” would be sanctioned in the then existing Molokan brotherhood. So the “Novee Abryat”, new Molokan worship service was created. To sanctify these new wives and children, the new marriage ceremony and child dedication ceremony, which we *now* use in the Molokan brotherhood, was first conceived by this “new” spirit. Maxim married, through this new ceremony, all eight of his new wives, right in church, with this “new” spirit’s blessing.

All male believers were encouraged to do likewise and if enough Molokan Russian girls were not available, then virgins could be taken of the heathen in order to raise up seed within the kingdom. This new ceremony was necessary because the Molokan ritual (Maxim said) used the Bible or the “book” as he called it. But all new “spiritual” marriages were to be conducted without the “book” and were to be validated by the inspired laying on of hands by Emilian Telegin and Fetice Nazaroff, his two close friends and faithful prophets.

They were to be, in fact, the two witnesses spoken of in the Bible, in Christ’s revelation to John. They were the two olive trees and candlesticks standing before (Rudometkin) the god of the earth (Revelation 11:4). They were shortly to be sent, by his spirit, to rebuke and destroy the Russian Empire together with the Russian Greek Orthodox religion (antichrist and false prophet) within the 1800s.

Of course, they were to be eventually killed by this antichrist only to have God bring them back to life as the first two people of the first resurrection. At the same time, Maxim would pass from mortality to immortality, becoming the first of those who were changed, and the 1000-year kingdom was to be set up in place of the Russian Empire. Following him in this change and then entering into the kingdom without tasting of death, would, of course, be his faithful wives, concubines and his “New Israel” followers.

The ten Mohammedan kings and their peoples, who had not submitted to the antichrist, would willingly become our servants and slaves for the 1000 years, waiting on us, our wives and our children, hand and foot. Everyone else would be chased to the four corners of the globe and become the Gog and Magog. After the 1000 years, for such faithful service, the Mohammedans would become immortal also and would receive our old earth as a gift while we were transported to the million times larger new earth that God would send down at the close of the 1000 years.

Anyone, therefore, who accepted and submitted himself to this “new” spirit in Maxim and his prophets would be blessed. Those who resisted (as I do here) would be everlastingly cursed without chance of resurrection. The firm foundation for this was a dream that Maxim had.

It is perhaps useful to note that none of the letters sent by Maxim Gavrilitch were intended for the Molokan brotherhood. The altered writings of the book, *Spirit and Life* that we now have, were only made to *appear* as if they were written to the whole Molokan brotherhood. In fact, they were meant for just the small village of Nikitina, his wives, concubines and his faithful subjects.

The Elders added footnotes about those whom Maxim rebukes as if they were “Postoyanee” Molokans while in fact, they were Molokans, just like you and I, who refused to believe in and join his “New Israel” religion. The Elders also added footnotes where Maxim was actually addressing his concubines and they substituted the word “churches”, as if he were addressing the churches in our Molokan brotherhood.

The enlightenment of this “new” spirit was sent to “free” such Molokans, as them and ourselves, from past ignorance. It taught that the Bible was not needed anymore. This “new” spirit taught that the written

law was not for righteous men. We, the “New Israel” people, need only do what this “new” spirit and this law of “hot flaming union and love” - a new law of freedom - inspires us to do. In this manner, all things would be sanctified, not by the word of God, but by the blessing and approval of the prophets’ laying on of hands.

It is interesting to note that this spirit upon Rudometkin found him *Scriptural* justification for almost all of these revelations, as has the editor of the new English translation of the book, *Spirit and Life*. Bear in mind that these inspirations to conceive a new Molokan way of worship, *that we now observe*, came into being under all of these circumstances.

Regarding the way we marry our children now; *that* ceremony was conceived for the multi-wives allowed by this spirit. The way we dedicate our children at birth was made to dedicate those children that were born of such “spiritual” marriages. The way we bury and memorialize our dead was meant *only* for those subjects who were *faithful to this christ/king Rudometkin*, through whom we are to worship and submit to this “new” spirit.

Today we honor this “new” spirit whenever we submit to it by *substituting* its ritual for our former Molokan form of church service as well as when we sing praises to Maxim, his “new” spirit, and him, as King of those spirits, while at the same time, we deny (I hope) all the rest that this spirit revealed about multi-marriages, concubines and Maxim’s divinity. We choose to ignore the lack of fulfillment of the promises made by this spirit, through Maxim, such as a 1000-year kingdom, being set up before the end of the 1800s, meant exclusively for “New Israelite” Molokans, and all the rest that failed to materialize.

I can but thank God that this teaching has only crept into the Molokan brotherhood to the extent that it has. I am glad you’ve probably never heard this sermon preached...but the fact that this new marriage ceremony came into being so that Maxim might not only marry and possess a second wife named Stenya *Matveyvna* (he readily identifies his second father-in-law by name, *Matvey Mixalovich*, who is certainly not the father of his first wife, *Maria Fyoderovna*) so that he might also later marry, in church, seven more young wives, one of whom was Efim G. Klubnikin’s teenaged sister, Maria.

And, when these displeased him while he was off in prison, the

same spirit inspired him to select and name seven sisters of the original seven (including a second sister of Klubnikin, Anna). These, he was to “join in hot union with” as soon as he returned from prison, as this spirit promised him faithfully that he would do. Then he would carry out his stern judgment, with fire and curses, upon those who opposed him.

“I wonder what Jesus, our Bridegroom, thinks of us believing such things as our being connected, in any way, to those things and worshipping Jesus and His Father with a worship service inspired by a spirit that also inspired all of this?” You might also wonder, “How could it have come to pass that some of our own people could and do believe such outlandish things?” *“Are these Molokans?”*

No greater evidence of the influence this spirit and Rudometkin had over this young, deluded 12-year old boy, Klubnikin, can be pointed to than the fact that it was “normal” in his home and church for his parents to agree to give, in marriage, two of his young sisters to a man who had already married 8 to 15 women!! What is worse, the majority of Molokan Elders in California, during 1915-1928, actually agreed to incorporate such beliefs and mode of worship (well-censored, of course) into our inheritance as Molokans.

Now, if all this sounds strange to your Molokan ears, I thank God. Perhaps you lack enough faith in this “new” spirit to be deceived as Maxim was, as I was and as many others were and still are. Your lack of faith is perhaps due to the fact that you read the Bible too much and compare all revelations and purported revelations to it. That’s exactly, by the way, the reaction our Molokan forefathers in Russia had to these revelations.

Of the millions of Molokans in Russia at that time, only little Nikitina, one of the smallest villages, and a portion of a few others, accepted the challenge of this spirit’s kingship over them. Maxim, through it, had commanded that “If you do not want this spirit to rule over you, write me and I’ll go to another people who will produce its fruits.”

From the evidence that this author has seen, many groups, during the early 1800s, had received such a spirit and have produced its fruits and similar vain boastings. For example, study the early origins of the Mormons and Adventists and their sources of inspiration. (Some of the

writings of Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon religion, are almost duplications of Maxim's.)

But in the Molokan communities of our forefathers in Russia, this doctrine, this "new" spirit, this "new" way of worship, these "new" songs, prayers, marriage services, child dedications, funerals, memorials and the rest of the "Novee Abryat", were all *rejected* along with Maxim's supposed kingship over them and over Christ's 1000-year kingdom. They *knew* that they already had the Holy Spirit, a King, a Lord, a Leader, a Name higher than any other name in the universe to rule over them...Jesus Christ. And they saw no evidence that Christ had begun, during the 1800s, to delegate this authority, or any portion of it, to this young Russian peasant living in Nikitina.

These Molokan Elders recognized this "new" spirit's similarity to the spirit that had taken over the "Khlisti" and "Doukhabors." Uklein, the founder of the Molokans, way back in the 1700s, had rejected the claims of this "new" spirit in his own father-in-law, the "Christlike" leader of the Doukhabors, whose inspired view of Scripture was very much like Maxim's in that it was supposedly man-corrupted and therefore inferior to the direct revelations he received.

The Khlisti, with their similar "Christlike" leader, also rejected the authority of the Scriptures and at the same time, sanctioned the all-night, spirit-filled services, in which prophets and prophetesses coupled outside of lawful wedlock to produce "holy" children. Incidentally, they also liked to call themselves "New Israel."

And there, this whole matter should have been left and forgotten. The kingdom did not begin with the overthrow of the Russian Czar as promised. Instead, the most brutal power structure, ever to appear on earth, began its reign of terror and it continues to grow to this very day. The Greek Orthodox religion continues to function in many, many lands, by the millions.

Maxim did not return from prison to marry the next seven girls nor did he burn, with fire, the homes and those who would oppose his rule, as he promised he would do, in the power of this "new" spirit; he did not curse and deliver, into everlasting hell's fire, the boys who did end up marrying the first seven girls, while he was away in prison; he wasn't able to curse and deliver, into everlasting hell's fire, the children of these

marriages (some of us, no doubt, might be related to them); also, he was not able to throw into the same everlasting hell's fire, for good measure, the brothers and parents of these girls who resisted the marriages to him.

Their resistance to Maxim's marriages ultimately caused his imprisonment. They protested to the authorities when he refused to return the girls home after what the families of the young girls probably thought was only a symbolic union, not a real marriage. What really happened though was that Maxim told the girls to inform everyone everywhere that they were in fact his wives and he was to be their husband eternally.

For their insubordination during his imprisonment, Maxim claimed that they would have no forgiveness, not even resurrection from the dead. Later, he changed his mind and said that even though it disgusted him, he would use them carnally, just to raise up seed unto himself, so that Satan and these young men, acting on Satan's inspiration, could not, as if, get the better of him.

The fact is that perhaps none of us would even be here today if that spirit's words had been fulfilled. For even the Elders of his own small Nikitina church turned against him by allowing second marriages for these girls as well as other acts of insubordination towards Maxim, which he repeated over and over in his writings.

But that is just the point. We are here and Maxim is not. "But what about the 'new' spirit that deluded him?" (II Thessalonians 2:11-13) "Is it still around?" Now that is something *you must* decide.

I know that without reading the original writings in a language you understand, it is impossible for you to grasp what this spirit meant in such innocent phrases as "new" spirit, "new hot union", "new flaming love" or the need for a "new marriage ceremony."

But, after hundreds of hours of study of these writings, I am convinced that they served as the very foundation for forming his New Israel religion and they also served as part of the appeal of "New Israel" to those in Russia and perhaps for some today, as well. This Koran-inspired, un-Scriptural belief of Maxim's that we practice self-denial now so that we can be rewarded with self-indulgence in the kingdom is sad (Romans 14:17).

Anyone who experiences peace and joy only when indulging himself is experiencing humanness not Godliness. In the kingdom Christ taught about, no human self-indulgence will need to exist, for those Godly occupants who will be there, qualified themselves by finding joy and peace *here* and *now* in Godliness, not in humanness. Christ taught that the kingdom *is* in us (Luke 17:21). This is true of those who have the mind of Christ.

The Propagation of "New Israel"

Some Molokan Elders today treat history as if it really were our future. We are here and Maxim is dead. None of these things came to pass. Unfortunately, this whole matter was not forgotten when Maxim died in prison, as did the many millions of other poor Russian dissenters and convicts.

When our forefathers finally migrated to the United States, joining the millions who had already found a God-given refuge here, about 2% of that group were still deceived by this spirit that abided on Maxim to his unrepentant dying day. (This 2% is an estimate given me by one of the most Maximist Elders I ever knew.) They not only believed in this "new" spirit but were convinced that other Molokans should also.

This "new" spirit caused the 2% to ignore all of the evidence to the contrary and to simply say that Maxim was, in fact, not dead but that he had been taken up to heaven in a flaming chariot, right out of prison, and would soon return to lead us in a new migration that would eventually bring us to his 1000-year kingdom.

In fact, this prophecy is one of the reasons only 2% of the "faithful New Israelites" migrated to the United States. The other 98% Maximisti remained in Russia awaiting the fulfillment of this prophecy and the return of their glorious king, leader and Messiah, where they perished or suffered until they escaped to other lands.

To this very day we sing songs during our worship services, praising this event and the belief that it is actually going to happen. In other words, we are really going to have a 1000-year kingdom without Christ, but with this "new" spirit on the earth, with Rudometkin as our king, leader and "Tsar Dooghov" or "King of Spirits." We say this over and over in songs during our worship services.

I wonder what the Apostle Paul would think about this. He had cautioned us that when we sing and when we pray, to sing with our *mind* as well as with our spirit and to pray with our *mind* as well as praying with our spirit. Most of these songs are very lively, commonly sung and most loved for the great jumping that is provided during them.

No, this 2% in the early 1900s didn't repent or change their minds. They were, for the most part, related to Maxim and had to justify all that had happened for the sake of the shame upon their family name or because of their village background.

There was, however, another group of Elders who, about this time, began using Rudometkin's and Klubnikin's revelations to justify the migration from Russia to the United States as having been inspired by this "new" spirit. And since they had in fact been saved from the awful catastrophe in Russia, this "proved" both men to be true prophets, "regardless of what else they might have said."

I wonder if this was an accurate conclusion, especially since 98% of those who migrated knew nothing of these as yet unpublished writings. My own family had been inspired to come, through personal conviction and inspiration, and were amazed to find millions already here who had been moved, by similar inspiration, to make use of this God-provided, peaceful refuge from the ravages of war, then and ever since.

To give credit for the migration to the United States to this "new" spirit is to ignore the fact that the Elder, P.M. Shubin, who was the driving force that organized the migration, in his memoirs, said that he himself had been inspired to lead our people to America based on the prophecy of a *German* prophet, named Eugene, whose writings he had read.

The truth is that the greatest Maximist prophet in Russia, E.M. Buchnoff, through whom this spirit raised a dead boy, told the Molokan people there *not* to migrate because Maxim was in fact alive and would soon return to lead them into the kingdom.

The decisive event, however, that triggered the actual migration to California, was in fact, the two Agaloff brothers who, completely on their own, came to seek their fortunes in California. Upon returning to Russia with gold in their pockets, they told glowing stories of the easy

wealth and mild climate in that land of freedom across the sea.

Perhaps a more plausible explanation of this “new” spirit’s involvement would be to consider how things had gone in Russia with its attempt to replace the Molokan faith with its “Khlisti-like”, “New Israel” concept. Ninety-eight percent of the Molokan brotherhood had refused to submit to this spirit’s kingship over them, through Rudometkin, preferring the Spirit of Christ that was already working among them. He himself, because of his “inspired” indiscretion with other wives, and his “inspired” public declaration that he would replace the Russian Czar as king over all Russia, was sent to prison, where he died, without any of these predictions coming to pass.

This “new” spirit then, through Klubnikin, promptly encouraged the brotherhood to migrate to America. Here, this spirit’s inspired writings were finally published and placed on the altars of every Molokan church. Once there, they began to be used to glorify this spirit and to feed its doctrines, well-seasoned by the Elders in 1928, to the unsuspecting Molokan brotherhood.

For the first time in Molokan history, writings other than the Bible were being used and venerated as Scripture. This study of, conformity to and belief in the contents of these writings has increased to the extent that today, the Holy Scriptures have become superseded by them, in many cases, as a primary source of inspiration. Now that’s another way of looking at what else might have motivated this “new” spirit to help inspire our migration to the United States.

“New Israel”... The Myth-Building Continues

Now, I am in complete sympathy with those Elders, at that time, who were so hard-pressed to hold the migration-weakened brotherhood together that they reverted to such rhetoric. For at that same time, some people were beginning to talk about returning to Russia. In fact, some did return to their doom there.

These Elders grasped at whatever straws they could in order to justify the migration and to hold the people here. None of them, however, had read *all* of Maxim’s writings, which had been kept secret. These writings had been held in the original letter form and had been kept unpublished and hidden from the unbelieving Molokan Elders and

brotherhood. Only the good, acceptable parts were ever read in public and even these parts were often rejected because of the rumored, loose moral conduct of Maxim's followers.

But, at this very time, an event occurred that forever altered the entire direction of our Molokan brotherhood in America. It began a process that can now be stopped only by those who love the Holy Scriptures enough to suffer the reproach of taking a stand on this issue, by those who have a true respect for the faith and the blood of our Molokan forefathers. This event took place in Arizona, with the publishing, for the first time, of a *slightly* edited version of Maxim's actual writings, into a book that was called, "*Morning Star*".

Maxim's 2% faithful had begun their work, through the written words of this spirit, to convert the 98% who did not believe in its claims over their lives.

"What was the result of this book being printed?"

"Have you ever seen it?"

"Do you know of anyone who reads it?"

"Do you know why?"

It is very important to know why. When the Elders in Los Angeles, who had been preaching that the migration from Russia was based upon this inspiration through Rudometkin and Klubnikin, actually, for the first time in their lives, read in the "*Morning Star*" what this spirit had revealed in its *entirety*, they went into instant panic. But instead of confessing their error publicly and facing the hard truth of the ungodliness and falsehoods written there, they decided to save face by making a cover-up instead and produced an Elder-authorized *substitute* for the "*Morning Star*".

From 1915 to 1928 they worked to edit, to censor, to alter, to omit and to actually add to it so as to cover the actual meaning of many passages in order to make it not only acceptable but divine. Yes, divine.

And I ask this, "If the writings were indeed divine, how could these Elders have dared to alter even one jot or tittle?"

It proves to me that they themselves knew that it was not of divine origin but they tried to cover up their former statements, loving the praises of men more than the praises of God (John 12:43). They printed and placed this censored book upon the altar of every church, right alongside the Holy Scriptures, as if it really were a divinely inspired document to be used both as Scripture and as a means of teaching this new way of worship.

In the same way, the Jews' Rabbinical writings and those of our Catholic forefathers came into use. Up until that time, I understand that Maxim's "Novee Abryat" ritual was practiced nowhere in the brotherhood except among the 2% "faithful."

However, through the efforts of our most gifted singer in the brotherhood, new, lively, inspiring tunes were made for these new songs and prayers given by this spirit through Maxim. They caused an exciting new stimulation and rejuvenation to the centuries-old way of worship (modeled perhaps after the old Jewish synagogue form of service that Christ knew) and dissatisfaction with this old way of dedicating, marrying and burying our Molokan brethren grew.

This new ritual was much more lively in contrast to the plain ordinary reading of Scripture, the praying and the singing of plain Biblical songs in long, drawn out, slow beat. The *beat* yes, that was it! This new "jumping beat" was introduced.

A triumphant, stimulating music began to prevail. "Who bothered to read of the origin - who cared how strange even the edited version of Maxim's writings sounded when compared with Holy Scripture?" We loved it, we enjoyed it - it was ours alone, of pure Russian origin, appealing to our vanity and to our growing ego at having been spared the fate of those who remained in Russia.

No one stopped to consider, I guess, who inspired the other millions to seek these shores, hundreds of years before our arrival. They saw themselves, instead, as having followed Moses (Maxim and Klubnikin) through the Red Sea, increasing the "New Israel" myth to unheard of heights. The people jumped, the prophets spoke of glorious things and everyone went home satisfied. They loved the exalted feeling of being unique, "New Israel", and the high-mindedness began to grow.

With it, the same divisions that had been created by this divisive spirit in Russia flourished amongst our Elders here. Each new church started in the brotherhood, in the U.S., was born out of some strife, growing and growing until Elders and brethren were unable to pray together any more. In each case, the *spirit* continued to work and to bless within the unreconciled factions and in many cases it was even the *source* of the hatred and anger. This was not exactly the fulfillment of the Scripture that says “If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another” - not discord (I John 1:5-7).

Thanks to a long-suffering God, the churches filled up periodically anyway, especially with the young, attracted not so much to repentance and the Gospel message of the Apostolic Faith that Christ had established, but by the singing, the beat, the jumping and the prophesying. The attraction was the stimulation of coming into contact with something unearthly, something heavenly, something inspiring. They got very little inspiration out of anything else.

Since the gifts of apostle, evangelist, pastor, and teacher (Ephesians 4:11) had been replaced with priest, prophet, and singer, by Maxim, “What real need was there now to spend long hours, days and years, studying the written word of God as Moses, Joshua, Christ himself, Paul and Timothy had done?” In this “New Israel” form of worship, we could talk directly to God and be answered before the services were over, by one of the prophets.

This has resulted in a condition where Scriptural illiteracy, even in graying Elders, is at a shocking level when compared to our Molokan forefathers. In our present day Molokan churches, men can become Elders even though they have only a vague knowledge of the Bible. This is another legacy born out of Maxim’s “new” spirit’s influence in the brotherhood and its attitude toward Scriptures.

Let’s Measure the “New Israel” Influence

So now, that 2% “New Israel” influence has grown and flourished. “Has it provided our people, here, with the power to resist temptation and worldliness better than our Bible-only, Molokan forefathers in Russia?” “Has it created new, Christlike, mature, transformed lives in our Elders?” “Has it accomplished an increase in the

fruits of the Spirit when we are one with another?” “Or are we having an experience like in the Corinthian church...a manifestation of gifts while co-existing with carnality and even worldliness at the same time?” The Holy Spirit that was in Christ did not manifest itself in this manner.

“What kind of fruit does the Holy Spirit’s presence produce in us?” (Galatians 5:22-24) “The fruit of unfeigned warm *love*...an abundance of lasting *joy* during tribulation...real *peace* among brethren...long-suffering *patience* when things don’t go my way...a gentle *kindness* and concern for the others...*goodness* in the daily life...*faith* to overcome all the obstacles in life...*meekness* when abused...*self-control* when exalted or tempted.” “Are these fruits continuously increasing in our brotherhood?”

“When this ‘new’ spirit is present, do we see a diminishing and disappearance of the fruits of the flesh, as the Scriptures say should happen, one disposing the other?” The degree of your spirituality (“dooghovnist”) is measured by your lack of carnality. It is not determined by physical manifestation on the outer man, but the changes that occur in the inner man or, in other words, within your *thought life* from which all fruit, good or bad, is produced in the outer man. The development of the inner man by the Holy Spirit’s presence should result in less and less fruits of the flesh being manifested.

Fruits of the Flesh (Galatians 5:19-21)
Absent in Those Who Walk in the Spirit (Romans 8:4, 10-13)

Adultery. Desiring those of the opposite sex, other than your one life’s mate.

Fornication. Any sexual activity outside of a Scripturally legal marriage.

Uncleanness. Abuse of your body (the temple of God’s Spirit) by foods or any other means.

Lasciviousness. Dressing and acting to attract and excite others. A wife should be womanly *only* in her husband’s bedroom. At all other times she should dress and act like either a younger or elder sister.

Idolatry. Service to or worship to and/or through anyone but God and His Son. This includes worship of spirit.

Witchcraft. Use of spirits other than the Spirit of Truth sent through Christ.

Hatred. Any dislike or ill will towards others.

Variance. Quarreling or causing discord or taking offense at the words or action of others.

Emulation. Striving to excel at the expense of others while trying to outdo them. (Like the singing competition we often see)

Wrath. Any anger lasting longer than a day.

Strife. Being contentious for superiority or advantage and having the urge to pay back.

Seditions. Causing or partaking in factions and parties.

Heresies. Teaching and accepting fallacy instead of truth.

Envyings. Desiring more than God has given you.

Murder. To kill, spoil or marr another.

Drunkeness. Any excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures.

Revelings. Long, loud feastings, self-indulgence in any form.

Now, of course, by the very Scripture pointed to in Galatians 5:21, we know that anyone who remains a source of the above fruits of the flesh has no part in the kingdom, be he a forefather or me. "Why?" Because every one of these is a characteristic trait of Satan himself, God's adversary.

Now, I ask you brethren, honestly, "Is the Spirit of Truth on you delivering you from the above things, from the law of sin and death?" (Romans 8:2) Only with the aid and power of the "Spirit and Life" *in* Christ Jesus is this possible.

The usual view, that we've gotten from Maxim about having the spirit or being in spirit, is, "Do you jump, receive and relate inspired messages and speak in flaming tongues?" *This is not enough.* We must not confuse the manifestation of the Spirit's presence in us with an actual *walk* in the Spirit, which results in the righteousness of the law being *fulfilled* in us by not producing fruits of the flesh (Romans 8:4,7).

Maxim's example proves that *any* spirit can produce the former. But *only* the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of Truth, can and does produce the latter. We can begin by jumping or any other manifestation or gift as long as we end by walking in it daily, producing its fruits. The presence of the Holy Spirit is usually, initially *felt* mostly on the outer man, whose soulish senses are more easily moved to respond in joyful rejoicing, at its presence, than that which is felt in the mind.

The Comforter's real aim is penetration and occupation of the inner man, where the real work of transformation is needed. For the thought life is the seat of all potential good and sin. The root of carnality lies within the mind and what it is willing to think about. It is precisely there that the Holy Spirit of Truth - Christ's mind - must slowly begin to reign in us. "Until now I have been with you but in that day *I* shall be in you." (John 14:17)

This does not occur by just jumping in joy with its indwelling comfort on the outer man. As we so often see happen, after the jumping stops, those thus comforted often return to the same carnal state as others who never felt the urge to jump. In fact, contrary to what Maxim says, the work of the Holy Spirit on the inner man *can* take place without feeling its presence on the outer man. Those who depend for growth on jumping *only* can face the same danger that Maxim did. For our body and mind will respond to inspiration from *any* spirit being, if we are willing and sometimes, even if we are unwilling.

We must therefore pray and watch what *reactions* this spirit's presence in me produces in my inner man. I can jump, foretell events, speak angels' tongues and still not have the mind of Christ. "Is my carnality being overcome and replaced by Christlike Godliness?"

If it *is* Christ in Spirit that enters me, then my mind and body should be undergoing a slow transformation, like the Apostles or like the story of the Jews' conquest of the land of Canaan, by God's help. If the

giants (walled cities and Canaanites of our carnality - the fruits of our flesh) remain in our mind and body, (in the promised land - the temple of the living God) then it is not the Spirit of Christ at work in us but a clever counterfeit, masquerading as the Spirit of Truth, while really causing a complacency toward my co-existence with my pride, envy, honor-seeking, self-indulgence, gluttony, love of things of this world, pursuit of material riches and the pleasure of showing it all off. In short, this creates a feeling of self-righteousness and superiority while still not having the mind of Christ.

If the inspiration that you feel through the Spirit's manifestation of jumping, leads you then, on to sanctification and saint-likeness, then the inspiration is from *the* Spirit of Truth. If it provides only a spirit-induced, self-indulgence, like in Maxim, get rid of it, no matter what terrific dreams and revelations it might bring to you.

Please understand that all wisdom or revelation does *not* come from above. Read James 3:9-18 and compare that with what you read in Maxim's writings and with any other activity of spirit in yourself and in others. For we are commanded by God's word to test the spirits. If jumping produces in you good conduct, meekness of wisdom, purity, peaceability, gentleness, ease in being able to reason with, fullness of mercy, good fruits without partiality or hypocrisy, fruits of righteousness and peace, you are in good hands.

Let no man beguile you, the Holy Spirit produces only holy things in you. But these things can be followed, in the very next minute, by inspirations of another altogether different spirit gaining access (Matthew 16:17-23). The thing to ask yourselves is this: "Is the spirit in me directing me to Christ's domination over my life?" A spirit, since it is unseen, can be of any origin or can take any form (II Corinthians 11:14). "What kind of behavior does it produce in me and in the others?" If it produces Christlike behavior, it is of Christ. We must shun all others and give them no access.

In summation, let me suggest four things that would be helpful:

- (1) Review, personally, the source and origin of what you personally believe and the way you worship God. Review the meanings of the words in the songs and in the prayers. Note the content of the Elders' sermons and question them

if you are confused.

- (2) Read, in English, the coming translations of Maxim's writings, published by Daniel Shubin in San Marcos, and then write me for the parts he left out. These parts are the same ones that the Elders left out and altered in 1928. Add these omissions and alterations to those you receive from Mr. Shubin and you'll be able to show your wife and children what not to believe. Perhaps then we can become Molokans as our forefathers were, reaching all the way back to Christ.
- (3) Beseech your Elders to either altogether eliminate the book, *Spirit and Life* from off our church altars or, better still, be honest enough to publish these writings exactly as they were spoken and to put *them* on the altars so that they can serve as a lasting warning to those who test not the spirits. Let the book become a historical document of a period in our past we were *honest* enough to admit and courageous enough to *correct*. To err is human, to repent is divine. Let us eliminate its influence from the way we worship God, the Father, and His Son Jesus Christ, our only Lawgiver, Leader, Millenium King, Intercessor and model for our daily lives.
- (4) Decide if it is possible, although it is more work, to talk to God while reading what He has already spoken in the proven word of God. Everyone in the world has faith. They all believe in something. But the salvational faith that Apostle Paul speaks about (Romans 10:17) comes *only* by hearing the written word of God. *That* faith comes to be our possession, not by being born into some religion and conforming to its rituals, laws and ceremonies, but it comes only by personal study of that which God Himself believes. Therefore, prayerfully, faithfully study and read the Bible. "For it is profitable doctrine for reproof, correction and instruction in righteous behavior, so that you, the man of God, might be perfect and thoroughly equipped for all good works." (II Timothy 3:16-17) "If these Scriptures could do that, why add the book '*Spirit and Life*'?"

Compare for yourself, as you read Rudometkin and Klubnikin, whether or not the revelations of this “new” spirit are being used for the same purposes that the Apostle Paul wrote about in the above quotation. “Are you ready and willing to believe and teach *all* these revelations in the book, *Spirit and Life* to anyone?” “If you cannot believe *all* of it, why believe in it at all?” “Didn’t it all come from the same fountain?”

“Are not the promises, guarantees, instructions and the good news of Christ, given through the Apostle Paul to us Gentiles, in the Bible, enough for us?” “Are we as highminded as our former Gentile Catholic Christian forefathers that we create something else?” “Or are we as egotistical as Maxim that we have need of some new revelation to guide us?”

That’s exactly what got Maxim involved with this spirit to begin with. In other words, he was not satisfied to apply, in daily life, what had been revealed in the Holy Bible. Instead, he wanted something exclusive and special and he left himself vulnerable to the deception that this “new” spirit did reveal to him during his 40-day fast.

Understand this...the exclusiveness of being able to bring *every* thought into captivity, to obedience of Christ (II Corinthians 10:5), is being as exclusive in this present age as you can possibly hope for. There is not such a large number of Christlike people that you will not be noticed. However, if and when you run out of things to apply and to do, those that have already been revealed in Scripture, I guess it would be alright to ask God for some more to do. God will give power to your inner man to transform your life until it accords with the Godly life that Christ lived and died for.

Our preoccupation with being connected to this kind of life, with the *amount* of the mind of Christ in us, will assure us growth and development for our heavenly citizenship in Christ’s kingdom. *Christ in us is the hope of glory!* (Colossians 1:27-28, Colossians 3:4, Romans 8:10, Galatians 2:20, Galatians 4:19, Galatians 5:24, Philippians 1:20) In other words, to the extent that Christ *is* in us, we can hope for a salvation from what we are and for a transformation into that which pleases God.

Follow the example of His Son’s life so that we can learn to be a compatible Bride for him, for all eternity (II Corinthians 11:2).

We must seek out the Holy Spirit to heal our churches, heal our marriages, heal our families and heal our attitudes one towards another. I fear that the attraction of these writings, for us, lies in its appeal to our vanity. Every religion today has fallen into about the same trap..."We are the Church, *we* are the Bride, *we* have the revelations, *we* are the Chosen, *our* forefathers, etc., etc." That does not sound much like the humble Gentile woman that Christ had mercy upon in Matthew 15:27.

"Is it possible that God is not interested so much about which religion we are born into?" Isn't His question really, "Are you acting like my Son?" "Do you have the mind of Christ?" "Are you interested in having any other mind in you?" These are things that divide or join us to His Father. Physical descent can mean little more than the example learned, good or bad, from parents and Elders.

I realize that it will take us some time to be weaned of the idea that we are some special, covenanted, separate, holy race of people, due to the much repeated, unScriptural, mythical act of some exclusive calling of our forefathers by God. But if you will research this claim, you will find, as I did, that no "covenant making" scene ever took place to merit such a belief except those that this "new" spirit gave through King Rudometkin. "Maybe that's why we keep this "new" spirit and him around, rejecting the rule of them both, yet embracing the covenant they offer to our proud chest?"

When we begin reading our Scriptures more and the book, *Spirit and Life*, less, we will find a higher, better calling is already secured to us by Christ, through the Apostle Paul, and no surer foundation is needed or indeed exists (not even the writings of our "New Israel" forefathers). (Colossians 1:26-29, Romans 15:12-18, Ephesians 2:11-22)

Last, let me say, the existing present day Elders must be absolved from any blame in this matter. They are, for the most part, un-informed of this part of our past and of the exact nature whereby these fundamental changes took place in our Molokan Apostolic heritage. This does not *now* absolve them, however, from the grave responsibility to God, His Christ and the Holy Spirit of Truth, to individually and collectively investigate these suggestions I humbly make here as their lesser brother in Christ Jesus.

Their degree of commitment to the Spirit of Truth will dictate the

honest though embarrassing course we must take. I fervently pray the Lord of our Molokan forefathers, who encouraged them *to give their lives* over such issues, grant us the courage, wisdom and honesty to do so also. However, if my excommunication and loss of Elder status is their answer, I know majority rule is not divine rule and it is to Him that we must give account of our stewardship one day soon.

The myth of security, because of physical descent from our forefathers, is a cruel false hope. Every man is righteous as *He* is righteous, (I John 3:3-7), not through the accomplishments of others. It is not the religion of our forefathers that has greatest value to us - the ritual, the ceremony, the language, its history - it's the fact that the *faith* they *did* have was found by them in the same Bible we have access to.

And today, we have even more access than they ever had. Now men, women and children are all educated enough to be able to comprehend and utilize this greatest of gifts from God.

We could benefit greatly today by utilizing the argument that the Apostle Paul used with fellow Jews, as to what the Gentile believers should believe and observe. Instead of directing them first unto the small value of the complex, un-Scriptural ceremony, rituals and traditions of his Rabbinical Jewish forefathers (I Peter 1:18-22, Colossians 2:8), he focused their attention *first* on the reconciliation and transformation available in the *life* of Christ, where the real value lies...cutting through the preoccupation and entanglement of outward ritual and appearance *only*.

Christ rejected the un-Scriptural writings and traditions of his fathers (Matthew 15:3-9), submitting instead to what he himself had inspired the prophets to teach, concerning all things; diet, holidays, service to God and conduct towards brethren. But then he went way *beyond* as we must also do. He went on to the perfection of *being* and *doing* only good to *all* others, enemy and friend alike (I Corinthians 13:8-11 and Hebrews 6:1-9).

That's what a *real* Molokan can become *when* Christ appears in us. *Then* we can hope to appear with him in glory (Colossians 3:4). If the faith of *that* forefather be our *only* goal, then much of the bickering, division and animosity will simply disappear from among us and our Elders and the real growth in Christ will flourish.

The loss we now suffer when our youth *witness* the judgmental, argumentative and condemning spirit amongst us Elders as we contend with one another over what was in the minds of our various forefathers, could be exchanged for the wealth and profit in focusing our God-given minds on how to change our assemblies in a manner best-suited to edify *every* person gathered, especially the *weak* the *English-thinking* the *young* and the Scripturally uninstructed *Molokan mothers*, sitting unfed in the far distant corners of our churches, to whom we delegate the task of raising our children. We *could* invert, as if, the ancient pyramid by placing the needy majority nearer to God rather than the strong minority who now reign and *occupy* the peak of the pyramid.

Because of the ever-increasing English-speaking portion of our Molokan brotherhood, this must soon result in the Elders allowing the building of faith in the weak and needy by allowing them to hear the word of God (Romans 10:17), in church, in the language that they *think in and understand best*.

Have no fear, Christ is not Russian but the power of his Word and Spirit can produce righteousness in anyone, in any language. That vital connection to his Word is the right and privilege of every child born in our brotherhood today, regardless of the language he speaks.

What a blessing and mercy to our forefathers that God allowed His Son's words to be *translated* first from the original Hebrew to the Aramaic, then to the Greek and eventually to the then obscure Russian language. How sad that our current, bilingual Elders cannot learn from this and do not freely allow and *encourage bilingual* sharing of this treasure, in church, with those other members of our body of Christ who are not fluent in the Russian language.

“How much longer will such Elders accept the responsibility of keeping the transforming power of Christ's teachings out of the reach of those very ones in the flock who are in greatest need, forcing them to go elsewhere to be fed, converted and transformed?” “Is not the work of a good shepherd to *feed all* his sheep daily with what *they* can eat?”

What we appeal for here is not the tearing down of our Molokan home. “Otherwise, where will we live?” Instead, we appeal only for a remodeling, to house those who *now* live in it. We appeal for the restoration of it by the gradual removal of all signs of the deceptive

activity and high-mindedness introduced by this “new” spirit in this “New Israel” Solomon, Maxim.

It has taken almost 70 years for the un-Scriptural remodeling that has been done and it will take years to restore it to what is more fruitful. What is needed are willing, fearless Molokan Elders, “workmen approved, rightly dividing the word of God.” (II Timothy 2:15) The cop-out of saying, “So what if everything is not up to Scripture, it was all done by inspiration (pa-dooghoo)”, is light-mindedness.

For the chief building inspector, Christ Jesus, wrote the Book of Building Codes and it is impossible to hide what we are and are not from him. The part of the building not built on Christ is built on sand and must come down and be hauled away from our building site, for it constitutes a constant danger to our youth and to us. (Matthew 7:24-27 and I Corinthians 3:9-14)

This Solomon’s (Maxim’s) inspired involvement with his multi-wives *should* result in the loss of his kingdom over us. Otherwise what do we do with the Scripture that says...”An Elder must be the husband of one wife.” (Titus 1:3-9) “Is not the omission, in 1928, of even this *one part* right out of the heart of Maxim’s inspired writings *enough cause*?” It was one mistake to graft this into our Molokan tree in 1928. It is quite another *now* to distribute an English version, whose aim is to *graft* this English-speaking generation into the “New Israel” religion by purported Scriptural justifications and glorifications of these men and their writings, misrepresenting what really is a shameful, un-Scriptural part of our past.

I appeal for no more deception or grafting but a pruning and purging out of this Pharisitical leaven that outdid even the high-mindedness of the Jews or the Catholic Gentiles. God help each of us to use the sharp sword of the Word of God, in our minds, to divide asunder this carnality, masquerading as the Holy Spirit of Truth.

“Is the ‘new’ spirit that was on Maxim a fountain we need or should have at home or at church for our children to drink from and wash in?” “Did not our Molokan forefathers have a much better fountain in the words of Christ and the Apostle Paul, whom He sent to us Gentiles?” “If we could bring to life Uklein, Dalmatoff, Sokoloff and Bulhokov, who of them do you think would trade Maxim’s ‘New Israel’ Zionism for the

Molokan faith they found in Christ?” The faith of our forefathers does not include Maxim’s faith. It *excludes* it and those hooked by it.

Though some Molokans today have swallowed the attractive bait of all these un-Scriptural, glorious, special promises to us by this “new” spirit, I do not think it is too late to *spit out the bait and the hook* if we will fight it. Rudometkin’s and Klubnikin’s inspired concept, that the old Testament writings were for the Jews and the New Testament writings were for the Christians but God was inspiring them to establish a third testament with the Molokans in their writings, *is absolutely false*.

The concept of the inspired Scripture is that the Old Testament covenant was established with Israel to produce a picture or shadow of better things to come. The New Testament covenant was established with any Jew or Gentile who understood that this shadow was a picture of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was ready and willing to reconcile them and the rest of the world (II Corinthians 5:19), to God, through the simple preaching of and compliance to his written Gospel.

There is absolutely no hint in Scripture of a third testament being made with a substitute Christ, like Maxim, or a “New Israel” Gentile nation being formed before his return. The Bible speaks only of the body of Christ, his church, awaiting *his* second coming to take those whom he has reconciled and transformed into his likeness, in mind and deed, back to his Father, as brethren and Bride.

This symbolic wedding is the 1000-year kingdom with no Maxim, third testament or “New Israel” in view.

What occurred with our Molokan forefathers was only a continuation of the work of reconciliation begun by Christ in Apostle Paul (Colossians 1:20-23). The “gospel” or “bait” through Rudometkin and Klubnikin is not “good news” for us. It is a false Christ and false doctrine. We must resist it as did our Molokan forefathers so that it flees from us and our children (Galatians 1:6-9).

I beseech all who read this to receive it in the same spirit of humility in which it is offered. Amen.

Paul A. Efseaff

“A Labor of Love”

Book #2

The Mind and Gospel of Maxim G. Rudometkin

- INTRODUCTION -

I offer you here, dear brethren, a glimpse through a now dusty window, into a room in our Molokan brotherhood that the Elders, in 1928, decided to seal off. This was done so that no one would ever be able to see the contents of this room. This window is just a portion of the actual handwritten words that gave me the first glimpse into the inspired mind of Maxim G. Rudometkin.

What I am going to share with you is beyond belief, for many. I should know! For over ten years now, I have been praying to understand what I saw there. I know, more or less, what your reaction will be since, in the 1970s, five Molokan brethren of mine, also, for the first time, looked inside this room. The first man, possibly the most brilliant speaker in the brotherhood, reacted by hiding reality even more and publishing only selected portions of the 1928 version of the book, *Spirit and Life*. The second man, the best speaker in my church, claimed that all of what appeared objectionable was not actually physical but only some deep spiritual truth that lay beneath the surface of the words. The third man, the best singer in my church as well as an active prophet, reacted by saying that these discoveries were part of some diabolical plot, by Satan, to discredit Maxim and this spirit, which we were actively following, and that this information should be burned. The fourth man reacted by publishing an English translation of the 1928 version, leaving out the very same material that he had discovered hidden in this room that the Elders had sealed up. The originals of 4-1/2 books of this inspired mind were so well hidden, for reasons one can only guess at, that they now cannot be found. Perhaps those that were found will suffice. The fifth man can no longer live with the responsibility of keeping the truth hidden from the Molokan brotherhood and has decided to let you look at this mind, for yourself.

I vowed, after my Brazil experience, that no more of our Molokan youth would serve this new spirit in ignorance, as I did for 20 years of my life. I honestly do not know which one, of the five of us, had the right reaction. So, don't expect an argument with me if you do not agree. I only share with you what I *believe* to be the truth of what I saw in that mind and I am praying each day for understanding, just as I hope we all are. I apologize for the unpolished manner in which all of this is presented as well as for any mistakes that my lack of scholarship has caused. May God richly bless you by it. Amen.

THE MIND AND GOSPEL OF MAXIM G. RUDOMETKIN
“Let the mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5)

By Elder Paul A. Efseaff

Due to recent resurgency of interest in our roots as Molokans and especially in reference to the writings of Maxim G. Rudometkin, Efim G. Klubnikin and their claims on our lives, this work is dedicated.

Having been, in my youth, an avid follower and serious student of these writings, I feel myself duty-bound to make available, to the brotherhood, a more complete portion of the text, other than that which is available in any of the current copies of the book, *Spirit and Life* (“Doogh e Zhizen”).

Almost every major religion has had to face a similar, painful review, sometime during its history, by having to admit that all men can be liars and that God alone is true (Romans 3:4). The ability of Satan to create confusion, through distortion of fact and half-spoken truth, is well known to all students of God’s word. Uncensored truth is the only weapon that is sharp enough to cut through deception and to reveal, to our God-given minds, the total truth available.

If we, as a people, cannot live with the embarrassment of this truth and cannot apply it, irrespectively to ourselves and to our forefathers, then we fail in our stewardship as guardians of the Faith, as delivered unto the Saints. The authenticity of the Bible is attested to by the lack of omissions of the indiscretions of such men as Noah, Moses, David, Solomon, Peter and Paul. If we cannot include the Solomon-like portions of Maxim’s inspired writings, then none of these writings have any place in our churches.

If the unadulterated truth cannot be tolerated, is the omission and the reconstruction more desirable? For the sake of those generations yet to come into the world, I call on this generation of Molokans to face this issue squarely. “How is it that we have become dependent upon someone other than Christ himself?” “How is it that another lawgiver, another intercessor, another lamb and another ‘new’ spirit are necessary for us and not for any other people on the earth?” “Is it because of our special ‘holy’ Russian blood or because of this man’s imprisonment?” (Maxim’s.)

This turning to Maxim's writings and promises, like turning to some infallible Pope, King or Doukhabor-like "vozhd", all proves our Scriptural weakness and carnality. Christ, by giving us *his* Spirit, is sufficient for all our needs. We need no other, neither angel, nor man nor anything in between.

At Christ's coming, in glory, shall he *only* appoint some over one city, others over three and yet others over ten. Until then, it was meant to be as he instructed..."We are all equal brethren." (Matthew 23:8) "Let him that would be greatest serve his brethren." (Luke 22:24-27) Therefore, those who are really the great amongst us must be those who seek nothing for ourselves, in this life, but instead, provide what others lack.

Knowing full well the wrath that this writing shall release upon my head, I ask Maxim's faithful subjects to spare my innocent family and children. If what I am doing be sacrilege, then I too have the same Master as you. Let God deal with me, for being Almighty, He has no need of any of your help.

I am especially thankful for our sound Molokan evangelical past, through Uklein's influence, which has served as a restraint to the universal acceptance of these writings. In fact, I do not know of *one real* Maximist New Israelite in the entire Molokan brotherhood, according to the definition given by Maxim, the King himself. I only see a militant, vocal, hardcore minority, poorly versed in the Holy Scriptures, who use Maxim's clichés and entitlements as a means of attracting power and attention to themselves.

I am also thankful for those Elders and young people, who having a Scriptural foundation, privately encouraged me to finish this work. I am thankful for their assistance, although I understand their reluctance to openly support and agree with what I say here. We are all aware that life in our Molokan churches can become very miserable for anyone who dares suggest that things are not as they should be.

***The Inspired Gospel of Maxim G. Rudometkin and Efim G. Klubnikin
to Their New Israel Molokan Followers...Concerning Marriage
Now and in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ Our Lord***

This English translation of a portion of the Elder-hidden and altered, handwritten revelations, through Rudometkin and Klubnikin, is

intended as an aid. By it, our existing Molokan brotherhood can decide whether we wish to count ourselves as a part of this “New Israel”, that these men were inspired to form, or whether we should use our God-given freedom and responsibility that is set forth in I John 4:1, to exclude such prophets, revelations and beliefs from our heritage as Molokans.

Certain Elders have knowingly kept this material hidden for over 70 years now. *But no longer!* Even the new, current, English translation was not truthful enough to include these texts, which are found throughout the writings, and thereby it encourages a prolongation of the same dishonesty and error. But now, you can know what God has known and suffered with all this time. No doubt, He is blushing with shame at the coarse grossness of what, in reality, is hidden between the lines of what the Elders have set forth as having come directly from God, as food for our spiritual growth. Maxim’s writings serve as the foundation and source of how we Russian Molokans now worship God.

These writings are read from, almost every time we gather for church, weddings, child dedications and funerals. Oh, the patience of God! How fortunate for us that we live in this age of Christ’s Gospel of reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:17-20).

But, dear brethren, the age of judgment and condemnation is about to dawn. So let us, with all sober mindedness, consider our affiliations carefully. The marked resemblance of this “new” spirit’s revelations, through these men, to that of the spirits that were in the Khlisti and in the Doukhabors, must be noted. The influence of the sex-filled, self-indulgent paradise of the Mohammed’s Koran and some rituals and prayers, straight out of the corrupt Greek Orthodox Catholic Church, must also be noted.

Also, it is well to note that these writings of Maxim’s are about events *preceding* his imprisonment and not brought about through the loneliness and strain of prison life, as some apologists claim. The handwriting and style is all the same and not the work of two authors, as others claim.

The spirit on Efim Garasimitch was in full agreement with Rudometkin. Maxim points to Klubnikin alone, of all Molokan prophets, as his witness to the inspired nature of what you are about to read. Efim’s

widowed mother was twice blessed by this spirit to provide not one, but two daughters for Maxim's harem. Of these and other excesses, no hint of rebuke or correction is ever made by Klubnikin. By this fact alone, we can see that his spirit was in complete accord with this "New Israel" Molokan equivalent of Jonestown, in the little village of Nikitina, where this whole sad scene is played out. Instead of mass suicide, the poor villagers were nearly beaten to death, as a result of their submission to this "new" spirit and Solomon-like king.

The time for this scenario is somewhere between 1839, when Maxim was 22, and 1858, when he was removed from the brotherhood, by imprisonment, before he could do any more harm. But in that interval, he became convinced that he was the third part of the divine Trinity, the Spirit of Truth, having taken on flesh in him, just as the *Word* had in Christ. He believed that he was a second lamb and a new Jewish messiah who was sent to establish a New Israel religion.

He thought of himself as a second Moses, a lawgiver, complete with ten commandments, in which Christ, the Savior, is depicted as being only God's wisdom that passes down from soul to soul. He claimed that he was a God-appointed king of the whole earth. This was accomplished through a power that came upon him, calling itself a "new" spirit, seeking to establish a new method and order of worship of God and establishing a daily lifestyle with a "new law of liberty" ("of hot unity" and "flaming love") which, allowed and encouraged dual marriages for those reborn by its indwelling power.

And further, it encouraged the accumulation of concubine-like wives for the exclusive use in the kingdom, which was to begin as soon as Maxim returned from prison. The spirit-inspired model for all of this kingdom community and lifestyle was the kingdom of Solomon and his thousand multi-wives and concubines. Such self-indulgence is set forth, by Maxim, as the essence of the kingdom of Christ on earth.

Maxim, therefore, married a spirit-selected second woman, named Stenya Matveyovna, through whom it is probable that he produced a spirit child, a son. This child is differentiated by Maxim, from his first two sons, in that he calls this one "spiritborn" and he gives him the title, "Billy, the Son of the King." (Book 4, Article 13, the heading is omitted in the 1928 version.)

Maxim also married seven young girls, Stenya, Valerie, Alexandria, Donna, Vivian, Mary (who was a sister of Efim Klubnikin), and Gretel. He himself observed none of the holy days of the Hebrews nor did he consider himself bound by the Commandments given to them. He viewed himself as a righteous man and above all of that. He formulated completely new laws for his “New Israel”, teaching that communism was the only lifestyle pleasing to God. (Book 10, Article 10, Verse 10 and others, which you’ll soon read for yourself.)

When he could no longer avoid arrest, after having hidden in Shorzhy for 21 days, while these young girls and others were being beaten half to death, back in Nikitina, by the authorities (who had been summoned there by members of his own New Israel kingdom community), he saw that his arrest was unavoidable and he divided all of these women among his most trusted followers, Emilian, Fetice and his second father-in-law, Matvey. He placed them right in bed with these men and charged his friends to keep the women undefiled there until his triumphant return from prison and the overthrow of the Russian Empire.

This “new” spirit assured him that the downfall of the Russian Empire would be brought about by the two witnesses, spoken of in the Book of Revelation, who were, in fact, two Elders in his Nikitina church, Emilian Telegin and Fetice Nazaroff. So off he went to prison, for his victory, only to shortly find out that these trusted friends and Elders had allowed his virgin wives, one by one, to marry other men.

It is in this climate and background that he writes these letters, from prison, which I am going to translate. These are the writings that our Elders caused to grace our church altars after rewriting and altering them with some of their own thoughts and beliefs. They used Maxim’s prestige and suffering to gain them credence and they told the Molokan brotherhood that our present way of worship was all inspired directly by God, through Maxim, while in fact, these Elders actually changed around, at will, what Maxim had originally said.

A few illustrations should suffice in order to demonstrate the method used by the Elders to alter Maxim’s letters. You will see exactly to whom he was writing, in these letters, and what he meant by this “law of liberty”, this “law of hot unity” and this “law of new flaming love.” You will see why this new wedding ceremony, that we Molokans are now to live by, was instituted. Maxim instructed his followers to utilize, from

the Bible, only the Book of David's Psalms and the Book of Revelation. Maxim claimed that he was sent by God to clarify, for all of us, the meaning of the Book of Revelation. He was inspired to understand that the New Testament had been written *only* for Gentiles and that the Old Testament had been written *only* for Jews but his writings, inspired by this "new" spirit, were for the "New Israel" that he beseeches all of us to join.

The contrast of what the Spirit of Truth produced in and through the lives of Christ and the Apostle Paul, on this earth, and what this "new" spirit accomplished in Maxim's New Israel kingdom community of Molokans, in Nikitina, shouts a warning, louder than I ever could shout to our existing community. But one thought has kept haunting me for over ten years. "How is it that the spirit, which we see manifested in all of our churches, has been completely silent about all of this for over 70 years now?" Never once has there been an inspiration to instruct us to even review the authenticity of these writings, but instead, they have been consistently supported, affirmed, utilized and responded to as divine inspiration and have been venerated as the pure divine milk of God's word. This haunting thought actually drove me out of the brotherhood for a short time.

But love has constrained me to return and I have elected to suffer reproach from my own people rather than remaining silent and fleeing to another sheepfold. I earnestly pray for your support in correcting these gross errors, today. Tomorrow, we must already give accounting. But be forewarned. We are dealing with the master of deception himself, Satan, who will ask a high price for our raised voices. But take heart, for we will be clean of the innocent blood by having sounded the trumpet of alarm for all of those who slept in the night, blissfully unaware of the enemy's presence in the camp, the body of Christ over which he alone is head.

We will now take a look at the inspired source of how Maxim's "New Israelite" Molokans are commanded to marry, to dedicate their children, to make confession on their death bed and to bury and make memorial services for their dead, entirely replacing the services that *were* used by their own Molokan Elders, Uklein, Dalmatoff, Sokoloff and Bulhokov. Later, in his prayer book, Maxim will also tell us how to replace the *regular* Molokan church services, which these men all observed, with the "Novee Abryat" or "New Ritual."

This inspired “Novee Abryat” hasn’t yet completely taken over in our Molokan brotherhood today, but as it grows in use each year, it will eventually replace even the small remnant of our original Molokan services, such as those we now still observe during our regular Sunday morning church services. Because of space and time, we will only cover, in this manuscript, the “new marriages” that Maxim was inspired to teach us Molokans about and which he offered as the first inducement for us to join his “New Israel” religion. First, we will go over the actual “new marriage ceremony” itself, *exactly* as Maxim was inspired that it be observed.

The following text is translated from the original, uncensored writings of Maxim G. Rudometkin. It actually belongs in Book 3, between the 11th and 12th Articles:

“The betrothed will there be, having the Groom take the Bride, by the love of the Holy Spirit, in the same manner as Boaz was betrothed with Ruth, in Israel. (Read the book of Ruth, Chapter 3, Verse 10.) In like manner will it be in Zion when the Groom chooses for himself a Bride, by the love of the Holy Spirit, and both, together, between themselves, agree they will give one another an allied promise to be united in love by this *new law* wedding. Then they must reveal their desire, first to their parents, afterwards to all their Elders, in order that the wedding may be performed the way that it should, by the law of spiritual love and by their common agreement.”

“What to do if there be a lack of agreement between a Groom and the Brides in Zion: Well now, if a Groom does not find a Bride in Zion, by the love of the Holy Spirit, then he must come to the community barrel, where the names of all the remaining virgins and widows are written, to cast lots over them and take from them for himself a Bride, by the casting of lots, whichever one God will appoint to him. And then, he must also go with her to the gathering of the Elders for the marriage of the new law wedding, as it should be, by the law of spiritual love and by their common agreement among themselves.”

Next, Maxim explains how this “new wedding” ceremony is to be conducted. Our present day Molokan wedding ceremonies are conducted exactly as Maxim commands, until we get to the part about the crowning

of the Bride. (The putting on of the “pavyaska.”) In his original writings, Maxim commands the following:

“Then you must place both of them together, on the right side of the officials of the wedding, for the adorning of the *Groom* with a crown which is going to be built by the mother (Groom’s mother) or mother-in-law for the wedding of her son. Here, they must give this *crown* into the hands of the *priest* so that he can place it on the head of the son or son-in-law for the glorious sight of their crowned and celebrated wedding. The priest must take from them the crown, in his hands, and place it on the head of the Groom, before the gathering of the whole crowd, while voicing the prayer, Psalm 20:1-9.

Immediately following, the singers must sing a celebration song, upon the completion of the wedding, in a loud voice, uttering, ‘sing with us in new songs, daughters of Zion. Come forth and look into the face of the adorned son of Zion, in his crown by which his mother crowned him in the day of his betrothal, in the day of the gladness of his heart.’ Rejoice before them all with voices of happiness and say to her (the Bride), ‘be happy, you, the daughter of Zion, and be a newly adorned wedded Bride from your whole heart for God has covered up all your unrighteousness and here you shall no longer behold evil.’ Amen, praise the Lord.

Then the officials of the wedding will take them by the hand and lead them into their bedroom, which will be prepared for them in the house of their father-in-law (the Groom’s). But these virgins, who were invited to their wedding, must enter into their bedroom (the couple’s) following them also, in order that they may sing their song to them for the delighting of their marital united love. First, they must sing the Song of Songs, Chapter 8:1-8, then Isaiah 61:9, to the end. Also, Psalm 127.

At the conclusion of all this singing, here the officials must say to the newly wedded, according to the word of God, ‘increase and multiply and replenish this good land’ and leave them there, in the house of the father-in-law, until morning. And, as soon as it is morning, then they (the wedding party) again must return, with singers following them, to bring them unto the house of his father. On the way, they should sing the 44th Psalm. But when they come

to the house of the father, there also, the parents must bless them with the same blessing as they used in the house of their father-in-law the night before. And, afterwards, they shall continue the wedding in happiness, as should be and in accordance with the desire of their parents.”

Let us please note five disturbing things: number one, the elevation of the New Israel preachers to priests; number two, a boy who cannot find a woman willing to marry him can force anyone, so unfortunate as to have her name picked out of a barrel, to do so; number three, we see the Elders’ attempt to hide the influence of Maxim’s Catholic past by omitting the part about the crowning of the Bridegroom, which, as we all know, is taken directly from the Catholics; number four, we also see how easily the Elders changed the supposedly inspired words of God to read as they wanted them to; number five, the newlywed couple is *actually sexually active* during their participation in the wedding feast.

In his original writings, after these inspired instructions on how we are to marry, Maxim also tells us how to dedicate the children of these marriages, how to pray for the dying and how to bury the dead. These ceremonies are *all observed today*, by us, as they were written by King Maxim for his faithful servants.

In the 10th Book, 23rd Article, 2nd Verse, Maxim also tells us how to spend that first night together:

“These two, unfailingly, on that same newly-wedded moment, publicly, *before two holy witnesses* must openly have interc-----, actually, as in any holy marriage bed, like it happened then with Isaiah when he laid with the prophetesses before two witnesses. For, in our kingdom day, every man will have seven wives and all of these wives will give birth with great ease, like the relieving of the bowels takes place today, so that in that day, every wife will give birth to our children in a sitting position, while sitting on the lap of their husband, while the second wife will receive the newborn right into her own hands, like Rachel and Sarah. For the seed is all one, like Abraham and Jacob willingly slept with the second wives and their seed was eternally blessed above all others.”

Now that we know how we are to marry and how we are to spend our honeymoon night, we progress to how many times we can do this. This “new” spirit, through Maxim, says that a woman can marry only once. “But what about a man?” Let this inspired king explain.

First, let us see how it is written in the 1928 version of the book, *Spirit and Life* in Maxim’s 4th Book, 11th Article, from the beginning:

“Again I remind you, my beloved *church* that you are one flesh and bone with me. God himself has joined us and man cannot divide us. Stand strongly upon this foundation and do not seek another personage so that you would not be divided from my precious love, eternal matrimony and spiritual union. God himself will declare, to every place under heaven, our enlightenment and not man.”

“Wait a minute (you say), this has nothing to do with how many wives we can marry...this is just our spiritual leader asking us to be faithful to this new covenant that God has made with our people.” You couldn’t be more wrong!

Now, let us see what Maxim *actually* wrote, as found in his original writings, 4th Book, 11th Article, from the beginning:

“It is also necessary to remind you, my beloved wives, Marafina and Sterafina, that you are my own bone and flesh. God has joined us and no man can separate us. Stand upon this foundation. I am your eternal husband. Seek in no one else a husband for yourself. Where can you find anyone who can separate our eternal wedlock, inspired union and my precious love? Would he escape *alive* from my flaming hot jealousy over you, which you yourselves heard with your own ears? I said unto you in Alexanderpol, before all the people, that you are my wives. Because I was twice born, I married twice. I showed you to all the people saying, ‘This is my first wife, named Marafina, and this is my second wife, named Sterafina.’ I said this by inspiration and not of myself. You must remember this and tell all others about it. You are to say, ‘we are his wives eternally and his queens for the gracefilled 1000-year kingdom of Christ on earth.’ Not man, but God himself shall reveal, throughout every place under heaven, this, our new enlightenment.”

“Well (you say), this was probably just some prophetic symbolism...nothing physical, right?” Wrong!! In the 4th Book, 10th Article, Maxim writes after the word “Zion”, in Verse 9:

“And my father-in-law, Matvey Mixaelovich, guard my chamber (bedroom) which I have closed and sealed until the day of my return to you on Mount Zion (Nikitina). My sister, be to me like a locked garden or sealed spring until your brother returns to his garden. Yes, then he will eat the fruit of that garden.”

“Well (you say), they left out the name of his father-in-law, so what?” But why? Because they *knew* that his lawful first wife was *Maria Fyodirovna* the daughter of Fyodir, not *Matvey*. Matvey was the father of his second, unlawful wife, Stenya Matveyvna, whom he just got through addressing in the 11th Article above. “Did this new spirit inspire Maxim to create the new marriage ceremony only for this one unlawful (by Molokan standards) marriage?” No, there were soon others.

In Article 9 of Book 4, in the first verse, Maxim is inspired to write:

“A herald of love: I write to you elders and female elders, youths and maidens, and my queens, M., S., and Va.”

It is evident why the Elders left this out. It ruined this chapter as a source of the favorite sermon of many Elders. “Why did he just use the initials of three of the seven virgin queens?” Perhaps out of fear that they would all be beaten again. For the authorities took a very dim view of all this. He is addressing here, Mary (Klubnikin’s sister), Stenya and Valerie. Next, we see him address two of these three openly and directly, for they were the first to escape his harem.

In the 1928 edition, Book 10, Article 10, Verses 1 and 2, he warns them of retribution for this act:

“I ask all the faithful to eagerly hearken unto this spiritual epistle about this fearful life and death judgment. Let this be read to its end into the ears of all my *renewed* home. And also, unto those unbelieving and defiled ones who, instead of God, glorified the Devil through their accursed adultery and deceptions with the sons of the Devil in human form and their

accomplices together with them. For, because of all of them, I now greatly suffer for this prolonged period of time...because of them and the Spirit of Truth. For, it is quite evident that I did not willingly embark on this prolonged path. I even fasted and prayed 40 days to escape this multi-dayed cross of suffering.”

You say he isn't talking to these virgin queens here? Wrong again. In the originals; he really says:

“I urgently ask all those who believe in me to eagerly listen to this, my inspired epistle, which is about this fearful life and death judgment. Let it be read to its very end and into the ears of my *renewed* home and also those two unbelieving in me, the defiled adulteresses, Stenya and Varya, who are daughters of Beelzebub, the ruler of this darkened age. They both, instead of God, glorified their father, the Devil, in damned adulterous matrimony, through the deceptions of these sons of Satan in bodily form, together with the collaborating false prophets as well as those corrupted fathers and mothers who earlier had blessed them both for me, the King of Zion, as my eternal wives and queens. I, *because of them* was sent on this suffering... because of them and the Spirit of Truth. Both of them knew this full well, for I did not willingly call myself forth upon such a prolonged journey.”

Ironically, in this same Book 10, Article 10, in the 10th Verse, this is where Maxim gives direct command concerning the ideal of communistic living. It's over this issue that our Brazilian movement broke apart when I refused to follow this “new” spirit's direct command to put Maxim's command into effect by communizing the assets of the whole group without their consent. It was this confrontation that set my face toward reading all of Maxim's original, uncensored writings, to check out the validity of this demand, only to discover the rest of the things I now share with you.

These two girls, Stenya and Varya, were part of the seven queens that Maxim married and who, in his absence, the Elders of his own congregation allowed to marry normal young men. Maxim here admits that the girls were the cause of his imprisonment and not as our Elders love to preach, that Maxim had gone to prison to suffer *for* the Molokan brotherhood. *Nothing* could be further from the truth. When you read and

understand his actual writings, you'll see it was solely due to his being deceived by this "new" spirit, into thinking and acting like a King Solomon, replacing the kingdom of the Son of David, Jesus Christ, with his own.

In Book 13, Article 3, Verse 6, he clearly speaks of this Solomon-like ideal that he was striving for, as he tearfully rebukes the Elders, Emilian and Fetice, for having allowed second marriages for these wives of his, whom he had left in their care:

"I had promised to fulfill, through both of you, the union of betrothal, using my *new wedding ceremony* of the *new law* -- the hot marriages. For you are now living adulterously (*those who remarried*) which is to say, without the blessing of *my* holy spirit. But I still wish to lead you to the full reality of the kingdom of the New Israel, for the peaceful 1000-year kingdom in the good land, by *following the example and the form* of the reign of King Solomon for his forty years together with all his concubines. For this reason, you should be cautious in seeking for yourselves another head besides me."

Now, of all the things a spirit could have inspired Maxim to admire and take from Solomon's writings, it is just sad that it should have chosen such things and not Proverbs, "As a man thinketh, in his heart so he is." I know not where Maxim got such thoughts but it was not from the mind of the Jesus Christ we know in the Holy Bible. How this "new" spirit inspired him to think, and about what, is a good indication of its origin.

If Maxim had been sent to the Jews instead of Christ, perhaps they could more readily have received him, for they had forefathers who lived this way. But, being Christian, we Molokans simply cannot. Remember, what we read in his writings are his *best* thoughts and those that he would share, lovingly, with members of his own church, as I do here. I therefore strongly caution those who have fallen in love with this myth, which the Elders have created about Rudometkin and Klubnikin, to examine those writings as closely as you would a hang-glider that you were going to use to jump off a cliff with.

Examine the mind revealed in the uncensored, hidden portion of what they both believed. Honestly ask yourself if these are thoughts that

you would want shared by your son or by the young man that's going with or that's married to your daughter. "Do we want the multiplying in us and in our children of such a mind by, as if, recommending the reading of it by having it right on our church altars and in our homes?"

Yet, this is still not the *greatest problem*. The questions that I raise concerning the use of his ritual and ceremony, in our churches, is not the central thing I want to share with you. Elaborate ritual never impressed God. He was much more concerned with what honesty, thoughts and feelings the people who approached him were having toward Him and toward one another. The value of the time we spend in church together is determined by *that* and not the particular form of ritual we perform.

For we see no ritual was even inspired or prescribed in Christ's Church of the Apostles. They just gathered from house to house, as they had done with Jesus, probably using the simple form of synagogue worship that they were used to, in which priest and sacrifices had no place. They knew that Christ was taking care of all of that in heaven itself, for them, as they simply prayed for one another's needs, shared Scripture and sang comforting hymns.

No, the greater problem is the dishonesty surrounding the setting forth of this "Novee Abryat", with its pleasing ritual and ceremony (of which we only do about half), as if having been *commanded* by *God Himself*. If Scripture be true that we shall answer for *every* word spoken, then it must be doubly true of what we speak in church, during our worship of Him, and a million times more true in reference to what *we say is God's Word*.

Let us ponder the consequence to us (in light of what you are now reading) if we now continue to set forth God as the source of Maxim's inspired writings. I have no doubt that they are inspired. "But did God tell him to take a second wife and to marry seven more to play around with, in bed?" "Did God tell him that the 1000-year kingdom of Christ would begin with the overthrow of the Russian Czar and of the Russian Orthodox Church in the 1800s?" "Did God tell him to create a new religion through which this "new" spirit would reign instead of the Spirit of Truth that Christ had as a comforter?" "Did God give His Son's kingdom over to Maxim and to these seven girl-queens to run?" "Did God tell him that the kingdom would allow every man to have a harem and that we should get together right now and guard against all comers?"

Brethren, I'm afraid that what we have here, in these two men, is a spirit or angel masquerading as the Holy Spirit of *Truth*, seeking for itself homage, worship and control of our brotherhood, through submission and reverence to these teachings, in whatever measure or level we are willing to give it. Only the Spirit of God requires total compliance and faithfulness. The other spirits and angels will settle for whatever they can get. This, perhaps, is why we can all be such miserable failures in complying with and conforming to this "new" spirit's directives and still call ourselves "New Israel" Molokans or "Maximisti", with neither a rebuke nor punishment.

Of course, those who would be critical of what I share with you will ask, "How do we know he is translating the real words of Rudometkin and not doing the very thing he accuses the Elders of doing in 1928?" To these and anyone else seeking to see the uncensored, handwritten originals, I direct you to the publisher of the new English translation of the book, *Spirit and Life*. For it is he that is in the business of sharing this treasure with the brotherhood, not I. I receive no joy out of them. If, for some reason, he should refuse to share with you what he gave me back in the 1970s, I'll share mine with you.

In the 14th Book, starting with the 3rd Article and going to the end of the Book, Maxim tells us about these new, hot, multi-marriages, in vivid detail:

"This is about all of my newly acquired wives who I will write about here, in detail, about their union and separation from me. To begin with, I'll mention how they were first joined to me and how, at that time, we were publicly joined in wedlock, by God himself and the Spirit of His Christ, together with the blessing given by laying on of hands of all their parents and also the prophetic word of the witness and activity of the spirit through Emilian, the prophet, who publicly joined me to them by the union of our willing hot love, producing an eternal, unseparable, holy new covenant, like a key and its lock, and the immortal life in both our loins, for 1000 years.

For this reason, we, in his holy union, all ate and drank together and almost all slept in the same bed together and verily, in this holy matrimony, we all kissed and thrust together, producing great joy, as the spirit inspired us to do and as is befitting any

everlasting wedlock. But the key was not put in the lock, for the time had not yet come for that. God had not yet told us to do that, just as in Adam and Eve's case in the Paradise. This was done by the serpent, but not by God, so I stood strong and did not allow their will, before the proper time, to taste of the forbidden fruit and did not give them the key. But I waited for all of that as God, by the spirit, had told me to do.

To this then are many witnesses, almost all of my chosen people who believe in me. And they were all completely happy with these, my spiritual marriages, and willing to wait for interc----- with me, as I was their holy husband.

The first of these, my beloved wives, was Stenya and Varya and the rest like unto them, who now in my absence, inspired by Satan himself and without taking account of our eternal holy new marriage, almost all of them, suddenly, because of their defiled lustfulness, have lifted their adulterous tails to the dogs like a b---- in heat. And all of them took themselves husbands who are not their lawful husbands but adulterous sons of Satan in bodily form, for which reason in these god-despised mismatches, they now indulge in adultery, like unclean beasts or defiled swine, and have become demon-possessed, by God's will.

For this reason, any children born of them are cursed or like the bastard children of prostitutes and all of these unlawful children are consigned, by God, to everlasting death without chance of resurrection, as it is written, without respite. And anyone who, today, will beat them, God will make holy for it.

It would have been better for all of you, my new wives, to have never known this, my new path, which is eternal for all who walk it rightly. For it is true, not false, just like an arrow, straight to Zion, destined. But you did not desire it but chose, instead, to go the way of adultery, like cattle with bulls or you with your cursed husbands. You have forgotten me, your God-annointed husband and king. For you all know very well what *my* spirit always clearly told you that you would not seek another husband besides me and not to give your virginity or holy Eve-like chastity to any deceiving serpent but only to me, your Adam. For what you had secreted in you was meant only for me, your God-given husband.

For this reason, I am filled with wrath for you, for you have all defiled yourselves and joined yourselves with cursed demons everywhere and I can have patience with you no longer. Only because of your need for salvation will I change my curse upon you but your husbands and children will eternally be cursed of me, and them, I will wipe off the face of the earth. But you, I'll again receive eternally, as wives, so as not to gratify this evil spirit of Satan, or to say, Simon Rudakoff and Maxim Plenin and Vasili Sikitin, for I remember that you were my eternal wives and concubines, like King Solomon within his worldwide kingdom.

Although it is very repugnant and defiling this, your devilish evil, in which you, in my absence, allowed demons to be delivered into you, but I will clean all of this with the sword and fire, off of your outer man, but inwardly I will apply my own salve and heal you down there. Then, in the wrath of my spirit, for your defilement of me, through your demon-possessed adultery, I'll give you all different names...not good names but perverted and even foul ones."

Remember this, the Elders would have us believe that this is the man God had hand-picked as our spiritual leader and new lawgiver, to take Christ's place upon the earth as His spokesman for the 1000-year kingdom. And, at this point in his writings, he begins to describe just how each of these seven girls defiled themselves with their husbands. This part is so obscene that even I will not translate it. So, we'll skip that part and continue:

"For this reason, you are not worthy to receive, with me, the primary glory in Israel and to be called with the holy seven names, according to the count of the seven spirits of God, which had been appointed to you by me before the creation of the world. Verily, these names will be given to my other new wives who are undefiled virgins, but you, I appoint now to only please me in physical union, or to more directly say, with such pumping of your much-used, broken woman's stomachs.

The children I will beget through you will be everlastingly blessed, as David did to his wife when she returned home to him. But if any of you will not submit to me or have my children, then those, right now, together with their demon-husbands, I'll kill and

I'll do the same thing with all those blasphemers and adulterers against this true spirit and those who hate me, the king of the world, like Simon and Levin, because of their sister, Denya, or like King David, because of his wife Melcholy, or maybe even more harshly, as in David's 100th Psalm: 'For these adulterers, with others' wives, always have judgment of death placed on them by God Himself.'

For as the holy Apostle Paul said, 'a woman is tied to her living husband, by the law, until his death and only then can she be joined to another.' And now, because of you and what you've done, I must again, a second time, choose out seven new wives, all chosen, undefiled virgins, which, for eternity, will not know the bed of another husband but me. And so I, their new husband, King, will place them over you all like mistresses and queens according to the Psalm in which David sings about presenting a queen on your right, in luxurious raiment, and they will lead forth the king of the virgins unto her, unto the house of the king and under the crown of the glory of all Israel...and immortality for all of us for 1000 years. And so I, in my day, with the aid of the holy spirit and the will of my God, will give all seven of these, my new wives, eternal holy names according to the title of their new heavenly names, by the number of the seven spirits of God *that eternally abide upon me.*"

There follows, a lengthy name-giving process to these girls who never became his wives, because he died. In Book 10, Maxim gives instructions on how to repair the damage done by these first seven. This takes the form of him taking a second sister of Efim Garasamitch, Anna, to wife so that she would be the new "mother-queen" and Maxim, in his spirit through her, would direct all of them in how to straighten out his kingdom community, there in Nikitina, during his absence and until his return.

Book 10, Article 15, beginning with Verse 8:

"Oh, the unspeakable messages and secrets of my God, which today, it is impossible for me to write out for I fear, lest I might anger Satan incarnate, which is to say Peter and Johnny, who are both sons of Satan, and all the other many like unto them who always aid them in their evil spirit of untruth, through whom

I was informed upon to the authorities of the darkness of this age and here I suffer reproach, in mockery, for the truth and now, how long I suffer and am punished because of them, innocently. They think I will submit to them and their beastly faith and bow down to their idols, as Stenya and Varya, who, because of their own adultery, went down on their knees before these sons of everlasting perdition and thus they gave joy to the god of my enemies, against whom I war because of all of you, my friends, who are the New Israel, members of Mount Zion.”

Maxim is speaking here of the Molokan church Elders who accepted these two girls back into the Faith.

“And, for which cause I ask you, my principal friend, Emilian, that you would, with haste again, erect what is needful to be lifted up in place of the fallen, she who will serve as mother of Zion, queen to all my new home. Let the daughter of the widow Klubnikin, Anna, await me, the father of Zion and the king of all my house, as an undefiled virgin in place of her sister, the half-dead Maria (*I wonder if this is the dead sister that Klubnikin sorrows for in Article 39, Page 665, in the book, Spirit and Life.*) with whom I will anew, a second time, light a fire in Zion and will, through her hands, with my spirit, bless all of you. Let, upon her, the words of the Scripture be fulfilled that the last shall be first and the first last.

For I also, in this generation, am last but in Zion, I am the premier king and prophet, for which reason I suffer here in prison confinement and will, for this reason inherit the world and she will sit on my throne in everlasting inheritance and our children, together with her, will reign for the whole 1000 years and we, as heirs of God, will never taste of death but rather be renewed every 100 years and because of our shared holy bed, our faces will shine in beauty like the light of the morning star or like the color of an apple tree against the green of the trees of the forest and even more so shall she and I shine amongst all of you, the sons and daughters of Zion.

And so, see that you quickly sew her raiment of clean linen, mixed with gold around the neck and hands, but the crown of gold I'll make myself for her. And so, also, always, you must feed her

with the best food and give her to drink of the water of life, from the spring of my fountain, until all her members are filled with the aroma of the paradise-like perfume and if the mother, Anna, will not allow this to be or she herself resists being my eternal wife and holy concubine, then I, in my day, will carry out upon them both a judgment by hot fire, changing their homes into ashes. And their seed I will cut off from under heaven like I did Stenya and Varya and both their accursed husbands and children, or as I did with Avdotsia, the widow of Zahario, who I caused to be burned alive, and also the home of Fetisif, because of her, will be totally destroyed by me.

For, every blasphemy against the spirit is never forgivable, for you all saw how her own grandfather, in the spirit, gave her right into my hands and how the prophet Emilian, in the spirit, married us publicly, to be wife and queen, and after this, she willingly followed after me as a real regular wife and not just for a time or like a concubine, as you all now think happened, now that I'm gone. But God is not mocked and the holy spirit will not be shamed by this marriage. What God joins, let no man put asunder.

Only the enemy of man, the Devil, does those things. And it was him that separated them both from me through the caresses of hands and the kissing about the face, at will. And they were the first to act like a b---- with dogs, sneaking around with lifted skirts in the dark, in secret, near my own paradise, and you, Emilian and Fetice, to this day, don't see what a role the Devil played through those adulteresses accursed of God. It would appear that you both, my good friends, on that night, were sound asleep with your own wives or did you both forget how I, your Lord, on my last night, brought them both to you and lay them down beside you, right in front of me, on your beds. You did not keep my instruction to you, that they both were my wives eternally, for which cause I am continually full of wrath against you, day and night, and cry over my separation from them although I knew that without me, Satan would soon take them for wives, for himself. For even while I was there, they tried to pull them away from me but were unable to for I always held them tightly in my hands, like the fruit of the vine of my new paradise-like vineyard or like fruitful olives under the brilliant heavens,

where always I shone upon them like the true light of the sun and the light of the star of my heavenly spirit, in which they always appeared with me upon my bed, in my bedroom, like holy seed for the marriage of the new paradise. But today I see them asleep, without me, upon the bed of Satan.

Oh Fetice and Emilian, am I not your Lord who asked you not to allow any unbelievers to ever enter the gathering in my house so that, secretly, the serpent could not enter my paradise to bring them to submission and to seduce them like Eve in the garden? But you both failed! Oh, you unfortunate cattle and fornicating animals, like pigs and rats. Now you both, for the sake of this devilish thrusting and kissing, agreed to exchange the Spirit of Truth for a lie, or to say, God for the Devil. Did you not yourselves prophesy that the truth did reign in us both forever and that God is within it, our kingdom on earth and in heaven? Or did you think, for a minute, I would separate from you in a good way? Am I not your principal Lord, by this spirit, that then, in both you and me, abided?

I went alone to this death-producing eternal cross of confinements, in which I ceaselessly am patient, like a fearless heavenly warrior who came down from the throne of the king with a sword of the unfeigned sayings of God, in which I'll not spare any head. Even if Satan himself gave me the whole universe in exchange for you, I, the servant of the Lord, would not be satisfied. Or, if all the kings' daughters were given to me as wives, in exchange for you, I'd not accept, for it is better to be alone with God than with countless sons and daughters of the Devil.

For I know that *out of one righteous man the whole earth can be populated* and that the tribes of the wicked will all perish from the earth, no matter who they are, for in my coming new day, they'll all burn like brush in the fire, but I, the jubilee king, together with all my faithful home, will reign on the earth forever and my land will include the entire earth, upon which will descend, everywhere, a visible peace and blessedness, Amen. And it will continue thus for the whole 1000 years and after that for all eternity."

In Book 10, between the 17th and 18th Articles:

“Command: A directive of the Spirit of Christ from the highest level, which is to say, the great god whose name is Enfael Savaghana Youlya, king of all the earth (*Maxim is speaking about himself here as this great god and king of the earth.*) to be read and acknowledged by all those who believe in him, first of all, Emilian and Anna, the widow of Garasamitch (*Klubnikin*), then her daughter, Anna, my newly betrothed, with whom I was joined eternally in marriage union, physically, in which she is to always be called my beloved wife, Felhelya, only be careful not to compromise or defile yourself with anyone but me, your king of the jubilee, for I am your eternal husband and jealous in my wrath for any adultery amongst my new wives. Anyone who would touch any of you will die, no matter who he is, Amen.

And so, after reading this spirit-inspired commandment, my friend, Emilian Enfaelovich, you are visibly to give her, from me, a verbal blessing with the laying on of your prophet hands on her head, with words of the giving of her title. ‘Be this young virgin, betrothed by name, Felhelya, with the rank of jubilee queen and always kept undefiled for your holy husband, named Felhiela, with the rank of jubilee king, and may you keep your holy bed chamber intact for the entire 1000 years, for your seed is holy, from which *shall be born all kings and priests*, servants of God on high.’ Then you, Emilian, must at this time, give her a big kiss for me and lead her right to your own home, like a bride for me chosen, where I will consummate our marriage or, to say, become married with the crown of the blessing of God from on high and then you, Emilian, are to place us together in our bed so that we can, *before you*, complete this secret, together with the joyful tunes of my songs, being unashamed before the whole congregation and the other women and virgins belonging to me will also stand there in my bedchamber, singing new songs about my marriage to her, every day for 1000 years.

Contents of this new song: ‘I am your new wife, Felhelya, I am the mother and queen of Zion. I am to replace Maria, my sister. I was born for you, my beloved, to be your eternal wife of which Anna, my mother, did not know a thing about until today. Through this marriage to you, my holy king, I wish to wipe away

all the sins of my father, Garasimova, and gain resurrection for all my dead relatives, to the third and fourth generation, and allow my mother to live in your home, with me, who you shall personally save from wrath. For truly, she is completely at fault before you, as are my brothers who all defiled themselves in like manner. Be not wrathful with them for they are my kindred and a part of the kingdom of New Israel. Let this, my song, always be a testimony before my God whom you, my king Felhiela, always served without trespassing his new law of love and law of judgment for the approaching new age and kingdom of peace on earth for 1000 years. And let our holy bedlife eternally reign in this physical love and insemination by us both, without end, in the labor of the spirit, and audible songs before all those standing in our bedroom.’ Amen. Glory to our God, Amen.

Then, this song, to be sung after our lovemaking is finished: ‘Amen. We thank you, Lord God Almighty, that you joined us so that we could enjoy ourselves in bed and for the physical passing of seed for the fulfillment, in us, of this great deed which you gave to Adam and Eve to do in the paradise, saying to them both, ‘grow, multiply and fulfill the earth.’ And today, Lord, you are faithful in all your words and none have been changed from the beginning, neither in heaven nor on earth. And we, your servants, willingly fulfill this labor of our marriage. We both ask you to grant us conception for the birth of a *holy race* which will inherit the earth as your sons and daughters, for *I and my wife are both gods of all the earth, Amen, verily.*’ Then follows the congratulations for the marriage in ‘new flaming tongues’ as each himself is directed, by the spirit, to speak in secret: ‘filfa, salma, xalmehar, youlxen, esvamel, darmehal, heendahoo.’”

The vision of the Spirit of Truth in Christ and the Apostle Paul, of transforming and reconciling animal-like Gentiles and self-righteous Jews, through the power of the Word and Spirit, to bring them both into a state of human kindness and then even going beyond that glory to the glory of bringing them unto a Godly, saintly, lustless, Christlike life, is all reversed in Maxim’s inspired vision. A vision of a kingdom of self-gratification, dedicated to producing holy children by virtue of passing his or our holy seed into multiple women while being waited upon hand and foot by Mohammedan slaves, *must be a delusion.*

This idea of holy sperm producing a holy special race of people that could be perpetuated merely by prophets and parents being inspired to lay their hands upon them, in blessing, is a 4,000 year old part of the old Testament. It has nothing to offer to those Molokan Christians who understand the wonder of our better calling to heavenly citizenship through Christ's life and Spirit working in us (Philippians 3:4,8,9,20). All such exclusiveness and carnality, as seen in Moses, David and Solomon, was to *end* in Christ, not begin all over again in this false christ, Maxim, and his New Israel vision of the 1000-year kingdom.

In the very next Article, the 18th, Maxim tells us that if we have any doubts about all of this, we need only to ask and receive confirmation in the revelations of his brother-in-law, Efim Klubnikin, brother of his third and ninth, wives, Maria and Anna.

“Who clearly explained about me, Maxim, and by whose revelations I have all this time had victory over all the enemies of God and the evil spirits under heaven.”

It's a fact that it *is* on the basis of the revelations of Klubnikin that Rudometkin is honored to this day, in our brotherhood, as a spiritual, kinglike leader. For although almost none of Maxim's predictions came to pass, many believe that some of Klubnikin's did. You can balance that against what Maxim tells us next.

For it seems he was not the only one who could enjoy multiwives, as he sets forth in Book 8 between the 19th and 20th Articles:

“The song about the beginnings of this 1000-year kingdom of Christ, which has, in us, begun to be shown forth in this new law for the flesh, which is a marriage union inspired by this new, ardent, holy, eternal love, as I illustrated by my union to my wives, Semeramida, (*he elsewhere explains this word, “Semeramida”, in tongues, as meaning “his seven wives.”*) and my friend, Matsvey, who is the crowning *beginning of my kingdom* for I was inspired to marry him a second time, to his new wife, Mendamerayoo. And, everyone else who today wishes to become betrothed again, can. But only with whomever I choose.

All others who have been married the *old-fashioned way (the Molokan marriages)* are adulterously married and I'll join them

to cattle and beasts and, without mercy, will cast them out of Zion, to the four corners of the earth, with their children following them into that dim, dark land. For all of that seed was begotten upon *defiled beds* anyway. (*Anyone lacking his personal blessing as the god of the earth.*) The only exceptions will be those undefiled virgins from amongst them, whom I will choose for myself. All of them I will direct right to my home and bed, giving them titles as I wish, as did Moses when he divided the girls taken prisoner and the other spoils amongst the princes of Israel, Amen.”

The “old-fashioned marriages” referred to above were any Molokan marriages, at that time, other than the new ones that he commanded, in his ritual, and blessed by this “new” spirit, through Emilian and Fetice. From this, it is easy to see his inspired opinion of any Molokan, then and now, not belonging to his New Israel religion. This brings us back to what he now shares with us, concerning his justification of not only the 16 women he has already set aside, but for taking as many of the virgin heathen as he is inspired to do also.

Book 6, Article 9, from the beginning:

“And the righteous, who have the spirit, will all remain to live on earth and reign with Christ 1000 years, for which reason they, *right now*, ahead of time, in this new promised spirit, always, everywhere, *lovingly kiss* and publicly become betrothed and married as a bridegroom and bride and are joined in formal marriage, making an eternal covenant for their indissolvable wedded life for 1000 years, as did Adam and Eve or like Solomon did with his hot lover, Sheba.

And, of course, as the example of the slain Lamb, *who now*, always, eternally, is being joined with his undefiled wife on Mount Zion. And *also today*, my own inspired liberty to fulfill this, in like manner, for the entire 1000 years upon the court of the king of spirits, where, because of my victory, they will bring before me all the best, choice, undefiled virgins, all dressed up in different colors and perfumes of sweet-smelling paradise-like scents.

The workings of holy spirit and new flaming tongues and the physical love of flaming union will bring them straight to me, their husband, their crowned head and leader for the *insemination* of my *seed* by *word* and *flesh*. For all seven, in the holy spirit, are like a queen with her king...as Isaiah says, ‘seven women shall lay hold and join themselves to one man whom God himself shall call His Son and the director of the 1000-year kingdom on the earth...’ Faithful is the Holy One of Israel to choose him as king for the New Israel, for the 1000 years together with his seed after him, Amen.”

This astounding, sickening display of carnality is immediately followed in the 10th Article with him comparing himself to Noah and the eight souls who entered the Ark, while anyone not in accord with this preaching of this new law of liberty of new marriages and, instead, practicing the old-fashioned Molokan marriage of one wife, are called accursed adulterers who will perish in the flood of God’s wrath. Oh, what a mischief the Elders did by omitting such thoughts! It was like asking the Molokan brotherhood to go to the grocery store and pick up a sack of groceries that someone else had selected for them, while being unaware of what was in the bottom of the sack or of the contents of some of the prepared meals that we’ve been eating for 70 years now and have acquired a taste for. These are foods or beliefs that our Molokan forefathers never believed.

This spirit caused Maxim to believe he was exactly like Noah, he and the seven girls making up the eight souls saved to begin the new world, saying such things as:

“For I know that from one righteous man, God can populate the whole earth.”

“I am the spirit and the bride who has appeared as the third person in the Trinity.”

“I am like a seven-runged ladder beneath heaven, for upon me, all the powers of heaven ascend and descend with the prayers of the holy.”

Now, unless we ourselves are deceived by this same “new” spirit, we can clearly see that *none* of these things are true of him. Let’s

add up the sum total of what this sack of groceries is going to cost us, by God's accounting, and see if the sweet promises of cookies, ice cream and candy (of being this "special" people), is worth it. Perhaps we should just take it all back to the store that we picked it up from and tell him to send the bill to the Elders in 1928, who placed the order. Let's exchange it for the Molokan diet of preparing meals *exclusively* from the Holy Bible. Perhaps it would now be instructive to look further into the mind, that this spirit caused Maxim to have, in regard to his opinion of the faith of our Molokan forefathers and that of his own contemporary *Spiritual* Molokan co-workers.

Nowhere is this spirit's intent or his high-mindedness so evident than in the fact that he did not include any of them as partakers in his New Israel religion. Since he acknowledged no peers nor any line of leadership or kingly descent beyond himself, he saw that he needed helpers of some kind. After all, he was king of not only the physical world but over all the spirit world also.

So, typically, this "new" spirit chose for this tremendous task, not other brethren who might resist, but seven, simple, teenaged, Russian peasant girls, as wives and queens, to act as commanders over us. ("E.R.A." before its time.) Although he speaks glowingly, as if, about these men elsewhere, here he tells us what he was inspired to really believe about the Faith of his Elders and Molokan forefathers. In this passage, he does not even mention Sokoloff or Bulhokov as part of the growth of the Molokan Faith. In fact, later, he rejects them as enemies of this "new" spirit upon him and the cause for having to create this new religion out of this single kernel of harvest wheat (Maxim), this religion that you and I partially belong to (thanks to the Elders in 1928).

We begin in Book 9, Article 31, from the beginning:

"Here is the total sum of the whole Molokan Faith, which today can be illustrated as a field, planted and with a bountiful harvest. It is evident that this plant itself is divided into four parts, for the harvest is at hand. I will tell you what it (*the Molokan plant*) looks like. Listen, those who have ears.

First part is the root which came forth from the seed that has long since rotted away into dust...that's Semyon (*Uklein?*). Second part is the blade and stem which came forth out of that root and,

for a long time, grew there until the harvest and the trampling began...that part is Ponfir. The third part is the head of grain in which matured the flowering grain until the time came for the fierce threshing and winnowing...this part is Tiroshka. (*The preacher of the Molokan church that Maxim had belonged to, before making his own religion.*) The fourth part is the clean *kernel* (singular) which, with great labor, was winnowed out...this is Maxim.

This was the *whole purpose* that the good farmer labored, so that with *him*, he could fill his garner with wheat in his beloved city. The farmer of this field is Christ, our Lord. The harvest is the holy spirit, the threshing and winnowing is its powerful works. So, it is very evident that all worm-eaten and immature grain is threshed and flies away from the actions of the spirit and is burned in the fire of Gienna. And also, every poor winnowing paddle (*the wives, Stenya and Varya, who escaped his harem*) is thrown into Tiroshka's home (*where the girls married normal boys*) and will be immediately chopped up by axe and thrown into the same fire, where all of these will burn for time without end. Amen."

In other words, the only harvestable Elder of the Molokan Faith, the *only* good fruit it produced, was the mind we have been reading about, Maxim. "Do you believe that?"

Well, some would say that here, he was talking about those "good for nothing" Postoyanee Molokans and those who "blasphemed" the Holy Spirit by not submitting to what this "new" spirit directed them to do in these writings. Well, if that is so, I personally do not know even one person in the brotherhood today who does not qualify for the name, "Postoyanee" Molokan. For I know not of *even one person who does* what this "new" spirit commanded.

However, let's assume you are right and he is talking here about "Postoyanee" Molokans and not to such Spiritual Molokans as L.P. Sokoloff or D.Y. Bulhokov. Turn to Book 9, Article 14, after the 9th verse, in the originals, and see what he thinks of these founders of the Spiritual Molokans. (Not exactly membership applications for his New Israel religion.)

“Where we had already lived for sometime, before his arrival in the Trans-Caucasus, and then, this Lukian Petrovitch Sokoloff soon made his appearance, together with a few other families, to live in Delizan. And there, many adherents gathered to him, prophets, prophetesses, like unto the foremost of them, Fyodir Ospovich Bulhokov and Maxim G. Rudometkin. And together, we, in *one spirit* rejoiced and reigned many days or *until* there crept into Fyodir Ospovich (David Yesseyivitch) a deceptive ceremony and a spirit of jealousy in which he produced those antichristlike symbols and deceived the Godly true spiritual Christians who, out of their ignorance of *his lying spirit* accepted them with rejoicing, for money, and hung them upon their chest and neck.

Thus, they followed after, as in the beginning, the two-horned beast when it introduced, to all Christianity, the new idol worship and blessing of the seven-headed beastly councils (*Ecumenical Councils*) who had given, to be publicly displayed, their demon crosses and symbols upon their chests and necks. Because Matsvey Seymyonich Dalmatoff would not accept such things, he died on the deadly rack.

Oh Fyodir Ospovich! What an evident evil you produced before God which He never, anywhere, desired. Such an evil, visible, ritualistic faith. Oh Fyodir, were you not, in this time, used to fill the will of the spirits of the abyss under the guise of the holy, heavenly Trinity? You hereby *ruined the peaceful kingdom* and the new law of fellowship and holy Christian love which *could have eternally* united us into a New Israel union.

Oh Elder, Lukian Petrovitch (Sokoloff), aren't you the first to be blamed, *more than anyone else* for these enticing Satanic symbols and ribbons which you, before anybody else, hung upon yourself, by the hands of Fyodir Ospovich? Then, afterward, you both, for money, hung them on anyone who would come to you. By this, you both became *fearful enemies to the Spirit of Truth, which eternally* reigns in Maxim's home. You both ruined all your many diverse works before God. In the fearful day of judgment, there will appear for you a *great torment* for you *both* fell into the lies and jealousy of the ancient serpent, the deceiver of all the earth.

But Maxim, who is always a faithful servant of the Lord, for his long patient suffering, has triumphed over this serpent and *both of you*, his *tormentors* in spirit. For he knew that true *holy love* can overcome all symbols and such false religion's Satanic deceptions, into which you both had fallen, *together with all other sons and daughters of the Devil, Amen.*"

So here, we can clearly see his inspired judgment on them and on us. For, other than only a very small group of devout followers, I don't know of a soul who prays to Maxim for his blessing and guidance, in our current brotherhood. I do see an awful lot of dishonest parading and posturing about, in his "new" spirit, though. They are to be pitied more than censored. We can see also, from this, that the "good old days", when our Spiritual Molokan forefathers were supposedly being saints, isn't so.

This was what was really going on: The one side was selling medals and ribbons and the other side was taking second wives and concubines. Thank God for the Scriptural background that held us, like some rock in a raging torrent, of such corrupt high-mindedness. We can see, now, that it is not something we can lightly say when we talk about having the faith of our forefathers. We're going to have to be more selective than that.

For this reason, we tried to point out, in the beginning of Book #1 of this series, what our "connection" and source of inspiration must be. Compare those suggestions with what Maxim, here, requires his "New Israel" subjects to be connected to.

Book 9, Article 23, from the beginning:

"Greetings to you, the people of my fathers! You are eternally, *through me*, a blessed generation and by the spirit of my Lord, relatives of one Godly, brotherly seed, for which reason I came to you. And you must first accept me as your primary conqueror and because of my long-term suffering, you should right now, willingly, give me a pleasant rest and reverent daily greetings, together with your gifts, as befits my being your king and also, to all my holy household with which I will peaceably, upon you, reign for 1000 years. For I will have no enemies before me or blasphemers of the Spirit of Truth, only you faithful people who always abide in *my* spirit, which has already begun to reign

before you all in my new wife, Semeramida, which is to say, ‘my seven reigning commander wives’, who will eternally be my first queens and counselors in all my works, spiritual and material, Amen, truly.”

And we thought we were in good hands with Allstate Insurance! For those extremely hard of hearing or those still having trouble seeing through these glasses that I’ve shared with you, just a few more quotes to demonstrate the love, compassion, meekness, long-suffering and humility that this “new” spirit provided Maxim as he wrote to his *closest* friends, the *one church* who had received him wholeheartedly.

Book 10, Article 13, Verse 2:

“During our flourishing calm, every anathema and violator of another man’s wives will be driven right out of Zion (*he speaks of the boys who married those young girls who had escaped his harem*) and beyond. Every blasphemer and *deserter* from *my* holy spirit, I will quickly, without hesitation, *hang* upon the trees of the city, as happened to John Efanoff who also, at one time, was a prophet in *my* spirit. Later, he hung himself on an oak tree, like Judas did. For the judgment of my God caught up with him so that all like him would await the same. For, like him, they will not escape God’s judgment. Beware, anyone else who would want to pray for Stenya and Varya or their husbands or children. For they too will be eternally cursed, together with them, by *my* spirit.”

“What was Stenya’s and Varya’s great sin?” Refusing to be his concubines! Imagine any 50-year old Elder terrorizing young women in this manner, much less girls whom *he* had disgraced, not they him.

In the 10th Book, Article 11, Verse 6, he sounds like some Nazi S.S. man (compare with the 1928 version):

“And also, both of those winnowing shovels, Stenya and Varya, with whom I cleansed my Zion of the trash of Simon’s home, (*the Molokan church in Nikitina*) and his noisy Babylon. Look that you quickly march them both *right into the fire* so that they no longer defile my God-blessed home. When I return home again to you, I will again gather new ones for myself, not two

more, but seven this time, all of them undefiled virgins, right from those same homes, from Matsvey, Ivan and Garasima (*Klubnikin*). For, when I was departing them, I, in the heat of my flaming spirit, gave three of them a beating, right on their private parts. Because of this, they hurriedly brought forth to me, from their homes, *new ones* which I accepted from them, in like number, right into my home.

For I am the inspired King of Spirits, prophet and *bridegroom of maidens*. For I *destroy (the Molokan Faith)* and again rebuild anew. Likewise, like me, Emilian and Fetice are heirs of the world and beyond them, do not seek others anyplace else. I am firmly placed, by God Himself, upon the rock and forever immovable. *I am* the gates of Zion, more beloved than all the cities of Jacob. He that enters *by me* into Zion will never leave. *I am* a seven-runged ladder under heaven and up and down me the power of heaven passes with the prayers of the saints.”

From this, I hope the prophets today understand the reluctance of Elders to believe every inspired activity without close examination of its content. Why the anger in the prophet on such occasions? If it *is* God who blew the note, the *trumpet* need have no anger at our listening very carefully to see if it is off-key or out of beat with the score and words written by Christ, in the music of God’s Word.

We are not Postoyanee, we just don’t want another Maxim in our midst. Let me offer, now, a last small example of what a few changed words can do. In the very beginning of the 14th Book, words are changed in an attempt to conceal the fact that *this* whole book is *also* written to his multi-wives and concubines in the Nikitina church and *not* to our Molokan churches.

Book 14, 1928 version:

“A lasting reproach for all my new wives (churches) who have not observed with me (Zion’s leader) the spiritual unity made by God for my *eternal covenant* with them, for the seed of immortality of all of us, together for 1000 years.”

By simply adding two words and omitting three, the 1928 Elders changed the entire meaning of the real letter.

In the originals:

“A lasting reproach for all of my new wives who did not maintain, with me, our *new* wedding and God-inspired marital union for my eternal marital covenant with them and our *immortal seed* in all of us for the whole 1000 years.”

I should think these few examples prove, to even the greatest Maxim and Efim fan in the brotherhood, that what we now have on our church altars is an intentional, systematic, gross misrepresentation of what was actually said. It required the years between 1915 and 1928 for the Elders to reach accord, amongst themselves, as how to best substitute their own thoughts for those thoughts of this “new” spirit, acting upon Maxim, by not writing what it had commanded but, instead, what they wished that it had said.

We, as a brotherhood, have built much of what we are now upon this foundation of sand, the sand of men’s minds, masquerading as the mind of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, the only true source of God’s Word. It is our Molokan right to also know just what these Elders found so repugnant in 40% of D.Y. Bulhokov’s writings, that they too were left unpublished.

If our Faith comes by hearing, as the Scripture says, then such censorship is like asking us to scale Mount Everest partially blindfolded. We must know *what*, of what we believe in, has come straight through Christ’s mind in the Scriptures and what was filtered through such minds as Maxim. Now that we have seen the evidence of what a spirit can do, even to a man as gifted as Maxim, “Isn’t it about time we matured enough not to be so amazed at spirit manifestation that we are induced to serve and follow them simply on the basis of what they enable a man to perform?” (Foretelling events, healings, unknown flaming tongues, etc.)

We know that the innumerable angelic or spirit world outnumber humans. Fully, one third of these are not subject to God and none of them is as perfected in love, grace, truth or wisdom as Christ Jesus. All of them, however, have *great powers tremendous minds* and *access* to any of us. They are, therefore, capable of *causing* events to happen, about which they can prophesy. They don’t have to read a paper or watch the news. They are not only privy to any event going on right now, but also to anything that has happened.

While we lowly humans know only what we hear and see from our limited vantage point and short life's experiences, they have existed for thousands of lifetimes and *know* how humans will act and react. They travel unimpeded by time and space, undetected and able to enter anyone's thought processes. Events, seemingly miraculous and hidden from any man, can be known and accomplished by them and shared with us while *not being* inspired of God at all...used for a deception that their minds create to lead us, even a little, away from God.

God seems to allow this as a means of testing our maturity, wisdom and faithfulness to Him and His Son. "Will we follow after and worship the thoughts and ideas of angels or spirits?" (Galatians 1:6-8) Inspired power in any man proves *only* angelic *presence* and *not* that it (what he will say) is true or even from the mind of God. The angels have their own minds too. At one time they thought to cohabit with women, producing a race of giants on the earth.

We must test the truth of what is said and done against the *proven* prophetic word of God, in the Scripture. It is *this* spirit of prophecy, from the beginning, that is the testimony (or proof) that Jesus is the Son of God. The testimony of Jesus *is* the spirit of prophecy (Revelation 19:10) because all the prophets spoke and described him perfectly so that we would believe no other substitute. That's why the Spirit of Truth, sent by Christ, will witness, *not of itself*, but of *Him*, not of some third person in the Trinity to believe in, seek after, honor, and worship, *together* or in place of Christ!

Christ never asked us to believe *in* the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter. He told them to *receive it* but to believe on him and His Father. "Are we to believe *in* the spirit?" No. We are to *walk* in it (Romans 8:1-4) as Christ did. Its presence in our mind should be *renewing* it (Romans 12:2) so that we might have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16) and through *that* mind, we should be considering things going on around us (Philippians 2:3-5) and not leaning unto our own or any other reasoning.

The Spirit of Truth was sent to replace Christ's *physical* presence *with* the Apostles and us, with his *spiritual mind in us*, until he returns. So, let us joyfully *receive* such a Spirit and no other. Rejoice in it, love in it, be comforted by it. But do not *believe* in or worship or accept any spirit as a substitute for Christ. His presence in us should, as he said,

bring our minds unto *remembrance* of all things that *he* taught (John 14:26). It should draw us to the Bible like a *magnet* and not away from it, as with the “new” spirit in Maxim’s case, producing its own Scripture, lifestyle and faith, in things Christ never had in his mind.

The spirit in Maxim directed its subject to be constantly involved, in mind and body, with it and its never-ending actions and proceedings and non-existent languages (Book 10, Article 10, Verse 11). This is set forth as the *ideal* and far better than carrying forward the “dead bones” of Scripture and Bible study. What this spirit’s directive *really* accomplished is a *diversion* in which any spirit can occupy the mind and life to such an extent that the Biblical Christ can be nearly lost sight of entirely. From such a spirit involvement, flee. Seek after only the Spirit that builds and increases Christlike attitudes and reactions in you for the others and for God. Seek the Spirit of reconciliation, not strife and division.

If it be uniqueness, separation, being a peculiar people, a royal priesthood that we seek, then I suggest we seek it in the image of Christ rather than the faith and image of our forefathers. Let us endeavor to bring every thought into captivity, not to the obedience *to* Christ but to the obedience *of* Christ. As we strive to live up to such an ideal, even the most illustrious amongst us will be honestly humble and meek. For our *evident* lack of having reached such a goal will keep us honest in our assessment of ourselves. Any giftedness will cause us to stand in awe of our God rather than of one another. Being together should be like a short visit with Christ himself. In seeking to walk in *that* Spirit and light that gave him such a mind and earthly walk, we *shall* be unique, a bride prepared.

All we really need, to begin with, is the simple honesty to admit that there is *no such thing* in the brotherhood as a *real*, New Israel. It’s *all* an un-Scriptural, deceiving *myth*. There is not one Molokan mother or daughter willing to have her husband chosen for her, out of a barrel, nor even one who would agree to have her husband take a second wife, just because he now jumps. No parent exists, who would be willing to give their teenage daughter, as wife, to a prophet who already was in possession of two wives, no matter how beautiful the songs he composes or how moving the prayers he prays or how fantastic the rituals he creates or how glorious the promises he makes, even if he had healing powers or even if he could raise the dead.

If such a prophet did succeed in enticing a daughter to marry him, with glowing descriptions of honor, prestige and new heavenly names, or even with dire threats upon her life or that of her family, as Maxim did, there is not a parent alive who would not have him arrested and removed, in shame, from out of the brotherhood. “If what Maxim admits happened, in his day, ever occurred today, can you think of a *single* individual in the brotherhood who would then be willing to *honor* such an Elder as a prophet, lawgiver and principal spiritual leader, with the prerogatives of a King Solomon?” “Who could believe him worthy to create a *new way of worship* for us or his claims to be a god or our god?” “Is it *rational* to think that the third person of the Trinity could die in a Soviet prison cell?”

This is all too preposterous to believe, even of the *most ignorant* or *fanatical* amongst us. So all we need to do is pray for the one most important trait of the Spirit of Truth to manifest itself in us, *simple honesty*, as to what he and we *are*.

However, after speaking with many non-New Israel Molokan Elders, I see one problem that hinders such honest action. They point to Matthew 13:29 and say, “Let the tares and wheat grow together.” But what are we to do with the problem when the tares and wheat have mixed, through marriage, and then live with and create the strife over *who* the grandchildren will be at home and in church, as in Matthew 13:7, where the thorns *hinder* fruit in the *good* seed.

But the tares of Maxim’s New Israel are not sown in the night in our brotherhood. They are sown in *broad daylight*, from a book we hold as sacred Scripture, right on our altars, in church. Therefore, I have almost no hope that this generation of Elders can or will take any action. “It was good enough for my father, and it is good enough for me” is as far back as they seem to want to trace their connection with the Faith of Christ. Change is synonymous with sacrilege with the peer pressure-cooker environment they have created for themselves.

I see no reason that this should hinder the next generation of young Molokan Elders who need only patience until they can exchange myth for fact and honesty for duplicity. They must now, personally, study and qualify themselves for this task. A closer walk with Christ will be their reward for the battle scars they will surely receive.

We've shared some of the worst here so that you will not be beguiled by the flowery, powerful, Scriptural-sounding words of this "new" spirit, found elsewhere in Maxim's writings. If the Apostle Paul had advocated such things, I'm sure *none* of his writings would *ever* have been included, even by the Greek Orthodox Catholic monks who originally collected the New Testament letter-writings into one book. This "new" spirit was *either* God-sent or it was *not*. James 3:11 says that sweet and bitter water does *not* flow from one fountain. The same is true of Klubnikin's contribution, whose source of inspiration was in complete accord with Rudometkin. It seems evident to me that this "new" spirit used them both in the same pointless way that it did me and my associates.

I offer this work by way of repentance. I covet your prayers for God's forgiveness of myself, them and the Elders whose publication created this myth that has allowed the perpetuation of this profound error in us and others to this present day. I certainly *do not advocate* that anyone *leave* our Molokan brotherhood over these things I reveal here, or join any of the many Gentile Christian religions surrounding us. My personal investigation of them all proves to me that they each suffer from worse error than the Molokans. The thoughts and words of their own forefathers are also accepted as *the* Gospel truth and the criteria within which members must live or get out.

We should truly value the mind of Uklein, the father of the Molokans, that allowed him to accept Dalmatoff as a brother, even though their beliefs were *very* different, initially. They ended up each being enriched by God's work, in the mind of the other. Uklein, in this way, originated the unique Molokan freedom to share with others what we *believe* to be true, not dogmatically stating, "I know it to be true." No one *knows* anything beyond his short life's experience and he has a biased view of even that.

God *knows* we only *believe*, each a little different than the other. Yes, I thank God we have not the spirit of our former Catholic forefathers, with their inquisitions, crusades and tortures upon anyone not in accord with the majority, each of us allowing for the different level of maturity in the other, yet all children of the same Father, allowing the uniqueness of each separate vessel being formed in the hand of the same potter, into the use he has preordained for them in His great house.

Therefore, for individual growth, there is no finer foundation in the world, that I know of, whereupon one may build the life, the faith, and the mind of Jesus Christ, than our Molokan Christian brotherhood. Even though this freedom allowed the “new” spirit in Maxim to create what it has, it also allows me and you *not to be bound by it* (I John 4:1). We each have the liberty to share with the others our individual beliefs while the listener has the freedom of accepting or rejecting statements of another or even those professing inspiration for their words. In no other organized religion would it be possible for me to share with you what I have and still remain your brother. This individual freedom to “work out *our* salvation with fear and trembling before God and not man”, is *lifegiving* but only if we *choose* to work it out rather than let someone else do the thinking for what I will do the answering.

I urge every Molokan brother and sister to utilize this freedom to seek out the mind, Faith and life of Jesus Christ and make it your personal possession. We will not be presented to God, by Christ, as a “Molokan brotherhood” but as individual members of *his* body, who have learned to live and act in *coordination* with his thoughts, thoughts sent down the nervous system of his body, or to say his Holy Spirit of Truth, into our individual minds, causing us to understand and apply the holy word we daily study, creating in us a health and strength to overcome the pull of temptation in our minds before it becomes a carnal manifestation that separates us from God in His purity.

The knowledge that we have no special privileged position with God, due to deeds or words of our forefathers, must act as a *spur* to get on with the *work* of adding *sanctification* to our beliefs. The greatest danger that the doctrine of this “new” spirit possesses for us is the feeling of *security* and *complacency*, produced by the thought that we Molokans *have* a special blessing by virtue of our membership in the Molokan faith.

God, from the beginning, set before his children the things that produce His blessing or His curse over us. If I persist in things that bring a curse, no amount of laying on of hands will change it. If I persevere in doing blessed things, I have my blessing whether there is a laying on of hands or not. This type of complacency could deter me from *proving* whether I am “in the Faith” (II Corinthians 13:5), a functioning part of *Christ’s* body.

For I know, by personal experience, that it is possible to be active in the spirit, know all the right songs, prayers and sermons and still, like Maxim, *not* have the mind of Christ. I thank you all for the mind of Christ *in you* that allowed me to share these thoughts with you.

May He grant you gifts (Ephesians 4:12-15) of His Spirit “*for the perfecting of the saints*”, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ...till we all come in the unity of Faith and *knowledge* of the Son of God unto a *perfect* man...unto the measure and stature of the *fullness* of Christ. That we henceforth *be no more* as children, tossed to and fro and carried with *every wind* (spirit) of doctrine by the cunning and craftiness of *men* whereby they lie in wait to *deceive*. But, *speaking the truth in love*, we may *grow up* into Him, in *all* things, who is the head, even Christ (Philippians 3:15). Let us therefore, *as many* as be *mature*, be *thus* minded and if in anything you be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you, Amen.

Remember, *any day now*, you will be suddenly living with Christ like you are right now with your own marriage partner. How compatible your mind is with his mind, in that hour, will determine whether heaven will be heavenly or a great disappointment to you both. “Are the things you are attracted to, occupied with and enjoy, available in His Father’s house?”

There is *no getting* of any kind there, *only* the joy that comes with *giving, serving* and *submitting* in a meek and gentle spirit, living up to Christ’s expectations and his Father’s expectations of a wife. “What does our current mind and lifestyle tell Him about ourselves as a prospective bride?” Think about *such* thoughts and they will transform your life. In your *flesh* there dwells no good thing (Romans 7:18). So let *that* mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, for everything else stays here and perishes. Only your mind survives death, passing into the glorious world to come. “As a man thinketh in his heart, *so he is.*” May sharing this with you bless *that* part of you to grow and prosper, beloved brethren. Amen.

Elder Paul A. Efseaff

If you have benefitted from what we have shared with you, we would like to hear from you, for future publications, or even perhaps meet in your area with others of the same mind. God bless you. Pray for us and thank you for your concern.