

CONVERSATIONS IN HELL

by Cleveland O. McLeish

Seven demons are seated around a round, shiny mahogany table. Diablo, the head demon, is carefully scanning through a four inch thick file. There are three other files seated neatly on the table and over two dozen stacked neatly in a little corner. A single light above the table barely illuminates the area of this rather small conference room.

The demons wait patiently and quietly for their leader to address them. Finally, Diablo closes the file and slowly rest it on the table.

DIABLO: Has everyone seen this file?

YAKO: Among others, yes!

RAPHAEL: It would appear that we under estimated Jehovah, Master.

DIABLO: No! You under estimated His creation. I thought I could trust you with this matter.

FELICE: We did what we could, sir.

DIABLO: It wasn't good enough. Do you realize that there are billions of them now. Imagine what would happen if just half of those become believers---the results would be catastrophic.

HUSANE: Sir..,I think this is a matter of cause and effect.

DIABLO: Meaning?

HUSANE: Fifty percent of human reproduction is a direct result of Teenage pregnancies, fornication and adultery. Aren't we then the true reason for our little dilemma.

DIABLO: Then we must find a way to fix it.

KEINO: Have you seen the newspaper clippings, sir?

DIABLO: I haven't seen the recent ones, if that's what you mean.

Keino gets up and walks over to the stack of files. He runs his finger over the headings one by one until it stops on a specific one. He withdraws this file from the stack and walks back to his seat.

Diablo takes the file and opens it. The first clipping had the following headline:

"Twelve year old boy shot dead in a barber chair."

Diablo turns the page to see the other clipping:

'Bloody Bashment: Gunmen opens fire on Five children coming from a birthday party.'

Diablo scans through quickly reading the other headings; his smile intensifying with each turning of the page.

DIABLO: Twenty Five years ago this would be almost impossible.

KEINO: Twenty Five years ago this file would be non-existent.

SEAN: Has Heaven's defenses deteriorated?

DIABLO: No! Jehovah still protects children in a special way.

KEINO: Lucky for us, ancestors give very little consideration to their future generation when they willingly partake in our banquets.

SEAN: Meaning?

DIABLO: Many children have the consequences of their forefathers sin to bear. And we know what the wages of sin are, now don't we.

HUSANE: Let us not forget the curse humans placed on their own heads.

YAKO: "Let His blood be on us and on our children!" They yelled.

DIABLO: To this day, humans are yet to learn that life and death are in the power of the tongue. You can **never** take back what is said!

Silence. Diablo puts the file away.

DIABLO: This is good. But for every one that dies, a hundred more are born globally. Even if we were to initiate a global war we would never be able to tip the scale to our favour.

SEAN: Speaking of which, have you seen the recent reports?

DIABLO: I didn't get a chance to look at it prior to this meeting.

Sean reaches for one of the files on the table and opens it.

SEAN: According to recent survey, adolescence spend 1500 hours watching television and only 900 in school annually. By the time a child finishes elementary, he would have seen 8000-10000 murders. This figure would double by the end of high school.

Sean closes the file and puts it back in place.

SEAN: That means, by the time a human reaches forty, he would have spent 10 years watching television.

The demons smile.

DIABLO: Ah! But there is more. Let's take it from the beginning.

Diablo closes his eyes to collect his thoughts. The others lean a little closer. They have heard this story a million times but it only keeps getting better.

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DIABLO: Jehovah has no beginning. His origin is and will always be a mystery to us. We know that there are certain scriptures that are labeled 'Givens' meaning there are no explanations. Genesis 1 begun, 'In the beginning God...' No clue as to where this God came from or his purpose in creating Heaven and earth. So we are left to assume that the forever Jehovah is perfect. He alone defines perfection and God could not create God. What he could create was an image or a likeness of Himself, which means that anything He creates will have a flaw. Therefore, He created humans with free-will. He foreswear any and all opportunity to use force against them. Now we have become the greatest flaw in His perfect plan. I initiated sin in the heart of man. Not that it was all that difficult. All I did was magnify the evil that was already there. We have understood that man is driven by his greed and lust...it is this soar point that we have applied the most pressure and have seen the greatest results.

Diablo leans forward, his elbow rests on the table before him.

DIABLO: This is the theory behind the conflicts that exist in church today and even leaders are ignorant still to this fact. They think it's a lack of abundance of love, but love was never really a problem. The standards or laws that Jehovah set was always too high for His imperfect creation, so what do they do? They create their own laws, devise their own theories...like a wheel within a wheel and they teach these as truths. Worship has been redefined from a way of life to simple gestures and shouts that are usually prompted and that is what Christians place the most emphasis on, especially young people. Do you know what that means?

RAPHAEL: Means they have 'forswear' their greatest mandate.

DIABLO: Exactly! Only 10 % of Beleivers acknowledge the mandate outlined in St. Mark 16:15, 9 % see Phillipians 2 as a personal Revelation and 1/10th of 1 % know that Proverbs 6:16-19 exist. What excites me even more is that the leaders of assembly are revising the teachings of the church. They encourage members to get back to the Word, but what they don't know is that less than half an hour is allotted to Scripture reading in any given week which amounts to less than 26 hours for the year!

HUSANE: What will their answer be?

DIABLO: Yet...there are more important matters to discuss. We have to find a way to force human reproduction into a massive decline.

Pause

DIABLO: Men are, of course, the basic element in the reproduction cycle...and to define a man would be to say that he is driven by his own lust and greed. So...there are many angles of approach to this matter.

HUSANE: Yako and myself have made a distinct discovery while studying the human manuals. All cultures, whether Christian or non-christian defines man as the bread winner of the family. All we have to do is convince the proper authorities to elevate the cost of living.

YAKO: In that way we eliminate...everything that is free, even education. This will force everyone to seek some form of employment for their own survival.

HUSANE: Only, there will not be enough honest jobs available for the now desperate men. But of course there will be tons of dis-honest jobs that pay very well.

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YAKO: A man will do anything to survive. Guns will fall off the market like chewing gums! The prisons will be over crowded; the graves will expand like hell itself.

DIABLO: That should take care of 15% of the population. Let us hear what valuable contributions Felice and Raphael can make.

FELICE: The human form defines what is art. We can simply use their own bodies against them.

RAPHAEL: We are thinking of world wide pornography. We introduce this on all levels from advertisement to billboards to public newspapers. We practically make it an occupation; a career.

FELICE: We'll have phone sex, cyber sex; every twisted sexual activity that a mind can conjure up and it will become a way of life for many...a secret door to pleasure.

RAPHAEL: Nudity is marketable. It is 80% of the population's interest. We start from the mild. A centre- spread star girl perhaps, wearing nothing at the top...then as the desires increase we introduce more...more...more until a man's appetite for sex cannot be satisfied with having just one partner...

FELICE: Adultery and fornication, the very thing that Jehovah hates, will be rampant. Even in the church. The scent of sin will stifle heaven...the atmosphere will be utterly polluted. Humans will think of nothing but sex and they will build their very lives around the act.

SEAN: Yes. But wouldn't that contribute greatly to our problem.

FELICE: Not if we can come up with a way for humans to protect themselves from pregnancies...and diseases during sexual activity.

RAPHAEL: If humans had a way of having sex without fear...there is nothing that could possibly stop them from carrying out their fantasies.

FELICE: Fantasies that we ourselves will create. By observation alone...we can safely conclude that men don't put any effort in protecting their minds. We have never been more free to walk in and out as we please.

DIABLO: You're thinking birth control.

RAPHAEL: Yes. Protection for both the masculine and the feminine gender.

FELICE: We'll have our products on every shelf. They'll stand out on their own and will be advertised in such a way that even Christians will be convinced.

RAPHAEL: Once that is established, child birth will decrease...

DIABLO: ...And sexual activity will rise. Beautiful!

RAPHAEL: Indeed!

Diablo nods to Sean and Keino for their input.

SEAN: There is something quite extraordinary that we have noticed in human behavioral patterns over the years. It seems like great emphasis is placed on self.

KEINO: Yes. They seem to have forgotten that self-denial is a pre-requisite to a Christ-centered character. The self, it seems, have taken top priority.

DIABLO: Yes. I expected as much.

SEAN: We think it would be good if we applied even greater pressure in this area.

KEINO: Spice up this world a bit. Make material things a lot more attractive to the human eye.

SEAN: This will increase their desire for gain and decrease their passion for God.

DIABLO: Yes. Humans have always preferred instant gratification above spiritual gain. They spend more time on themselves than they do with anything concerning Jehovah.

SEAN: Indeed, master. But all these are outer attacks. It is their minds that we need to control if this battle should turn to our favour.

DIABLO: And that, inevitably, brings us to where we are now. Give me your ears, brothers, and I will give us victory.

They all lean in a little closer offering their undivided attention.

DIABLO: Within the confines of these walls, there exist a secret chamber. Within that chamber are thousands of demons that have been under-going extensive training.

FELICE: This is news to us, master.

DIABLO: Yes. I have my reasons for secrecy.

RAPHAEL: We're sure you do.

DIABLO: These demons have read the human manuscripts hundreds of times and have committed the concepts to memory. I refer to them as the 'New Age Seducers.'

YAKO: How effective are these seducers?

DIABLO: They can convince a man how cool it is to look like a woman; they will drive men to kill themselves without justifiable cause; they will seduce men into having sexual relations with animals...

HUSANE: Now that should turn the stomach of heaven.

DIABLO: Precisely. Men will turn on each other within their own groups. The church will be against the church; politicians against politician; family against family.

KEINO: The seducers can accomplish this?

DIABLO: Without a doubt. Once each group is divided, they'll be unable to stand.

RAPHAEL: There'll be some who will only listen to the voice of Jehovah.

DIABLO: Have you compared and contrast the more recent reports to that of the latter days.

RAPHAEL: No sir, I haven't.

DIABLO: If you did you would conclude, as I have, that humans now don't see the need to protect their minds. They entertain every thought, they fantasize, they lust. Humans have lost their identity. Some don't know who they are, or why they're here. To us, that's a great advantage.

FELICE: On top of that there has been a significant decline in prayers and the sincere study of the holy scriptures. They don't know who they are.

DIABLO: Listen, we have the advantage. Our powers increase as we draw closer to the end and it is time we exact our revenge upon humankind.

KEINO: So we go all out this time?

DIABLO: I do not want to push Jehovah's hand too quickly. We have been here before with Sodom and Gomorrah and Jehovah choose to destroy the city. But as it was in the beginning, so shall it be in the end and I want to savour every moment. I want to watch Jehovah's Son beg for these carnal beings till His heart bleeds again. I want Him to watch as men are removed from the church one by one and women are forced to be the head. I want Him to watch as His prized creation fornicate with dogs and horses. I want him to watch them stagger in the streets like the stupid drunks they are. I want Him to witness as man plots the death of thousands of his own flesh and blood. I want him to see the hungry die of starvation, the widows and orphans living unvisited, the poor old woman with no one to help her across the street. I want him to witness a twelve year old giving birth to a child and I want Him to watch his precious believers spending hours before the television watching our programs and taking just a minute to brush the dust from their bibles. I want him to watch his people shun marriage and choose to live a life of pleasure and sex. But best of all, I want to watch Him resist His own temptation to destroy this world again.

KEINO: Ohh, I'm getting goose bumps all over.

DIABLO: Our victory is inevitably. Humans have proven time and time again that they are beyond redemption and they will share our fate.

Diablo stands and pulls a bunch of keys from his waist.

DIABLO: Arm yourselves, my brothers. We go to war.

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