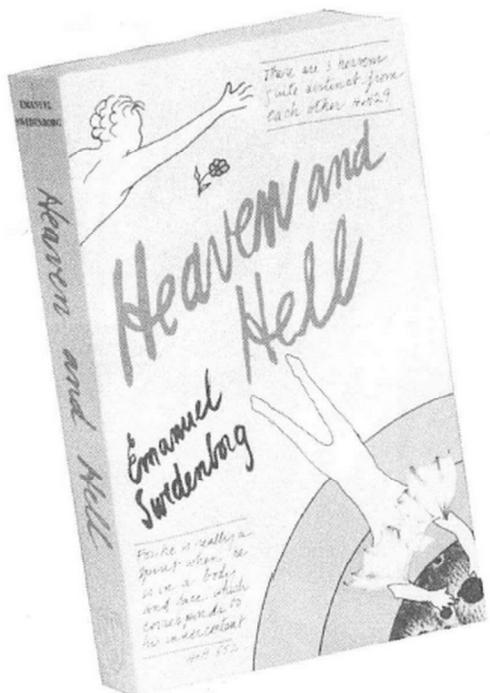


the only living man
to walk in the world of spirits,

the angels called him

THE STRANGE ONE

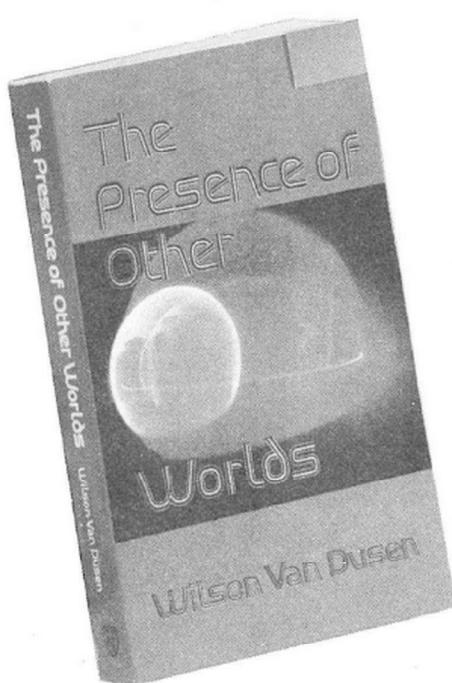
SWEDENBORG



HEAVEN AND HELL

by Emanuel Swedenborg (527 pages, paper)

In this astonishing book, recognized by many as his greatest work, Emanuel Swedenborg reveals the most comprehensive description of life hereafter ever given to man—based on his actual experiences in the spiritual realm. In these pages Swedenborg describes a highly organized heavenly life, universal speech, our entry into the next world, sacred and profane love, the world of the spirits, and many other matters, enhancing our understanding of both life here and hereafter. The claims of HEAVEN AND HELL have stirred controversy for more than two centuries, yet the author's credentials and character indisputably belong to one of the great and most brilliant original individuals of all time. Here is Swedenborg's classic vision, a gift that will be treasured by all who seek enlargement and illumination of the Christian concept of life after death.



THE PRESENCE OF OTHER WORLDS

by Dr. Wilson Van Dusen (256 pages, paper)

This volume is the account of the monumental journey of Swedenborg through the depth of his own mind to spiritual worlds beyond and back again. It is a record of the Swedish philosopher's findings by a versatile and energetic practising psychologist who has had the 'other world' experience himself described by Swedenborg.

Noted psychologist Carl Rogers, writing about PRESENCE OF OTHER WORLDS states, 'here is an account of a scientific genius, dead two centuries who having mastered all that science knew of the external world, went on to a daring, often frightening, exploration of the inner world. Van Dusen, having travelled some of the same distance himself, presents Swedenborg sympathetically in the man's own terms. An exciting thought-provoking book which will appeal especially, I believe to those persons who are not afraid of the inner psychic world.'

EMANUEL SWEDENBORG

BY CHRISTOPHER HASLER AND JOHN KACZMARCZYK



THE FAMILY QUICKLY SETTLED AMONGST UPSALA'S GRAND BUILDINGS. EMANUEL BEGAN HIS SCHOOLING AND JESPER BECAME DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY. SADLY, IN 1696 WHEN EMANUEL WAS EIGHT, SARA DIED, SHE WAS ONLY THIRTY.

WHEN EMANUEL WAS FOURTEEN, THE FAMILY WAS WOKEN ONE NIGHT BY A GREAT AND TERRIBLE FIRE. THEY HURRIED FROM THEIR BEDS INTO THE BURNING STREET TO SEE MUCH OF THE BEAUTIFUL TOWN, INCLUDING THEIR HOME, DESTROYED.

YOUNG ANNA COULD NOT LOOK AFTER SUCH A LARGE FAMILY, WITHIN A YEAR JESPER MARRIED AGAIN. HIS SECOND WIFE WAS ALSO CALLED SARA.

EMANUEL STUDIED PHILOSOPHY BUT LEARNT MUCH MORE.

EMANUEL RECEIVED HIS DEGREE IN 1709 AND WENT TO BRUNSBØ FOR A YEAR...

HIS INDUSTRIOUS MIND ENABLED HIM TO LEARN SEVERAL LANGUAGES, KINDLED AN INTEREST IN PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS. HE BECAME A PROFICIENT ORGANIST.

...MAKING PLANS TO JOURNEY TO ENGLAND TO IMPROVE HIMSELF IN PHYSICS, MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCE.

SHORTLY AFTER THE FIRE, JESPER WAS MADE BISHOP OF SKARA AND MOVED TO BRUNSBØ. I, ERIC, MARRIED ANNA AND PROVIDED A HOME WHERE EMANUEL COULD FINISH HIS SCHOOLING AND ENTER THE UNIVERSITY.

BISHOP JESPER GAVE HIM A SMALL ALLOWANCE TO FINANCE HIS TRAVELS. EMANUEL OFTEN COMPLAINED OF ITS SMALLNESS. IN 1710 HE SET OFF FOR LONDON.

WHEN EMANUEL LANDED IN LONDON HE WAS ARRESTED...

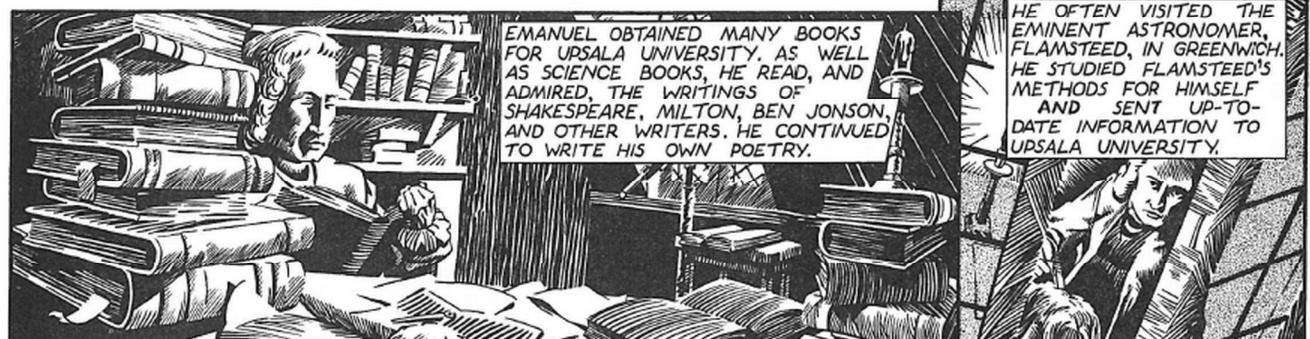
IT WAS AN EVENTFUL VOYAGE; THE SHIP NEARLY RAN ON TO A SANDBANK IN DENSE FOG, THEY WERE BOARDED BY PIRATES AND FIRED UPON BY AN ENGLISH SHIP THINKING THEM TO BE PIRATES!

...HE NARROWLY ESCAPED BEING HANGED FOR BREAKING QUARANTINE REGULATIONS IMPOSED AFTER PLAGUE HAD BROKEN OUT IN SWEDEN.

HE SET ABOUT LEARNING ALL HE COULD ABOUT MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY, SPENDING TWO YEARS IN LONDON AND OXFORD.

HE WROTE TO ME OFTEN, SAYING HOW HE VISITED CELEBRATED MATHEMATICIANS AND ASTRONOMERS...

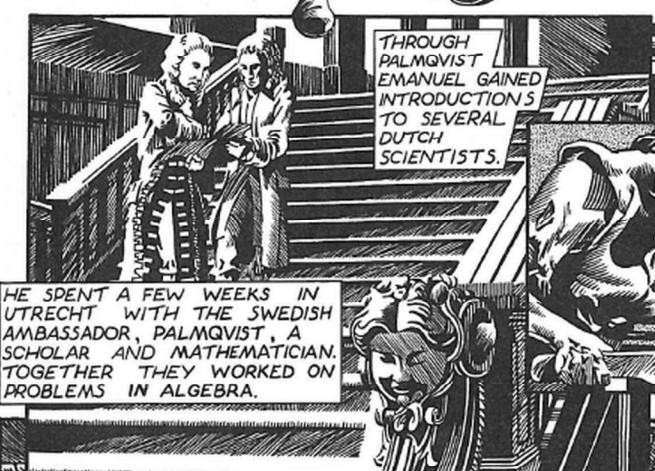
...ONE OF THESE WAS HALLEY, WHO LATER DISCOVERED THE FAMOUS COMET THAT BEARS HIS NAME.



HE OFTEN VISITED THE EMINENT ASTRONOMER, FLAMSTEED, IN GREENWICH. HE STUDIED FLAMSTEED'S METHODS FOR HIMSELF AND SENT UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION TO UPSALA UNIVERSITY.



IN 1713 EMANUEL SAILED FOR HOLLAND, EAGER TO LEARN ALL HE COULD ABOUT THE COUNTRY, AND MEET ITS SCIENTISTS.





WE WORKED WITH CHRISTOPHER POLHEM, A FRIEND AND EMINENT ENGINEER. POLHEM WAS VERY FOND OF EMANUEL AND PROMISED HIM HIS DAUGHTER IN MARRIAGE, BECAUSE EMANUEL BECAME DEEPLY ATTACHED TO HER.



IN 1715 EMANUEL RETURNED TO SWEDEN. STAYING WITH ANNA AND ME IN STOCKHOLM, HE TOLD ME ALL HE HAD LEARNT IN HIS FOUR YEARS ABROAD.



I SAW EMANUEL TO BE A FINE SCIENTIST AND MATHEMATICIAN. WE DECIDED TO PUBLISH A JOURNAL OF INTEREST TO STUDENTS OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND MINING.



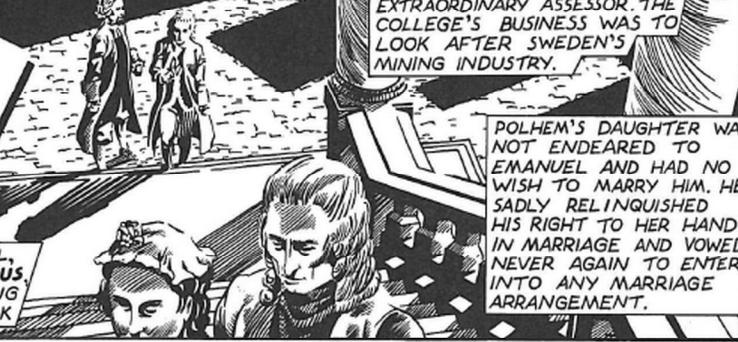
THIS, AND JESPER'S INFLUENCE, RESULTED IN KING CHARLES OFFERING EMANUEL THREE POSTS IN 1716. EMANUEL CHOSE TO JOIN THE COLLEGE OF MINES IN THE



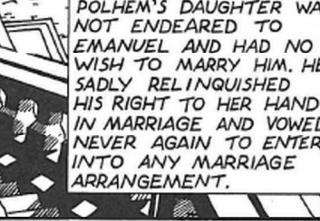
UNPAID POST OF EXTRAORDINARY ASSESSOR. THE COLLEGE'S BUSINESS WAS TO LOOK AFTER SWEDEN'S MINING INDUSTRY.



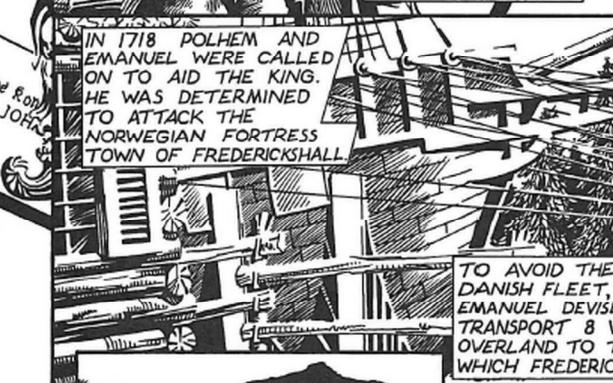
DÆDALUS HYPERBOREUS



THE SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL, DÆDALUS HYPERBOREUS, WAS DEDICATED TO KING CHARLES XII, WHO TOOK GREAT INTEREST IN ITS ARTICLES.



POLHEM'S DAUGHTER WAS NOT ENDEARED TO EMANUEL AND HAD NO WISH TO MARRY HIM. HE SADLY RELINQUISHED HIS RIGHT TO HER HAND IN MARRIAGE AND VOWED NEVER AGAIN TO ENTER INTO ANY MARRIAGE ARRANGEMENT.



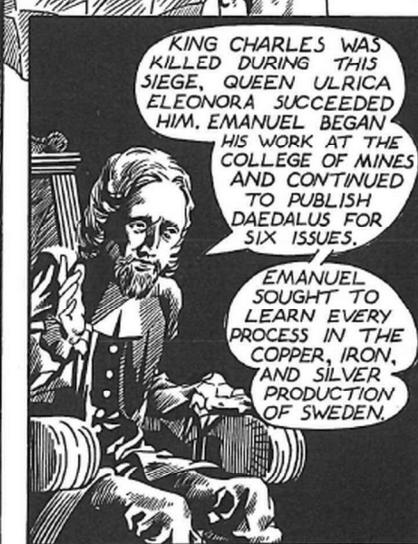
IN 1718 POLHEM AND EMANUEL WERE CALLED ON TO AID THE KING. HE WAS DETERMINED TO ATTACK THE NORWEGIAN FORTRESS TOWN OF FREDERICKSHALL.



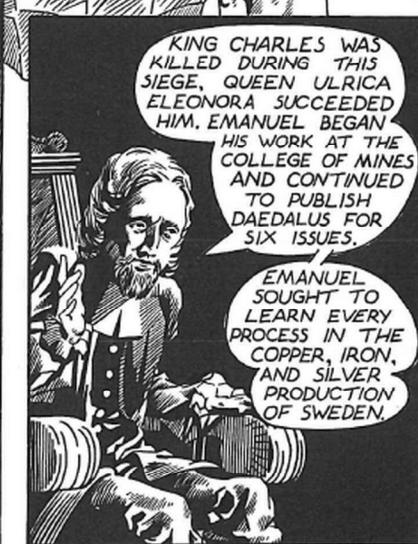
TO AVOID THE PROTECTING DANISH FLEET, POLHEM AND EMANUEL DEVISED A PLAN TO TRANSPORT 8 VESSELS OVERLAND TO THE FJORD ON WHICH FREDERICKSHALL STOOD.



ON ROLLERS, WORKMEN DRAGGED 2 1/2 GALLEYS, 5 1/2 LARGE BOATS, AND A SLOOP 17 MILES ALONG ROADS, ACROSS FIELDS, PAST FARMS, AND INTO THE COLD WATERS OF THE FJORD.



KING CHARLES WAS KILLED DURING THIS SIEGE, QUEEN ULRICA ELEONORA SUCCEEDED HIM. EMANUEL BEGAN HIS WORK AT THE COLLEGE OF MINES AND CONTINUED TO PUBLISH DÆDALUS FOR SIX ISSUES.



EMANUEL SOUGHT TO LEARN EVERY PROCESS IN THE COPPER, IRON, AND SILVER PRODUCTION OF SWEDEN.

AT THIS TIME, QUEEN ULRICA ENNOBLED BISHOP JESPER AND CHANGED THE FAMILY NAME TO SWEDENborg. EMANUEL WAS NOW ENTITLED TO ATTEND THE SWEDISH PARLIAMENT, THE HOUSE OF NOBLES.



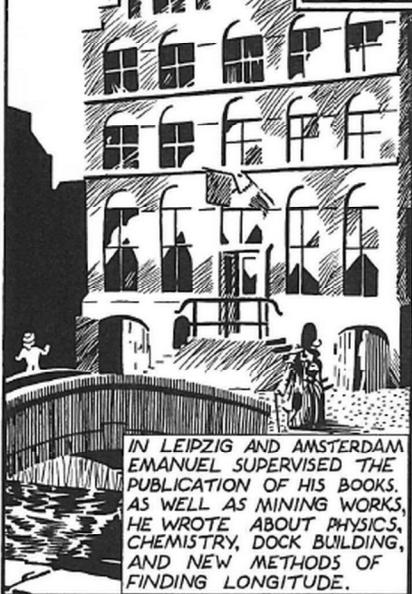
HE COLLECTED ANY INFORMATION OF USE TO SWEDEN'S MINES. HE WROTE WORKS ON IRON ORE, METALS, GEOLOGY, AND MINERALOGY.



EMANUEL WANTED TO IMPROVE THE STUDY OF SCIENCE IN SWEDEN. IN 1721 HE TRAVELED ABROAD TO STUDY MINING AND TO PUBLISH SOME OF HIS WORK. HE VISITED ALL THE IRON FOUNDRIES OF AIX-LA-CHAPELLE, LIEGE, AND COLOGNE, AND THE MINES IN SAXONY AND THE HARTZ MOUNTAINS.



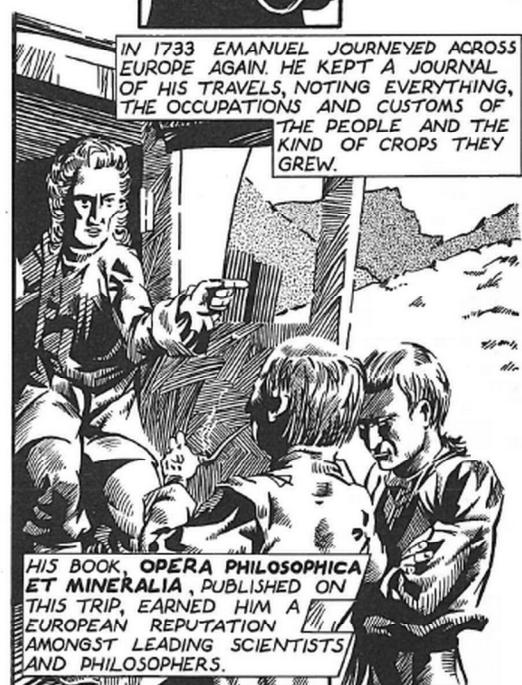
HE DESCENDED THE MINES TO STUDY ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROCESS.



IN LEIPZIG AND AMSTERDAM EMANUEL SUPERVISED THE PUBLICATION OF HIS BOOKS, AS WELL AS MINING WORKS, HE WROTE ABOUT PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, DOCK BUILDING, AND NEW METHODS OF FINDING LONGITUDE.



ON RETURNING TO SWEDEN IN 1722, HE LAID PROPOSALS BEFORE THE BOARD OF MINES FOR IMPROVING COPPER AND STEEL PRODUCTION, THESE MET WITH LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT.



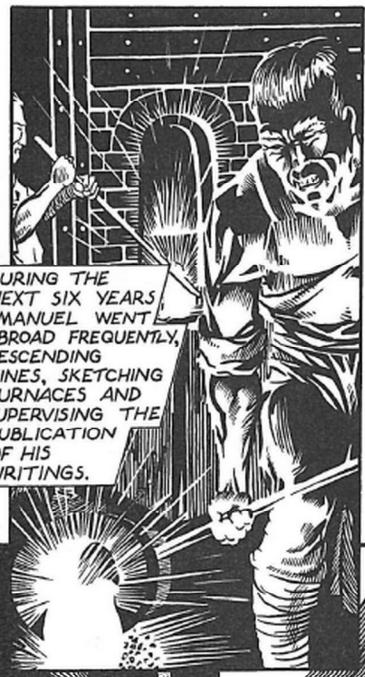
IN 1733 EMANUEL JOURNEYED ACROSS EUROPE AGAIN. HE KEPT A JOURNAL OF HIS TRAVELS, NOTING EVERYTHING, THE OCCUPATIONS AND CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE KIND OF CROPS THEY GREW.



...AND DEVOTED MUCH OF HIS TIME TO MINING WORK.



HIS BOOK, OPERA PHILOSOPHICA ET MINERALIA, PUBLISHED ON THIS TRIP, EARNED HIM A EUROPEAN REPUTATION AMONGST LEADING SCIENTISTS AND PHILOSOPHERS.



DURING THE NEXT SIX YEARS EMANUEL WENT ABROAD FREQUENTLY, DESCENDING MINES, SKETCHING FURNACES AND SUPERVISING THE PUBLICATION OF HIS WRITINGS.

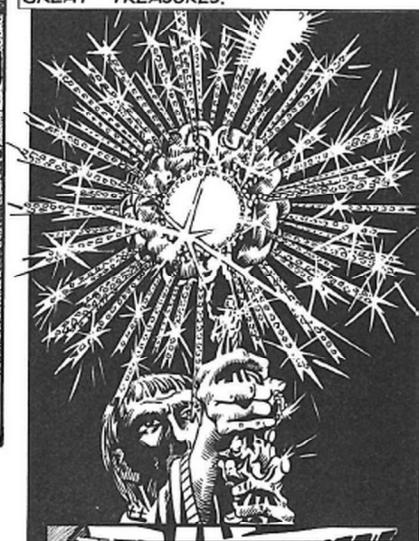


ONE OF HIS MOST IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC WORKS, *PRINCIPIA*, WAS PUBLISHED IN DRESDEN. FROM THERE HE JOURNEYED TO THE BEAUTIFUL TOWN OF PRAGUE. EMANUEL ALWAYS TOOK GREAT INTEREST IN THE CHURCH, DISCUSSING GOD AND THE BIBLE WITH BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND MONKS.

THE IMMENSE WEALTH OF THE CHURCH WAS IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE ABEKT POVERTY OF THE PEOPLE. ALTHOUGH EMANUEL ALWAYS LISTENED ATTENTIVELY TO OTHER PEOPLE, HE ALWAYS MADE HIS OWN JUDGEMENTS.



IN 1736 EMANUEL'S FATHER, JESPER, DIED. HE WAS NOT TO WITNESS THE FULL ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS SON'S LIFE.

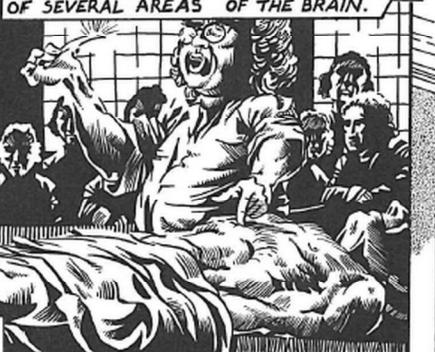


OVER THE YEARS EMANUEL HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN HOW, AND WHY, THINGS WORK. IN *PRINCIPIA* HE PUT FORWARD A THEORY ON THE ORIGIN OF THINGS. NOW HE STROVE TO FATHOM THE MYSTERY OF THE SOUL, AND ITS RELATION TO THE BODY.

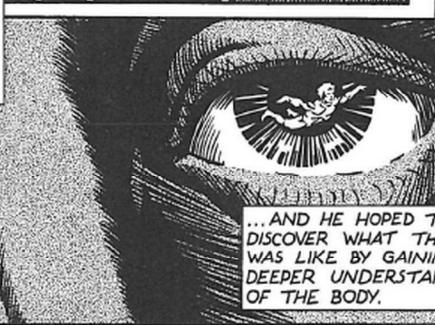
DURING THESE STUDIES HE DISCOVERED THE PHYSICAL FUNCTIONS OF SEVERAL AREAS OF THE BRAIN.



TO THIS END HE STUDIED ACKNOWLEDGED WORKS ON ANATOMY AND ATTENDED LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS IN HOLLAND, FRANCE AND ITALY.



EMANUEL WANTED TO PRODUCE BOOKS WHICH WOULD HELP MANKIND TO UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE OF CREATION, AND THE WAY GOD HAS PLANNED THE WORLD. HE REGARDED THE SOUL AS KING, AND THE BODY AS ITS KINGDOM...



...AND HE HOPE TO DISCOVER WHAT THE SOUL WAS LIKE BY GAINING DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE BODY.

THESE INVESTIGATIONS WERE PUBLISHED IN THREE IMPORTANT BOOKS; *THE ECONOMY OF THE KINGDOM OF THE SOUL* IN 1739, *THE KINGDOM OF THE SOUL* IN 1744, AND *THE WORSHIP AND LOVE OF GOD* IN 1745.

DURING THE WRITING OF THESE BOOKS, EMANUEL THEORISED THAT HE COULD LEARN NO MORE FROM SCIENTIFIC METHODS. INTUITION HAD TO BE THE ANSWER.

SINCE HE WAS 48 HE HAD EXPERIENCED THE SUPERNATURAL. FLASHES OF LIGHT AND FLAMES HE TOOK AS SIGNS FROM AN INTELLIGENCE NOT OF THIS WORLD.

HE WAS TORN BETWEEN RELIANCE ON SCIENTIFIC METHODS AND THE SPIRITUAL SENSATIONS KNOCKING ON HIS CONSCIOUSNESS.

INTUITION, MANS DEEPEST FEELINGS, INNER GUIDANCE, PERHAPS EVEN THE SOUL ITSELF TALKING.

NOW THESE SIGNS TOOK THE FORM OF DREAMS, WITH MORE DEFINITE MEANINGS. HIS TOTAL THOUGHTS HE SAW AS A PILE OF RAGS. VERMIN AS HIS FAULTS AND IMPURITIES.

HOWEVER, IN HOLLAND IN APRIL 1744...

THE ROOM FILLED WITH THE ROAR OF MANY WINDS. EMANUEL FELT AN INDESCRIBABLY HOLY PRESENCE WHICH SHOOK HIM AND THREW HIM ON TO HIS FACE!

ARE YOU FIT AND READY TO SERVE ME?

OH ALMIGHTY JESUS CHRIST MAKE ME WORTHY OF THY PRESENCE!

LORD, YOU KNOW IT BETTER THAN I.
DO WHAT YOU HAVE PROMISED!

EMANUEL NOW REALISED THAT HE MUST TRY TO OPEN HIS CONSCIOUSNESS TO THE LORD'S GUIDANCE. HE FOUND, HOWEVER, THE LOVE OF SELF, ESPECIALLY PRIDE, INTRUDED ON HIS ATTEMPTS.

IN HIS EMPTY ROOM HE WAS FIRST ADDRESSED BY A SPIRIT WARNING HIM NOT TO DEVOTE SO MUCH TIME TO HIS WORK.

HOLD YOUR TONGUE OR I WILL STRIKE YOU!

APRIL 1745, ALONE IN AN INN WHEN...

DARKNESS GATHERED IN THE ROOM...

...HORRIBLE CRAWLING THINGS COVERED THE FLOOR.

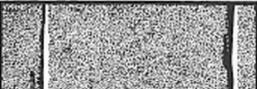
AS THE DARKNESS DISPERSED HE SAW HE WAS NO LONGER ALONE...

EAT NOT SO MUCH!

EMANUEL WAS FRIGHTENED, BUT THIS FEELING WAS GONE WHEN THE SAME MAN APPEARED IN HIS ROOM THAT NIGHT...



I AM THE LORD GOD, CREATOR AND REDEEMER OF THE WORLD. YOU ARE CHOSEN TO REVEAL TO MEN, THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF THE SCRIPTURES. I WILL TELL YOU WHAT TO WRITE.



ON THAT SAME NIGHT, THE WORLD OF SPIRITS, HEAVEN AND HELL, WERE FULLY OPENED TO HIM.



FROM THAT DAY HE DEVOTED ALL HIS TIME AND ENERGY TO SPIRITUAL THINGS AND A 3-YEAR STUDY OF THE SACRED SCRIPTURES. LITTLE BY LITTLE HE WAS LED INTO THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIDDEN MEANINGS. THESE HE CALLED CORRESPONDENCES.



IN 1747 HE RESIGNED FROM THE BOARD OF MINES IN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE ON HIS HOLY TASK. HE LEFT FOR HOLLAND WITH THE CONTINUED USE OF HALF HIS SALARY AND THE KING'S THANKS FOR 30 YEARS' DILIGENT SERVICE.



IN ORDER TO STUDY THE SCRIPTURES CAREFULLY HE LEARNT HEBREW AND GREEK. ALL TOO OFTEN HIS THOUGHTS LAPSED INTO WORLDLY MATTERS. THIS, HE FOUND, PREVENTED SPIRITS SPEAKING WITH HIM.



HE CONTINUED HIS STUDIES IN LONDON, UNRAVELLING THE CORRESPONDENCES OF THE SCRIPTURES. THESE CAN BE LIKENED TO THE PARABLES USED BY JESUS. BEHIND THE STORIES LAY A DEEPER SPIRITUAL MEANING. GRADUALLY, THROUGH SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE, THESE MEANINGS BECAME CLEAR TO EMANUEL.

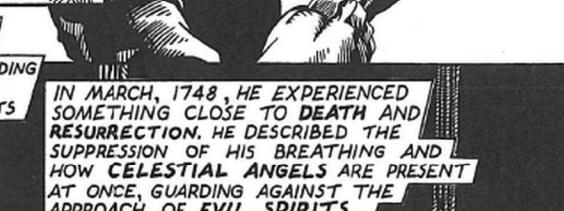
SPIRITS VISITED EMANUEL AND HE COULD ROAM THE SPIRITUAL WORLD. THEY CALLED HIM UNDERLIG, THE UNACCOUNTABLE ONE. HE EVEN MET PEOPLE HE HAD KNOWN ON EARTH...



WORLDLY DELIGHTS ARE NOTHING COMPARED TO THE JOY OF HEAVEN. THE PEACE IS INDESCRIBABLE, FREE FROM BODILY DESIRES CARES AND WORRIES.



COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEAD INVOLVED GREAT DANGER. LEGIONS OF DEMONS PLOTTED AS HE SLEPT, SURROUNDING HIM WITH NIGHTMARES SO AS TO DESTROY HIS SOUL. THE LORD PROTECTS THOSE WHO HAVE LOVE AND FAITH, SO HE ENDURED VERY GREAT PAIN.



IN MARCH, 1748, HE EXPERIENCED SOMETHING CLOSE TO DEATH AND RESURRECTION. HE DESCRIBED THE SUPPRESSION OF HIS BREATHING AND HOW CELESTIAL ANGELS ARE PRESENT AT ONCE, GUARDING AGAINST THE APPROACH OF EVIL SPIRITS.



EMANUEL RECORDED THESE EXPERIENCES IN HIS SPIRITUAL DIARY WHICH HE INCORPORATED IN ARCANA COELESTIA, PUBLISHED IN LONDON IN 1749.



Arcana Cœlestia,

QUE IN
SCRIPTURA SACRA
VERA

SI

ARCANA COELESTIA
MEANS HEAVENLY SECRETS. IT
UNRAVELS THE SPIRITUAL MEANING
BEHIND THE WORDS OF THE OLD
TESTAMENT OF THE BIBLE.

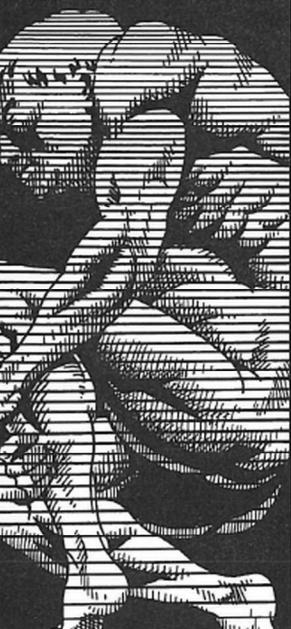
THE SIX DAYS OF
CREATION, FOR EXAMPLE,
DEAL WITH FAR MORE
THAN THE WAY THE
UNIVERSE WAS MADE...

IN THE BEGINNING
GOD CREATED THE
HEAVENS AND THE
EARTH. THE EARTH
WAS WITHOUT FORM,
EMPTY AND DARK.

GOD SAID "LET
THERE BE LIGHT"

ON THE SECOND DAY
GOD SAID "LET THE
WATERS BE DIVIDED,
ABOVE AND BELOW
THE EXPANSE"
HE CALLED THE
EXPANSE HEAVEN.

ON THE THIRD DAY
GOD SAID "LET THE
DRY LAND APPEAR.
LET IT SPROUT
GRASS, HERBS
AND TREES."



IN INFANCY AND BEFORE
MAN'S SPIRITUAL BIRTH
THE MIND IS IN
DARKNESS, WITHOUT
GOODNESS OR TRUTH.

MAN FIRST
REALIZES THAT
THERE ARE
TRUTHS OF A
HIGHER KIND.

KNOWLEDGES IN THE
MIND ARE DIVIDED
BETWEEN THE HIGHER,
WHICH ARE OF GOD,
AND THE LOWER,
WHICH ARE OF MAN
AND THE WORLD.

MAN'S FIRST ATTEMPTS
TO DO GOOD COME
FROM THE LORD. MAN
THINKS IT COMES
FROM HIMSELF SO HIS
SPIRIT IS STILL
DORMANT.

ON THE FOURTH DAY GOD CREATED THE SUN, MOON AND STARS TO RULE THE DAY AND THE NIGHT.

ON THE FIFTH DAY GOD CREATED CREEPING THINGS, BIRDS AND GIANT SEA CREATURES.

ON THE SIXTH DAY GOD CREATED ANIMALS.

FINALLY MAN IS CREATED IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD.



MAN BEGINS TO BE INSPIRED BY LOVE FROM GOD, THE SUN, AND GUIDED BY FAITH IN HIM, THE MOON. HE BEGINS TO REALIZE THAT HIS GOOD ACTIONS ARE INSPIRED BY GOD. HIS SPIRIT BEGINS TO BECOME ALIVE.

BECAUSE MAN ACTS FROM GOD'S LOVE AND FAITH AND NOT FROM HIMSELF, HE CAN TRULY SAY TO BE ALIVE. HIS NEWLY AWAKENED UNDERSTANDING GIVES RISE TO NEW, RATIONAL, THOUGHTS.

MAN'S SPIRITUAL AWARENESS GROWS, THE GENTLE ANIMALS OF GENUINE LIVING AFFECTIONS ARE BROUGHT FORTH. THE MIND NOW ACTS FROM LOVE, INSTEAD OF JUST FAITH OR OBEDIENCE.

THE REGENERATED SOUL HAS WON THE VICTORY OVER THE EVILS OF SELFHOOD, A TRULY HUMAN BEING IS BORN.



MAN, LIKE THE EARTH, CAN PRODUCE NOTHING GOOD UNLESS GOD'S SEED OF FAITH AND LOVE IS SOWN IN HIM. WITHOUT IT HE DOES NOT BECOME HUMAN!

AFTER THE FIRST VOLUME OF ARCANA COELESTIA WAS PUBLISHED, EMANUEL WAS ADVISED TO REST. HE RETURNED TO SWEDEN IN 1750... HE PUBLISHED ABROAD FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS...



IN SWEDEN HE SUPERVISED THE REPAIR OF HIS HOUSE ON THE CLIFF OPPOSITE STOCKHOLM AND BUSIED HIMSELF WITH HIS EXTENSIVE GARDENS.

FRIENDS AND STUDENTS, KNOWING HIS INQUISITIVE NATURE, BROUGHT HIM MANY FOREIGN PLANTS FROM THEIR JOURNEYS.

THE ENGLISH WERE A VERY OPEN-MINDED PEOPLE. EMANUEL'S WRITINGS BROUGHT SCORN AND PERSECUTION FROM THE CHURCH. HIS RELATIONS THOUGHT HE WASTED HIS TIME AND ENERGY ON BOOKS THAT HARDLY ANYONE READ. HE WORKED BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE OF GOD RATHER THAN PERSONAL AMBITION, THUS HE WISHED TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

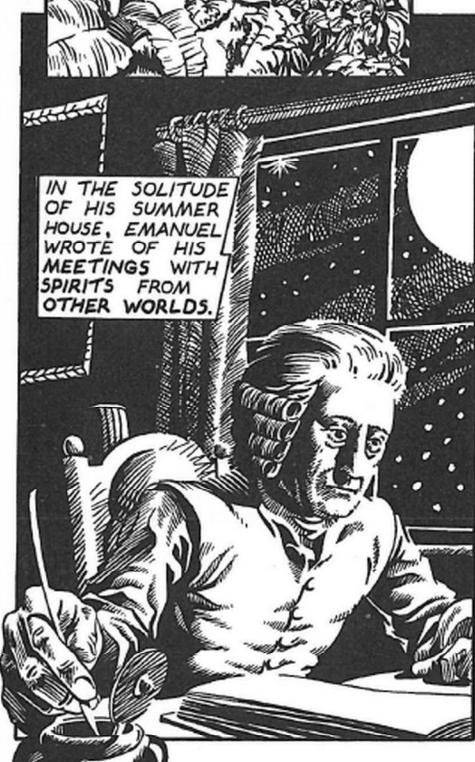
HIS STUDIES NEEDED QUIET, BUT ASSESSOR SWEDENBORG WAS WIDELY KNOWN AND ENJOYED COMPANY. HE FREQUENTLY ENTERTAINED IN THE EXTENSIVE GARDENS.



IN THE SOLITUDE OF HIS SUMMER HOUSE, EMANUEL WROTE OF HIS MEETINGS WITH SPIRITS FROM OTHER WORLDS.

WHILE HIS BODY REMAINED ON EARTH, HIS SPIRIT WAS ALLOWED TO WANDER THROUGH SPACE AND SEE THINGS NEVER BEFORE SEEN BY MAN.

HIS BOOK 'EARTHS IN THE UNIVERSE' DESCRIBES THE DIFFERENT RACES OF PEOPLE ON DIFFERENT WORLDS. HOWEVER DIFFERENT, THEY ALL HAD ONE THING IN COMMON, THEY ALL RECOGNIZED AND WORSHIPPED THE SAME LORD.



IN 1758 EMANUEL PUBLISHED HIS BEST KNOWN WORK: "HEAVEN AND ITS WONDERS AND HELL, FROM THINGS SEEN AND HEARD."

HE WAS ALLOWED TO EXPERIENCE DEATH AND IN THE BOOK DESCRIBES WHAT LIFE AFTER DEATH IS LIKE...



"TWO ANGELS SAT AT MY HEAD TO WARD OFF EVIL SPIRITS. I FELT AS IF THE INTERIORS OF MY MIND WERE BEING PULLED FROM MY BODY."



"MY BODILY SENSATIONS WERE DULLED BUT MY THOUGHTS AND MEMORY REMAINED."



"THE FUZZY LIGHT, THE ANGELS SAID, WAS THE ENTRANCE TO THE WORLD OF SPIRITS, NEITHER HEAVEN NOR HELL."



"THE SPIRIT WORLD IS NOT UNLIKE THE EARTH, THE SPIRIT IS SOON RECOGNIZED BY FRIENDS AND RELATIVES. THERE IS MUCH REJOICING. SOMETIMES, WHERE TRUE LOVE IS NOT PRESENT, ARGUMENTS AND FIGHTS BREAK OUT."



"IN THE FIRST STATE THE SPIRITS ACT THE SAME AS ON EARTH, THEIR ACTIONS CONCEAL THEIR INNER FEELINGS. THE SPIRITS CAN APPEAR TO BE GOOD BUT ARE EVIL INSIDE. THEY LISTEN EAGERLY TO WHAT IS SAID OF WORLDLY THINGS BUT NOT TO SPIRITUAL IDEAS."



"THE SPIRIT IS INSTRUCTED ABOUT THE SPIRIT WORLD. SPIRITS WANT TO KNOW IF THEY WILL GO TO HEAVEN. THERE ARE THREE STATES OF AWAKENING BEFORE A SPIRIT IS ALLOWED INTO HEAVEN..."



"THE SECOND STATE REVEALS THE TRUE NATURE OF THE SPIRITS. THEIR ACTIONS REFLECT THEIR THOUGHTS. THEY CAN NO LONGER CONCEAL THEIR EVIL. NO-ONE IS PUNISHED FOR EVILS DONE ON EARTH BUT EVIL SPIRITS SOON COMMIT SIMILAR EVILS."

"GOOD SPIRITS ARE NOT PUNISHED AS THEIR EVILS DO NOT RETURN. EVIL SPIRITS CAN NO LONGER STAND THE SOCIETY THEY ARE IN AND CAST THEMSELVES DOWN INTO HELL WHERE THEY CAN BE WITH KINDRED SPIRITS."



"ONLY THE GOOD SPIRITS ENTER THE THIRD STATE, ONE OF INSTRUCTION. MANY HAVE TO RID THEMSELVES OF THE FALSITIES OF THEIR RELIGIONS, THEY ARE INSTRUCTED BY CONVERTS FROM THEIR OWN RELIGION."



"AFTER THIS DIFFICULT STAGE THE SPIRITS ARE LED FROM THE LOWER EARTH, PAST ANGEL GUARDS INTO HEAVEN WHERE THEY ARE RECEIVED WITH JOY BY OTHER ANGELS. THE LORD GUIDES THEM TO SPIRITS WITH WHOM THEY WILL MIX EASILY."



DEATH IS
NOT THE END, IT IS
MERELY THE SPIRIT
MOVING INTO A
DIFFERENT
WORLD.



I CAN SEE MY
WIFE, MY RELATIONS, THE
PASTOR, AND A COFFIN!
WHAT IS HAPPENING?



THEY ARE
BURYING YOUR EARTHLY
BODY, YOU NO LONGER
NEED IT, YOU ARE
A SPIRIT NOW!

I CANNOT, MY FRIEND, THEY WOULD
THINK ME MAD, OR MOCKING THEM.
THOSE WHO WANT TO KNOW THE
TRUTH WILL EVENTUALLY
FIND OUT.

THE PASTOR
IS COMFORTING YOUR
WIFE, SAYING YOU WILL
RISE AGAIN ON THE
DAY OF THE LAST
JUDGEMENT.

BUT I
AM ALREADY
RESURRECTED WHY
DOES THE CHURCH
NOT TEACH THIS?

THERE IS GREAT
IGNORANCE IN THE
CHRISTIAN WORLD. EVERY-
ONE'S JUDGEMENT IS WHEN
THEY DIE AND IMMEDIATELY
AWAKE IN THE SPIRITUAL
WORLD.

MY WIFE IS CRYING
BECAUSE SHE THINKS ME
DEAD. TELL HER I AM
GLAD TO BE HERE!

I HOPE SO; I
MUST GO, I HAVE SO MUCH
TO LEARN. THERE IS ALWAYS
SOMETHING NEW AND WONDERFUL.

THERE IS NO GREAT CHANGE
AFTER DEATH; PEOPLE ARE
MERELY IGNORANT OF WHAT
TAKES PLACE. THEY ARE ALSO
IGNORANT OF THE NATURE
OF HEAVEN ITSELF. I
HAVE BEEN PERMITTED
TO REVEAL THE TRUTH...

...WHEN IN THE SPIRIT WORLD I WAS SHOWN MANS DIFFERENT IDEAS OF THE NATURE OF HEAVEN.

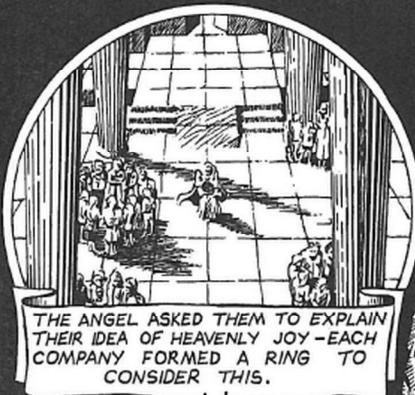
I SAW AN ANGEL BENEATH THE EASTERN HEAVEN. HE SOONDED HIS TRUMPET TOWARDS THE NORTH, THE WEST, AND THE SOUTH. THEN HE FLEW DOWN NEAR TO WHERE I STOOD...



I AM SENT TO ASSEMBLE THE MOST LEARNED AND CLEAR-SIGHTED FROM THE CHRISTIAN WORLD. IN MY HEAVEN WE HAVE HEARD THAT CHRISTIANS KNOW NOT WHAT HEAVENLY JOY IS... WAIT A WHILE AND SEE FOR YOURSELF,



PRESENTLY TWO COMPANIES FROM EACH OF THE THREE QUARTERS APPEARED. THE ANGEL INVITED THEM INTO THE BUILDING THAT THE LORD HAD PROVIDED...



THE ANGEL ASKED THEM TO EXPLAIN THEIR IDEA OF HEAVENLY JOY - EACH COMPANY FORMED A RING TO CONSIDER THIS.



IN EACH OF THE MANY ROOMS A DIFFERENT TOPIC WAS EAGERLY DISCUSSED...



...THE FAIR SEX, GOSSIP, POLITICS, MORALITY, BUSINESS, RELIGION. I NOTICED MANY WHO BROKE AWAY FROM THEIR COMPANY AND RAN TO GO OUT.

SOON EACH GROUP REPORTED THE IDEAS THEY HAD FORMED IN THE WORLD BEFORE THEIR DEATH:

HEAVEN IS ATTAINED BY ENTRANCE - TO GAIN ADMISSION IS ALL IMPORTANT;
IT IS WITTY AND INTELLIGENT CONVERSATION;
IT IS FEASTING WITH ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB;
IT IS LIVING IN PARADISE;
IT IS HAVING UNBOUNDED WEALTH AND POWER;
IT IS PERPETUAL WORSHIP AND PRAISE OF GOD.



I FOLLOWED ONE OF THEM
TO THE EAST DOOR WHERE
SEVERAL SAD-FACED PEOPLE SAT...

WHY ARE YOU
SO SAD?



AFTER THREE DAYS IN HERE WE CANNOT
BEAR THE SOUND OF TALKING! WE WERE
TOLD THAT ONE MAY ENTER THIS HOUSE
BUT NEVER LEAVE! WE MUST REMAIN AND
ENJOY THE HEAVEN WE HAVE CHOSEN.
WE ARE DESPERATE!



THIS IS THE DEATH OF
YOUR IDEA OF HEAVENLY
PLEASURES, THEY WERE
LIFELESS FROM THE
BEGINNING.

HEAVENLY JOY IS THE
DOING OF SOMETHING
USEFUL TO ONESELF AND
OTHERS. SOCIAL GATHERINGS
ARE ENJOYED IN HEAVEN—
BUT ONLY AFTER USEFUL
WORK. WORK AND
RECREATION GO TOGETHER,
PLEASURE ALONE BECOMES
EMPTY AND WEARISOME!



AFTER SAYING THIS
THE ANGEL OPENED THE
DOOR . . . THE PEOPLE
GLADLY RAN OUT AND
WERE REFRESHED BY
RETURNING TO THEIR
OWN WORK AND
FUNCTION



AFTER THIS THE
ANGEL RETURNED TO
THE ASSEMBLED
WISE ONES. HE TOOK
THOSE WHO THOUGHT
HEAVENLY JOY LAY IN
PARADISICAL DELIGHTS
TO THEIR HEAVEN.
I FOLLOWED...

...HE LED THEM THROUGH
A LOFTY GATE AND ALONG
WINDING PATHS FROM
ONE GARDEN TO ANOTHER.

WITHIN THEY FOUND MANY
PEOPLE, OLD AND YOUNG, AMONGST
THE FLOWERS, FRUIT TREES, AND
FOUNTAINS. SOME PLAYED, OTHERS
CONVERSED AND JOKED...



SOME GATHERED AND
ATE THE MANY FRUITS.
OTHERS DANCED, SANG,
OR RELAXED IN SMALL
SUMMER HOUSES.

THEY CONTINUED FROM GROVE TO GROVE, THROUGH A MAZE OF AVENUES.

AT LAST THEY CAME UPON A NUMBER OF PEOPLE SITTING IN A ROSE GARDEN. THEIR FACES WERE DRAWN AND SORROWFUL.

WHY ARE YOU WEEPING AND SO SAD?

THIS IS OUR SEVENTH DAY IN PARADISE. AT FIRST IT WAS WONDERFUL, BUT NOW WE'VE HAD ENOUGH!

WE WERE TOLD WE MUST STAY HERE FOR EVER BECAUSE THIS IS OUR HEAVEN. WE ARE SICK OF THE SIGHT OF IT!

WE TRIED TO FIND A WAY OUT, BUT HAVE ONLY GONE DEEPER INTO THIS MAZE.

I WILL LEAD YOU OUT. HAPPINESS DOES NOT COME FROM OUTER DELIGHTS, WHICH ARE LIFELESS AND SOON DULL THE SENSES. WE HAVE SUCH GARDENS IN HEAVEN FOR RECREATION BUT OUR HAPPINESS COMES FROM WITHIN.

IT COMES FROM OUR LOVE TO THE LORD WHO IS OUR FATHER. WE ARE HAPPY WHEN WE CAN DO SOMETHING FOR HIM, ACCORDING TO THE TRUTH. HE TEACHES US. OUR LIFE THEN HAS PURPOSE!

OH THANK YOU! BUT WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN?

AGAIN THE ANGEL RETURNED TO THE HOUSE, TO THE WISE ONES WHO THOUGHT HEAVENLY JOY CAME FROM UNCEASING WORSHIP OF GOD...

...I JOINED THEM AND WE WERE TAKEN INTO A SMALL CITY. PRIESTS LED MANY PEOPLE INTO A CENTRAL TEMPLE AND INTO THE MANY SURROUNDING HOUSES WHICH THEY CALLED CHAPELS.

ONE OF THE PRIESTS GREETED US ON THE STEPS OF THE TEMPLE.



IT IS ORDERED THAT YOU REMAIN IN THE TEMPLE FOR THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS. AFTERWARDS YOU WILL BE TAKEN FROM CHAPEL TO CHAPEL, PRAYING AND REPEATING CHANTS. ABOVE ALL YOU MUST ONLY THINK AND SPEAK THAT WHICH IS HOLY AND RELIGIOUS!



GUARDS, PLACED AT THE DOORS TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE REMAINED FOR THREE DAYS, WATCHED US AS WE WERE LED INTO THE CROWDED TEMPLE

THESE WORSHIPPERS HAVE BEEN IN CONSTANT ADORATION FOR TWO DAYS. THEY HAVE PRAYED, CHANTED, AND LISTENED TO SERMONS. SEE FOR YOURSELVES THEIR GLORIFICATION OF GOD!



WE CAN TAKE NO MORE! THE VERY SOUND OF YOUR VOICE BEGINS TO DISGUST US!

LIKE A RAGING FLOOD THE CONGREGATION ROSE AS ONE BODY AND RUSHED TO LEAVE...

...BREAKING OPEN THE HEAVY DOORS THEY DROVE OFF THE GUARDS BY THE SHEER WEIGHT OF THEIR NUMBERS!

THE PRIESTS, HOWEVER, WERE NOT SO EASILY DISCOURAGED. THEY PURSUED AND CAUGHT THE DISPIRITED WORSHIPPERS.

SANCTIFY YOURSELVES! GLORIFY GOD! RETURN TO YOUR PRAYERS AND CHANTS!

LET US ALONE! PLEASE LET US ALONE!

EVEN AS THEY SPOKE, FOUR MEN IN SHINING WHITE ROBES APPEARED. NOW ANGELS, THEY HAD BEEN AN ARCHBISHOP AND THREE BISHOPS IN THE WORLD OF MEN.

THEY CALLED THE PRIESTS TO THE STEPS OF THE TEMPLE.

YOU PRIESTS CAN BE IN WORSHIP FOR DAYS ON END BECAUSE THIS IS YOUR OFFICE AND YOU GET HONOUR AND GLORY FOR IT. WITHOUT THESE REWARDS YOU COULDN'T REMAIN IN WORSHIP ANY LONGER THAN YOUR FLOCK.

WE SAW YOU FROM HEAVEN WITH THESE SHEEP. YOU FEED THEM TO INSANITY SINCE YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT REAL GLORIFICATION OF GOD IS.

GOD IS PRAISED BY LOVING SERVICE, BY SINCERE AND FAITHFUL ATTENTION TO ONE'S WORK. FOR THIS IS THE FRUIT OF LOVE TO GOD AND TO ONE'S NEIGHBOUR.

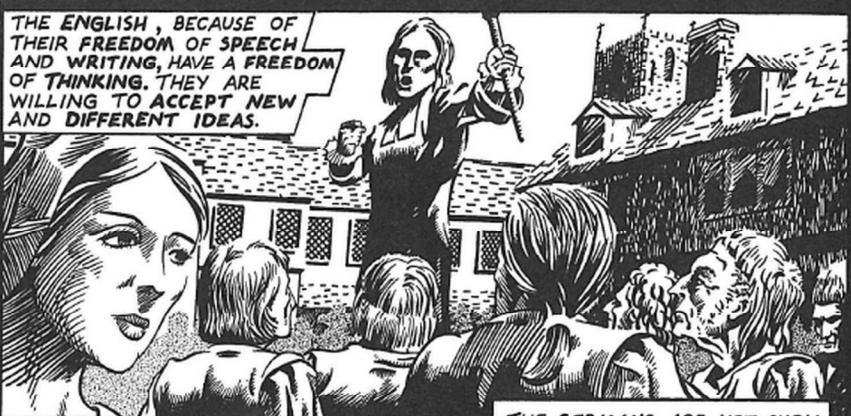
THE LORD CLEARLY TAUGHT THIS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL - "BY THIS MY FATHER IS GLORIFIED, THAT YOU BEAR MUCH FRUIT, AND SO PROVE TO BE MY DISCIPLES" 15:8

RELEASE THESE POOR PEOPLE WHO, IN THEIR IGNORANCE, COULD ONLY THINK OF HEAVENLY JOY AS PERPETUAL WORSHIP OF GOD. LET THEM COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE.

I ASSURE YOU THAT WHAT I HAVE DESCRIBED IS NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH. THESE THINGS WERE SEEN BY ME IN THE WORLD OF SPIRITS . . . THAT SUCH THINGS EXIST IN THE OTHER WORLD IS CLEARLY EVIDENT FROM WHAT THE APOSTLE JOHN SAW, HEARD, AND DESCRIBED IN THE BIBLE'S BOOK OF REVELATION.

IN THE SPIRITUAL WORLD HE ALSO MET SPIRITS FROM DIFFERENT EARTHLY RACES AND RELIGIONS. THEIR DIFFERENCES WERE DEEP AND HE SAW EACH NATION TO HAVE PARTICULAR GOOD QUALITIES.

THE ENGLISH, BECAUSE OF THEIR FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND WRITING, HAVE A FREEDOM OF THINKING. THEY ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT NEW AND DIFFERENT IDEAS.



THE GERMANS ARE NOT SUCH FREE THINKERS. THEY HAVE GOOD MEMORIES AND A DEEP RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY. THEY LIKE TO QUOTE FROM THE BOOKS OF THE MASTERS.

THE AFRICANS, WHO WERE TREATED LIKE ANIMALS IN THE WORLD AND SOLD AS SLAVES, ARE THE MOST BELOVED IN HEAVEN...



...THEY ACCEPT THE LIFE OF HEAVEN MORE READILY THAN OTHERS. THEY SURPASS OTHER RACES IN THEIR AFFECTIONATE NATURE AND PERCEPTION.

PAGANS ARE MORE HUMBLE AND OBEDIENT THAN MANY FROM CHRISTIAN NATIONS. AT FIRST THEY WORSHIP THEIR IDOLS BUT IN THE LIGHT OF HEAVEN THEY REALIZE THAT THE IDOLS ONLY REPRESENT GOD'S PRESENCE AMONGST THEM. THEY FORGET THEIR IDOLS AND LOOK TO THE LORD ALONE.



THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD, HE GUIDES ALL PEOPLE TOWARDS HEAVEN, WHATEVER THEIR RELIGION, IF THEY ARE WILLING TO FOLLOW THE TRUTH AS THEY UNDERSTAND IT.

GERMANY, 1760. IMMANUEL KANT, AN INFLUENTIAL PHILOSOPHER OF THE TIME...

TELL US HERR KANT,
DO YOU BELIEVE THESE
REMARKABLE TALES OF THIS
SWEDENBORG'S ABILITY
TO TALK TO
THE DEAD?

THERE ARE MANY STORIES OF HIS SEERSHIP. I HAVE MADE FULL ENQUIRIES THROUGH REPUTABLE PERSONS AND I FEEL ASSURED OF THE TRUTH OF THESE THREE EXAMPLES...

IN GOTHEBURG SWEDENBORG WAS DINING WITH FRIENDS. AT 6 O'CLOCK HE BECAME PALE AND ALARMED...



ANOTHER SENSATIONAL EPISODE CONCERNED A BILL PRESENTED TO THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR'S WIDOW BY A GOLDSMITH.

I CANNOT FIND THE RECEIPT FOR THE 25,000 GULDERS, MISTER SWEDENBORG. IF, AS PEOPLE SAY, YOU CONVERSE WITH SOULS, PERHAPS YOU WILL ASK MY HUSBAND ABOUT THE SILVER SERVICE.



A FEW DAYS LATER IN THE WORLD OF SPIRITS...

... THIS CAUSES YOUR WIFE GREAT ANXIETY MISTER AMBASSADOR.

I WILL GO HOME THIS VERY EVENING AND LOOK INTO IT.



WHEN SWEDENBORG CALLED NEXT DAY TO SAY HE HAD SPOKEN TO THE AMBASSADOR...

THESE STORIES BECAME THE SENSATION OF THE LAND. QUEEN ULRIKA, AFTER BEING ASSURED THAT SWEDENBORG WAS NOT INSANE, ASKED TO MEET HIM.



I WISH YOU TO UNDERTAKE A COMMISSION CONCERNING MY RECENTLY DECEASED BROTHER.



NO ONE BUT MY BROTHER COULD HAVE TOLD YOU THAT!



IN HIS TRAVELS THROUGH DIFFERENT COUNTRIES
EMANUEL SAW THAT THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
WAS ONLY CONCERNED WITH INCREASING
ITS OWN POSITION OF POWER.

... PARDONS FOR SINS COULD
BE BOUGHT BY THOSE WHO
COULD PAY. RELICS, REQUIRED
FOR THE CONSECRATION OF
CHURCHES, COULD BE
PURCHASED IN ROME.

ROME DEVELOPED RITUALS
WHICH BROUGHT IN RICHES
BUT NOT BENEFITS TO
ORDINARY PEOPLE...



THE REFORMED CHURCH THOUGHT
GOOD LIVING WAS NOT ESSENTIAL.
SALVATION ONLY NEEDED THE
BELIEF THAT CHRIST DIED ON THE
CROSS FOR MAN.



SCIENCE WAS ASKING QUESTIONS
AND WANTING RATIONAL ANSWERS.
THE CHURCH OFFERED NONE, IT
DEMANDED BELIEF WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING.

HE OPENS WITH THE VISION OF
JESUS IN POWER AND GLORY
APPEALING TO THE CHURCHES
TO BE FAITHFUL
TO THE END...

THEN A THRONE OF JUDGEMENT
IS SET UP IN HEAVEN AND
THE STATE OF MANKIND IS
EXAMINED IN VIVID IMAGERY [CH. 4]
WHEREVER THE SOUND OF
TRUTH AND THE LIGHT OF
HEAVEN PENETRATE THEY
EXPOSE DEVASTATION,
CORRUPTION AND CRUELTY. [CH. 8]

HUMAN AGGRESSION AND
THE DESIRE TO GET
SOMETHING FOR NOTHING
IS PRESENTED IN THE
LIKENESS OF A GREAT
RED DRAGON.



PEOPLE TURNED
TO THE LAST BOOK
OF THE BIBLE, THE
BOOK OF REVELATION
WHICH DESCRIBES
WHAT THE APOSTLE
JOHN SAW WHEN
HE WAS 'IN SPIRIT.'

... EVERYONE WILL BE
REWARDED ACCORDING
TO HIS LIFE AND WORKS.
[CH. 1] [CH. 2-3]



GREED AND THE PASSION
FOR POWER ARE
PRESENTED AS THE
SCARLET WOMEN OF
BABYLON. THEY ARE
CEASELESSLY TRYING TO
DESTROY THE MESSAGE
OF LOVE AND JUSTICE
TAUGHT BY JESUS CHRIST.
[CH. 12, 17]



EMANUEL REALIZED THAT THESE PROPHECIES OF JUDGEMENT AND THE END OF THE WORLD WERE FULFILLED DURING HIS OWN LIFE-TIME, IN THE WORLD OF THE SPIRITS!...

... HERE, AFTER DEATH, EVERY MAN REVEALS HIS TRUE CHARACTER. WHILE CHURCHES AND THEIR LEADERS WERE EXAMINED IN THIS WAY TO SEE HOW WELL THEY HAD BEEN LEADING THEIR FLOCK TO GOODNESS AND PEACE.

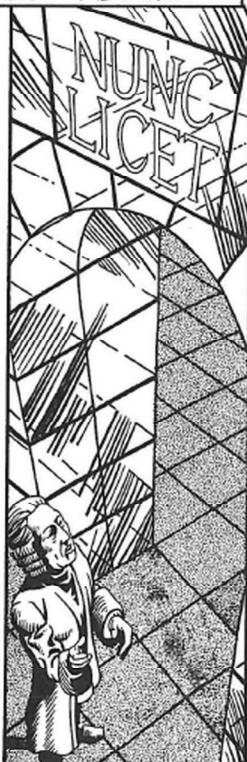


THEY FAILED TO DO THIS AND THEIR FALSE DOCTRINES HID THE WARMTH AND LIGHT OF GOD'S SMILE LIKE A DARK CLOUD.



WHEN THIS CONFUSION IS EXPOSED, PEOPLE CAN START THINKING FOR THEMSELVES AND FEEL FREE TO EXAMINE EVERYTHING THEY HAD BEEN TOLD TO BELIEVE WITHOUT QUESTION.

IN THE SPIRIT WORLD, EMANUEL CAME ACROSS A MAGNIFICENT GLASS TEMPLE. OVER THE DOOR HE SAW THE WORDS:



THEY MEANT: "NOW IT IS ALLOWED TO ENTER, WITH UNDERSTANDING, INTO THE MYSTERIES OF FAITH."



INSIDE LAY THE WORD, OPEN, SIGNIFYING THE NEW SPIRIT OF ENQUIRY AND FREEDOM OF THE NEW AGE WHICH THE LORD HAD FORETOLD AND SWEDENBORG HAD ANNOUNCED.



AS WELL AS THE BEAUTY OF THE SPIRIT WORLD, I HAVE ALSO WITNESSED ITS UGLY SIDE... HELL!

THE GATES OF THE MANY DIFFERENT HELL ARE DARK, GAPPING HOLES. THEY ARE EVERYWHERE IN THE SPIRIT WORLD, UNDER MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS, BEHIND HILLS AND ROCKS.



THROUGH GOD'S MERCY, THESE INFERNAL SPIRITS APPEAR AS MEN TO THEMSELVES. IN THE LIGHT OF HEAVEN THEIR BODIES ARE MONSTROUS AND CORPSE-LIKE. THUS THEY SHUN ANYTHING FROM HEAVEN.

EVERY SPIRIT IS THE IMAGE OF HIS OWN EVIL. SELF-LOVE IS THE ONLY LOVE IN HELL. AS ON EARTH MAN WISHES NO-ONE, BUT HIMSELF, WELL.

WHY SHOULD I DO THIS?... WHAT ADVANTAGE IS THIS TO ME? WHY SHOULD THIS CONCERN ME?

IN EARTHY LIFE MAN SUBDUES AND HIDES HIS OWN EVIL BECAUSE OF FEAR OF PUNISHMENT AND LAWS. THE EVIL MAN CAN APPEAR TO BE KIND.

IN HELL, THAT EVIL IS NO LONGER HIDDEN NOR DILUTED. THEIR SELF-LOVE PRODUCES HATRED OF OTHERS. THE SPIRITS CONTINUALLY SPREAD UNTRUTHS, THEY MOCK, DERIDE AND BLASPHEME EACH OTHER, BURSTING INTO VIOLENCE ASSAULT.

HOWEVER WHEN SPIRITS TORMENT AND DOMINATE OTHERS THEY ARE IN TURN PUNISHED AND TORMENTED BY OTHER SPIRITS UNTIL THEY CEASE THEIR EVILS BECAUSE OF FEAR OF RETALIATION.



THE TORMENT OF HELL IS THAT SPIRITS CANNOT DO EVIL, WHICH IS THE DELIGHT OF THEIR LIVES.

SWEDENBORG'S WRITINGS WERE MORE WIDELY READ IN SWEDEN, THROUGH REVIEWS OF HIS WORK AND THROUGH USE IN THE UNIVERSITIES.

. . . THE HOUSE OF CLERGY ATTACKED HIS WRITINGS BUT DID NOT DARE TACKLE THE LOVED AND RESPECTED OLD MAN HIMSELF. DEAN EKEBOM ADVISED THE CLERGY AGAINST HIS WRITINGS.

IN HIS LETTERS, ASSESSOR SWEDENBORG SAYS HIS DOCTRINES CANNOT BE CALLED HERETICAL SINCE THEY ACKNOWLEDGE THE HOLY TRINITY, THE SANCTITY OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES AND ADVOCATE A CHRISTIAN LIFE.

EMANUEL HAD 50 COPIES OF CONJUGIAL LOVE SENT FROM LONDON TO BE GIVEN TO THE DIET MEMBERS. THESE WERE CONFISCATED. THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE PROMISED TO HAVE THE BOOKS RELEASED BUT ACTUALLY SPOKE MOST STRONGLY IN FAVOUR OF CONFISCATION.

DEAN EKEBOM MADE THE MOST OF THIS AND WARNED THE CLERGY TO SUPPRESS SWEDENBORGIANISM.

THESE PROCEEDINGS WERE WIDELY REPORTED IN SWEDEN. THE ROYAL COUNCIL ASKED FOR A REPORT ON THE ERRORS OF SWEDENBORGIANISM.

IN THE TWENTY YEARS THAT THESE WRITINGS HAVE BEEN READ, THERE HAS BEEN NO VALID REJECTION FROM THE LEARNED MEN OF EUROPE.

THE CHURCH FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVE THE NEW DOCTRINES WRONG AND PASSED THE CASE TO THE ROYAL COUNCIL . . .

WE MAY CONCLUDE THAT NO-ONE CAN PROVE ANYTHING AGAINST YOUR DOCTRINES ASSESSOR.

...WHO, IN TURN, REFERRED THE CASE TO THE UNIVERSITIES. EMANUEL WROTE TO KING FREDERIC SAYING HE HAD BEEN GIVEN NO HEARING... AT LONG LAST HE MET THE KING.

I AM NOT ACQUAINTED WITH ASSESSOR SWEDENBORG'S WRITINGS, NOR WILL I BOTHER. HIS DOCTRINES APPEAR TO BE CORRUPTING, HERETICAL, INJURIOUS. VERY OBJECTIONABLE!

MY NAME IS JOHN CUNO, A FRIEND OF EMANUEL, ALTHOUGH I CAN'T SAY I ACCEPT ALL HIS WRITINGS. EN ROUTE TO STOCKHOLM IN 1766 EMANUEL SPOKE WITH THE CAPTAIN.

AS PREDICTED...

CAPTAIN DIXON, WE DO NOT NEED SO MANY PROVISIONS FOR, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, WE WILL ENTER STOCKHOLM AT TWO O'CLOCK, ONE WEEK TODAY.

INCREDIBLE! THE WIND WAS WITH US ALL THE WAY! I'VE NEVER KNOWN SUCH FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS!

AYE! IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME WITH HIM, CAPTAINS WOULD PAY HIM TO TRAVEL WITH THEM.

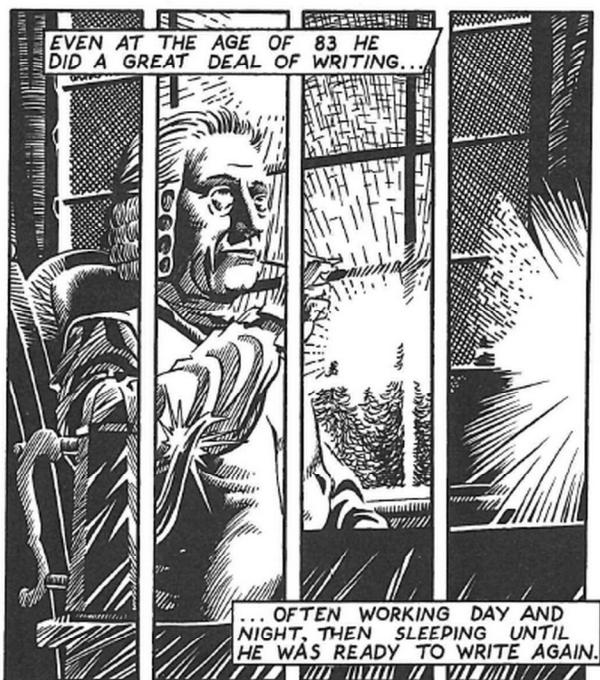
IN COMPANY HE WAS ALWAYS FOUND TO BE MODEST, FRIENDLY AND QUICK-WITTED WHEN PEOPLE TRIED TO MAKE FUN OF HIM. EVEN HIS ENEMIES COULD FIND NO FAULT WITH HIS CHARACTER.

INDEED, AT FUNCTIONS WE ATTENDED, PEOPLE WOULD GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO SCOFF AND MAKE FUN OF 'OLD SWEDENBORG'

I HAVE SEEN THEM FORGET THEIR SCOFFING AND STAND AGAPE AS EMANUEL SPOKE OF THE SPIRIT WORLD WITH AN AIR OF CHILD-LIKE INNOCENCE AND SINCERITY.

EMANUEL ENJOYED THE COMPANY OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN BUT HIS WORK REQUIRED PEACE AND QUIET. REGULAR VISITORS WERE THE ASKBOM FAMILY.

UNCLE, YOU CAN SEE ANGELS, PLEASE SHOW ME ONE!



SOON AFTER HIS AUDIENCE WITH THE KING, EMANUEL MADE PREPARATIONS FOR HIS LAST JOURNEY TO ENGLAND. HE VISITED HIS FRIENDS AND PUT RIGHT HIS PERSONAL AFFAIRS... AS IF HE KNEW HE WOULD NOT BE RETURNING.

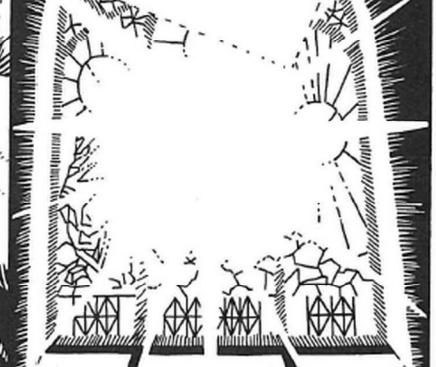


THE TRUE CHRISTIAN RELIGION

EVEN AT AN AGE WHEN TRAVELLING EXHAUSTED HIM, HE STILL FOUND THE TIME TO ENJOY COMPANY AND INDULGE IN CONVERSATION AND MUSIC.

BEFORE HIS DEATH, HE HAD ONE MORE IMPORTANT TASK TO PUBLISH ONE GREAT FINAL WORK...

THE BOOK WOULD GATHER TOGETHER THE MAIN DOCTRINES OF THE NEW CHURCH. NOT ONLY ABOUT GOD THE CREATOR AND REDEEMER, IT IS ALSO ABOUT THE WORD OF GOD, FAITH, CHARITY, THE SACRAMENTS AND THE CHURCH.



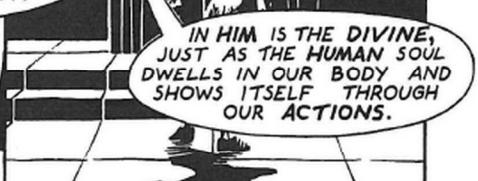
BUT ITS MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO SHOW THAT GOD IS ONE!



FOR CENTURIES THE CHURCH HAD TAUGHT MEN THAT THE ONE GOD WAS THREE PERSONS. THIS SEEMED IRRATIONAL AND UNBELIEVABLE - IT LED MEN ASTRAY!



THE TRUTH IS MUCH SIMPLER, THE ONE AND ONLY GOD, THE INVISIBLE ONE, HIMSELF CAME TO EARTH SO THAT MEN MIGHT KNOW HIM, AS THE VISIBLE HUMAN FORM OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST...



IN HIM IS THE DIVINE, JUST AS THE HUMAN SOUL DWELLS IN OUR BODY AND SHOWS ITSELF THROUGH OUR ACTIONS.

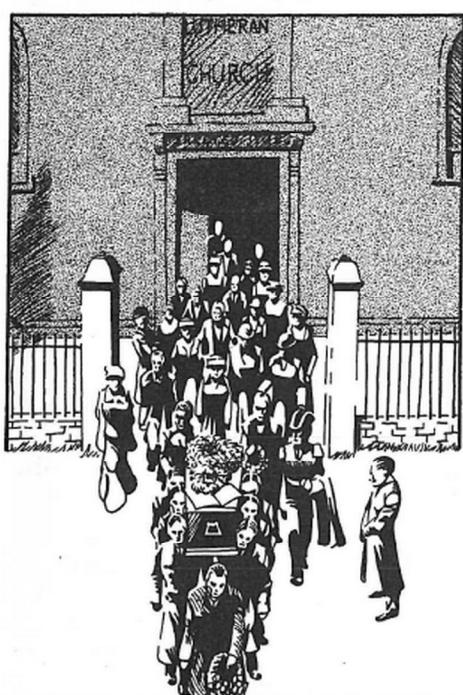
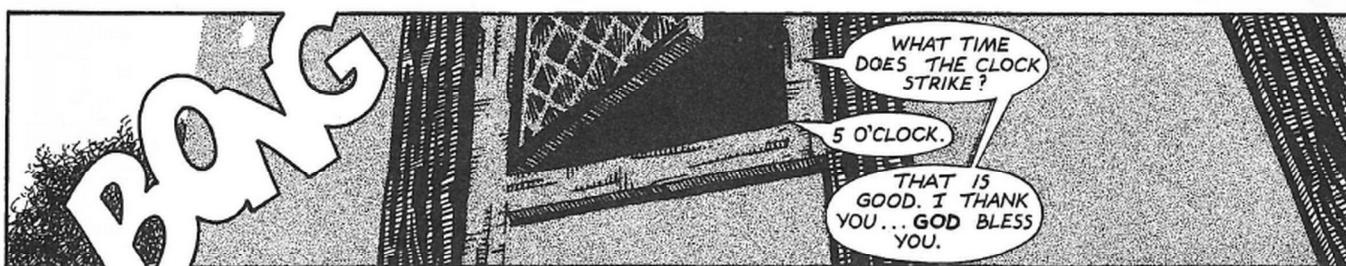
SWEDENBORG WAS 83 WHEN THIS 850 PAGE BOOK WAS PUBLISHED. IT SHOWS HIS CLEAR AND AGILE MIND WAS UNDIMMED BY AGE.



EMANUEL FELL ILL IN HIS LODGINGS AT THE SHEARSIMMITS' TOWN HOUSE. AT THE SAME TIME JOHN WESLEY, THE FOUNDER OF METHODISM, HAD BEEN READING HIS WORK. IMPRESSED AS HE WAS, WESLEY HAD HIS DOUBTS ABOUT THE TRUE CHRISTIAN RELIGION. EMANUEL WROTE TO HIM...

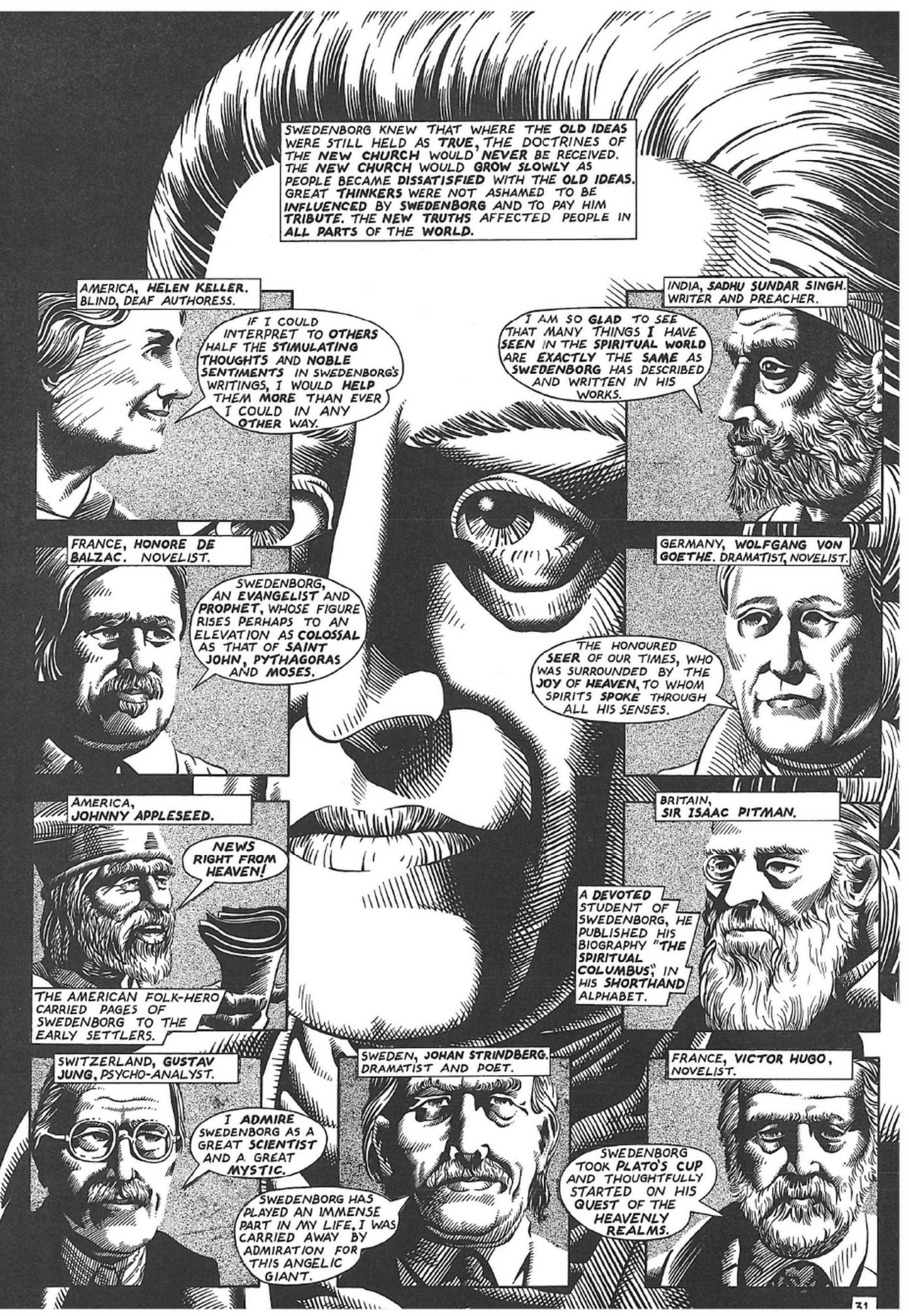


...NEVER TO RETURN!



SWEDENBORG'S REMAINS LAY IN THE SWEDISH CHURCH IN LONDON FOR 136 YEARS UNTIL THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO HONOUR HIM FULLY.





SWEDENBORG KNEW THAT WHERE THE OLD IDEAS WERE STILL HELD AS TRUE, THE DOCTRINES OF THE NEW CHURCH WOULD NEVER BE RECEIVED. THE NEW CHURCH WOULD GROW SLOWLY AS PEOPLE BECAME DISSATISFIED WITH THE OLD IDEAS. GREAT THINKERS WERE NOT ASHAMED TO BE INFLUENCED BY SWEDENBORG AND TO PAY HIM TRIBUTE. THE NEW TRUTHS AFFECTED PEOPLE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

AMERICA, HELEN KELLER.
BLIND, DEAF AUTHORESS.

IF I COULD
INTERPRET TO OTHERS
HALF THE STIMULATING
THOUGHTS AND NOBLE
SENTIMENTS IN SWEDENBORG'S
WRITINGS, I WOULD HELP
THEM MORE THAN EVER
I COULD IN ANY
OTHER WAY.

INDIA, SADHU SUNDAR SINGH.
WRITER AND PREACHER.

I AM SO GLAD TO SEE
THAT MANY THINGS I HAVE
SEEN IN THE SPIRITUAL WORLD
ARE EXACTLY THE SAME AS
SWEDENBORG HAS DESCRIBED
AND WRITTEN IN HIS
WORKS.

FRANCE, HONORE DE
BALZAC. NOVELIST.

SWEDENBORG,
AN EVANGELIST AND
PROPHET, WHOSE FIGURE
RISES PERHAPS TO AN
ELEVATION AS COLOSSAL
AS THAT OF SAINT
JOHN, PYTHAGORAS
AND MOSES.

GERMANY, WOLFGANG VON
GOETHE. DRAMATIST, NOVELIST.

THE HONOURED
SEER OF OUR TIMES, WHO
WAS SURROUNDED BY THE
JOY OF HEAVEN, TO WHOM
SPIRITS SPOKE THROUGH
ALL HIS SENSES.

AMERICA,
JOHNNY APPLESEED.

NEWS
RIGHT FROM
HEAVEN!

THE AMERICAN FOLK-HERO
CARRIED PAGES OF
SWEDENBORG TO THE
EARLY SETTLERS.

A DEVOTED
STUDENT OF
SWEDENBORG, HE
PUBLISHED HIS
BIOGRAPHY "THE
SPIRITUAL
COLUMBUS", IN
HIS SHORTHAND
ALPHABET.

SWITZERLAND, GUSTAV
JUNG, PSYCHO-ANALYST.

I ADMIRE
SWEDENBORG AS A
GREAT SCIENTIST
AND A GREAT
MYSTIC.

SWEDENBORG HAS
PLAYED AN IMMENSE
PART IN MY LIFE. I WAS
CARRIED AWAY BY
ADMIRATION FOR
THIS ANGELIC
GIANT.

FRANCE, VICTOR HUGO,
NOVELIST.

SWEDENBORG
TOOK PLATO'S CUP
AND THOUGHTFULLY
STARTED ON HIS
QUEST OF THE
HEAVENLY
REALMS.

SWEDEN, JOHAN STRINDBERG.
DRAMATIST AND POET.

SWEDENBORG'S THEOLOGICAL WRITINGS

There are 30 volumes. Here are the main ones:

ARCANA CAELESTIA—A verse by verse exposition of the internal sense of Genesis and Exodus, the first two books of the Bible.

HEAVEN AND HELL—This best known of Swedenborg's works is the complete textbook on the life after death.

LAST JUDGEMENT—This is a spiritual event which has already taken place in the world of spirits. Its effect is the dawn of the new age.

HEAVENLY DOCTRINE—A brief summary of the principal doctrines of the New Church. Excellent for new readers.

PROPHETS AND PSALMS—A fine guide for meditation on the Spiritual meaning of all the prophetical books of the Bible and the Psalms.

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Information about centres in Britain and elsewhere can be obtained from:

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SWEDENBORG MAN OF TWO WORLDS

A collage of words describing a genius, such as Mathematician, Revelator, Engineer, Poet, Mystic, Astronomer, and Metadrist, set against a dark background with stars.