

**THE NEW GOSPEL OF
PEACE, ACCORDING
TO ST. BENJAMIN**

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The New Gospel of Peace, According to St. Benjamin by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

**THE NEW GOSPEL OF
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THE *D. P. Cheney.*

NEW GOSPEL

or

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ST. BENJAMIN.

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THE NEW GOSPEL OF PEACE

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CHAPTER I.

1 *The Mystery.* 2 *War in the Land of Unculpsalm.* 5 *Phermandiwud.* 10 *Seeketh a partner.* 17 *Searcheth the Scriptures.* 19 *Findeth something to his advantage.* 24 *And walketh slantindicularly.* 25 *Is brought before the Judge.* 27 *Showeth his innocence.*

1. The mystery of the new gospel of peace.

2. In the days of Abraham, when there was war in the land of Unculpsalm, and all the people fought with weapons of iron, and with ships of iron.

3. (For there came a man out of the country beyond the North Sea, a son of Tubal Cain, and joined himself unto the people of Unculpsalm, and made unto them ships of iron, with towers upon the decks thereof, and beaks upon the prows thereof, very mighty and marvellous),

4. There went out one who preached a new gospel of peace. And it was in this wise.

5. It came to pass in those days that in the country of Mannatton, in the city which is called Gotham, that is over against Jarzee, as thou goest down by the great river, the River Hutzoon, to Communipah, there was a man whose name was Phermandiwud.

6. And he was a just man, and a righteous; and he walked uprightly before the world.

7. But when he was not before the world his walk was slantindicular.

8. And he loved the people.

9. And Phernandiwud said within himself, Of a truth I love the people; but am I not one of the people; yea, verily, am I not number one of the people? and shall I not therefore first love myself?

10. So Phernandiwud first loved himself, and the rest of the people after himself.

11. Now in the days when Phranclinn ruled the land (he that was captain of a thousand in the armies of Unculpsalm when they went down into Meesichoh), Phernandiwud sought unto himself a partner, even a partner with shekels; and he found a man whose name was Marahvine.

12. And Phernandiwud said unto Marahvine: Lo there is gold in the land of Kalaphorni;

13. And the gold of that land is good.

14. Now behold thou art rich, and thy servant is poor; but thy servant is cunning in merchandise, diligent and crafty in business. Let therefore my lord furnish me of his gold and his silver, and I will buy merchandise and ships, and trade with the men of Kalaphorni and get great gain, a hundred, yea even two hundred fold, and we shall divide the spoil.

15. So they traded with the men of Kalaphorni, and got great gain, a hundred and two hundred fold. But Phernandiwud divided not the spoil; for he was not before the world.

16. So his walk was slantindicular.

17. And he communed within himself, and said: Is it not written in the Scripture (for he was a just man and a righteous, and searched the Scripture daily,

18. Saying, peradventure I shall find therein something to my advantage),

19. That a certain steward made unto himself friends of the mammon of unrighteousness, by saying to one man,

who owed his lord an hundred measures of oil, Take thy bill and sit down quickly and write fifty ; and to another who owed an hundred measures of wheat, Take thy bill and sit down quickly and write fourscore ?

20. And did not the lord of that steward commend him because he had done wisely ; because the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light ?

21. And am not I, even I, Phernandiwud, a child of this world, and wise in my generation ? Yea, verily. And I will take *my* bill and sit down quickly ; and where Marahvine oweth me fourscore shekels, I will write an hundred ; and where I owe him an hundred, I will write fifty.

22. And is it not written that we shall be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves ? Therefore will I be as wise as a serpent unto Marahvine, and as harmless as a dove unto myself.

23. Then Phernandiwud took his bill and sat down quickly, and where Marahvine owed him fourscore shekels he wrote an hundred, and where he owed Marahvine an hundred he wrote fifty.

24. So his walk was slantindicular

25. But it came to pass after many days that Marahvine discovered how Phernandiwud had searched the Scripture to his advantage. And he brought him before the judge, and would have convicted him at the mouth of two witnesses ; and, moreover, the writings were against him.

26. But there was a statute in Gotham that no man should be held guilty before the law save for that which he had done within six years, but that after six years he should go free.

27. So Phernandiwud said unto the judge : Lo, what Marahvine saith that thy servant hath done was done, by his own showing, six years and three hours ago. Therefore thy servant is guiltless. I pray thee, therefore, declare thy servant guiltless, and let him go.

28. And he did so. And Phernandiwad went out from before him justified in his wisdom and his innocence.

CHAPTER II.

1 The Pahdees. 2 They govern Gotham. 5 Phernandiwad maketh friends of the Pahdees. 8 Who make him Chief Ruler of the City. 10 And together they devour the substance of the Men of Gotham. 14 The Watchmen of Gotham removed from the rule of Phernandiwad. 17 Who gathereth together the Hittites and the Hammerites. 18 And conceiveth with the Mystery of the New Gospel of Peace.

1. Now, it came to pass that in the city of Gotham were many Pahdees, like unto locusts for multitude. And they were not of the land of Unculpsalm, but came from an island beyond the great sea; a land of famine and oppression. And they knew nothing. They read not, neither did they write, and like the multitudes of Nineveh, many of them did not know their right hand from their left.

2. Therefore the men of Unculpsalm, who dwelt in Gotham, troubled themselves little to govern the city, and paid the Pahdees richly to govern it for them.

3. For the men of Gotham were great merchants and artificers, trading to the ends of the earth; diligent and cunning in their business, wise and orderly in their households; and they got great gain, and the fame of their wisdom and their diligence was spread abroad. Wherefore they said, why shall we leave our crafts and our merchandise, and our ships, and our feasts, and the gathering together of our wives and our daughters, and our men-singers and our women-singers, to give our time to ruling the city? Behold, here are the Pahdees who know nothing, who read not, neither do they write, and who know not their right hand from their left, and who have never

governed even themselves, and who will be glad to govern the city in our stead.

4. Wherefore the men of Unculpsalm who dwelt in Gotham, went the one to his craft, the other to his ships, and the other to his merchandise; and the Pahdees governed Gotham.

5. Now Pherndiwud saw that the men whom the Pahdees appointed to be officers in Gotham fed at the public crib, and waxed fat, and increased in substance. Moreover, so great and mighty was the city of Gotham that they who ruled it were powerful in the land of Unculpsalm; stretching out their hands from the North even unto the South, and from the East even unto the West; but most of all were they powerful with the men of the South.

6. And Pherndiwud said within himself, Shall I not feed at the public crib, and wax fat, and increase in substance, and become a man of power in the land of Unculpsalm?

7. So he made friends unto himself among the Pahdees, and of certain men of Unculpsalm who had joined themselves unto the Pahdees, and who called themselves Dimmichrats.

8. And he became a great man among them. And they made him chief ruler of the city. And it was of the Pahdees that he was first called Pherndiwud.

9. Now, when Pherndiwud was chief ruler of Gotham, the Pahdees, and the men of Unculpsalm which were also Dimmichrats, did what was right in their own eyes; and they worked confusion in the city, and devoured the substance of the men of Gotham. And the watchmen of the city were as clay in the hands of Pherndiwud.

10. For he said, I will have a one man power; and the one man shall be me, even me Pherndiwud; and the Pahdees, and the Dimmichrats, and the watchmen of Gotham, shall do my will; and after they have done my

will they may do what is right in their own eyes, and work confusion, and devour the people's substance.

11. And the men of Gotham were amazed and confounded; and they said one to another,

12. Behold, we are held as naught by Pherndiwud and them that are under him, and he will destroy us and our city.

13. But they could not cast him out, because of the Pahdees, and the men of Uuculsalm who also were Dimmichrats.

14. Wherefore they said, we will pray the governor and rulers of the province to take the watchmen of the city from under his hand, and put in other watchmen who shall guard the city, and the country round about the same; and he shall no longer work confusion, and devour our substance, and destroy our city.

15. Wherefore the watchmen were taken from under his rule, and there were appointed other watchmen, whose captains were not Pahdees and followers of Pherndiwud.

16. But Pherndiwud, because he loved the people, and himself first, as number one of the people, withstood the watchmen which the governor and the rulers of the province had appointed. And he gathered together his watchmen and much people of the Pahdees, and of the men of Uuculsalm which also were Dimmichrats,

17. Hittites, so called, because they hit from the shoulder, and Hammerites, because they brake the heads of all them that set themselves up against them.

18. And the watchmen of Pherndiwud, and the Pahdees, and the Hittites and the Hammerites, fought with the watchmen appointed by the governor and chief rulers of the province, doing in this the will of Pherndiwud. And they fought many times, and they brake each the heads of the other: yet was neither vanquished.

19. And when the judges of the province saw this, they declared unto the governor, that by the great law of the