

The Church of Scientology from a Christian Perspective

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We can't get a complete view of Scientology's beliefs and practices, or of any religious movement, for that matter, until we look at it from multidisciplinary fields, such as sociology, communication theory, psychology, cultic studies, political science, history, and on. Following the summary of L. Ron Hubbard and the history and development of Scientology, I examine Scientology basics from a Christian perspective. In only 31 pages, this article touches on the basics and deserves a book-length account. Meanwhile, here is what you will find in the contents of this article:

Page 1 - **Part I: L. Ron Hubbard and the History and Development of Dianetics & Scientology**

Page 12 - **Part II: The "Scriptures" of Scientology**

Page 16 - **Part III: How does Scientology describe Jesus?**

Page 20 - **Part IV: What Does a Scientologist Learn About God?**

Page 23 - **Part V: Sin and the Human Predicament**

Page 26 - **Part VI: Scientology's Salvation Road**

Page 28 - **Part VII: Last Things and Life After Death**

Part I: L. Ron Hubbard and the History and Development of Dianetics & Scientology

Church of Scientology International (CSI) materials position L. Ron Hubbard's early history in such a way that it adds up to what they project him to be: the world's greatest humanitarian, philosopher, and overall superior being. It's not hard to document one item that is

true: the founder of Dianetics and Scientology, Lafayette Ronald Hubbard, was born in 1911 to Ledora May and Harry Ross Hubbard in Tilden, Nebraska, and spent his early years in Montana. The rest of the details are up for grabs. We're told that as the son of a Naval officer, he traveled to China, Japan and the Pacific Islands as a youth where he began his observations and research into the nature of man. However, Hubbard's past may have become his most elaborate work of fiction. Accounts of Hubbard's life from former biographers are packed with contradictions to CSI materials (e.g. Jon Atack's *A Piece of Blue Sky*, Hubbard & Corydon's *L. Ron Hubbard, Madman or Messiah*, Russell Miller's *Bare-Faced Messiah*, and more). As a devoted Scientologist, I would have never read those or other books critical of Scientology from which to draw background and facts. However, one experience at the International Management base in 1998 before I left gave me the slap in the face that I needed to bring me to reality about the church's concocted image of L. Ron Hubbard: the (then) L. Ron Hubbard Biography Project In-Charge, Andy Lenarcik, stood up at a Friday night staff meeting and confessed to having falsified information about L. Ron Hubbard in several of the "Ron Mags" and other biographical materials that he and the LRH PPRO Office had published about Hubbard. He confessed this because this falsification was now serving as blockage to the work that he and LRH Biographer Danny Sherman were doing to complete the infamous L. Ron Hubbard biography. Andy and Danny had contacted various people from whom they hoped to collect more details about LRH's life, which now conflicted with information they had already released. Thus Andy (thankfully) cracked my rose-colored glasses through which I had viewed L. Ron Hubbard and Scientology since 1982. The "100% pure, unadulterated source materials" pumped out by the church indeed carried falsified statements that no one could bank on.

Hubbard worked as a pulp-fiction and science fiction writer during the early 1930s, when he joined forces with science fiction editor John W. Campbell and claims to have helped launch

"The Golden Age of Science Fiction." His best-known fiction works include "Battlefield Earth" and "Mission Earth." His writings carry the message that earth's culture has always lacked workable knowledge, answers to man's ailments, and solutions to better man's ability to live his life and secure his own sanity. His story lines carry the idea that man has been under constant ruin because of psychiatry, psychology, and the "medicos" in general. Hubbard claimed a physical injury during World War II that he says led to research into psychological disabilities from illness or accidents, although thanks to the Internet, researchers have found data that paints a different picture, including the fact that Hubbard was found unfit for officer or command positions because of his delusions of grandeur about his capabilities versus what he displayed through his actual behavior in the military. Nevertheless, Hubbard released his findings through Dianetics and Scientology articles, books and lectures, which comprise the technologies of his religious philosophy. Failing to conform with any scientific or professional peer reviews that would have subject his theories to testing and verification, his materials were thus rejected by the AMA and APA as not reviewed, not proven, thus not verifiable or scientific.

His best-selling book, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, and the Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation, emerged in 1950 during the McCarthy era as a self-help therapy following World War II, the usage of the atomic bomb, and fears of the spread of communism. According to Hubbard, "Dianetics" means "through the soul" (from Greek *dia*, through, and *nous*, soul), further defined as "what the soul is doing to the body." *Dianetics* claims that Hubbard's techniques could bring people to a level of control over psychosomatic illness and problems of life. Hubbard lifted many concepts and practices from numerous people who came before him, including: Alfred Korzybski's General Semantics, Freud's and Madame Blavatsky's regressive therapy, and aberactive theory used to treat World War II soldiers, William Sargant's findings in his

Battle for the Mind book first published in 1957, and more. Hubbard doesn't cite these or other sources in his works or credit them with their findings and accomplishments. With plagiarism as a key method of his research into the mind and spirit, he instead incorporated their work into his compilations and claimed them as his own. Hubbard even claimed to coin the term "Scientology" and provided a Greek and Latin etymology for hungry Scientologists to digest. He, however, is not the creator of the term as he claims. Authors Allen Upward coined the term in his 1910 book, *The New Word: On the meaning of the word Idealist* (Forgotten Books). Anastasius Nordenholz later used the term *Scientologie* in 1934 in pre-war Germany, which alludes to states of awareness and a type of gradation chart. Drawing from the works of many who came before him, Hubbard launched what he called his own original work of Scientology, after *Dianetics*, in response to Hubbard's claim that his patients recalled incidents from previous lifetimes, and thus he needed to address the spiritual aspect of man. He claims Scientology is "out of a much deeper well than only the last two thousand years."¹

Since The Church of Scientology was formed, it has been involved in controversial debate over its status as a religion or a business. CSI claims that Hubbard made no money from Scientology because he poured any money he received back into the church for research. In an article in *Parents' magazine* (June 1969), Arlene and Howard Eisenberg wrote that science fiction editor and author Sam Moscovitz had heard Hubbard speak before the Eastern Science Fiction Association in Newark, New Jersey in 1947. The Eisenbergs wrote that Mr. Moscovitz remembered Hubbard saying, "...writing science fiction for about a penny a word was no way to

¹ L. Ron Hubbard, *Scientology 0-8*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 3

make a living. If you really want to make a million, the quickest way is to start your own religion."²

And Hubbard did. His legacy includes the self-help technologies of Dianetics and Scientology comprising an applied religious philosophy delivered by the Church of Scientology International (CSI), a network of organizations on five continents, hundreds of books and taped lectures translated in over twenty languages, a now dwindling membership of high-profile celebrities, social reform programs that serve as front groups for Scientology to improve literacy, provide criminal reform and drug rehabilitation, and a history of contradiction and controversy. Scientology membership is unverifiable today. Despite the claims of a 10 million membership worldwide, the church only produced about 30,000 e-meters in its last round which Miscavige is noted to say would give everybody two e-meters. So, a more real estimate of active Scientologists is probably around 15,000 members. It is embarrassing to hear CSI claim that it is the world's fastest growing religion with over 11 million members, when Scientology doesn't even show up as a category on the U.S. Census.

Hubbard's family members, who knew him most closely, should be counted on to offer a trustworthy lens into the man's life and character. Hubbard's son, Ron Hubbard, Jr. co-wrote the controversial book with Bent Corydon, *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* in 1987, revealing his estranged father as a different man than the one known to his zealous followers in Dianetics and Scientology. Ron Jr. and his stepmother, Sara Northrup Hubbard (Hubbard's second wife) knew

² Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 45

him better than anyone. "They had stepped inside a very private and secret universe and stepped out again. They had entered the magic circle and escaped. And lived to talk about it."³

Ron Jr. reveals his father's obsession with Aleister Crowley, a British occultist, self-proclaimed "Beast 666", and author of *The Book of the Law*, Crowley's occult bible. Crowley wrote, "...it is a sublime synthesis of all science and all ethics. It is by virtue of this Book that Man may attain a degree of freedom hitherto never suspected to be possible, a spiritual development altogether beyond anything hitherto known."⁴ Crowley later wrote, "The whole and sole object of all true magickal training is to become free from every kind of limitation." Crowley's "Messiah" was the Antichrist who would overthrow Christianity: Babalon the Great. Writings from Jon Atack, Bent Corydon, and Ron Hubbard Jr. (see footnotes) all include references to Hubbard's late 1940s participation in dark "magick." The Ordo Templi Orientis (OTO), a small secret society in Los Angeles, was one of Crowley's sites for practice of sex rituals and other "black magick" rites. Here, Hubbard and his friend, Jack Parsons, conjured images of the Antichrist. Hubbard's last wife, Mary Sue Hubbard, and (former LRH Biographer) Gerry Armstrong's lawyer Michael Flynn, said if Scientologists "read these documents they would leave the organization five minutes later."⁵

Ron Jr. said Crowley's book was "perhaps the most important book in the life of L. Ron Hubbard." After Crowley's death, Hubbard believed himself to be the one "who came after" as Crowley's successor and took on the mantle of the 'Great Beast,' with Scientology actually beginning December 1, 1947, the day Aleister Crowley died.⁶ Crowley's theme of "freedom from

³ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 10

⁴ Jon Atack, *A Piece of Blue Sky*, (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 94

⁵ *Ibid*, p. 100

⁶ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 47-48

limitations" is seen throughout Hubbard's writings as his main theme, and especially in Scientology's goal of "total spiritual freedom."

Marketing of Scientology promises "total spiritual freedom" through the sale and use of its training courses, spiritual counseling called "auditing," books, tapes, e-meters (electrometers or instruments used in the counseling/auditing process), and materials. Hubbard's writings reflect an ongoing message of urgency to get customers to "move up the Bridge and go free," based on his depiction of planet earth as a dangerous environment, filled with "merchants of chaos" against whom we must overcome to survive: politicians, reporters, the medico, drug manufacturers, militarists, arms manufacturers, police, and undertakers. Yet, Hubbard accuses the merchants of chaos of "creating a dangerous environment,"⁷ claiming man is inflicted with engrams to annihilate humankind through atomic weaponry and we are almost out of time to save this planet from destruction. In his policy letter, *Keeping Scientology Working*, Hubbard stated "The whole agonized future of this planet, every man, woman and child on it, and your own destiny for the next endless trillions of years, depend on what you do here and now with and in Scientology. This is a deadly serious activity. And if we miss getting out of the trap now, we may never again have another chance."⁸ As someone who had the misfortune of working at the Church of Scientology international management headquarters for nine years, many of which were worked on projects directly under David Miscavige, I believe that it is Scientology that is creating chaos on this planet.

The religious recognition of Scientology around the world remains in a state of flux, accused by many countries of being a business posing as a religious church. While CSI gained victory over an IRS battle in 1993 for tax-exemption as a religious organization, it is not

⁷ L. Ron Hubbard, *New Slant on Life*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 7

⁸ L. Ron Hubbard, "Keeping Scientology Working," HCO PL 7 February 1965, *OEC Volume 0*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 12

acknowledged as a church in Germany, France, and Belgium, clamors for recognition in other nations, and remains in trouble on various continents including Australia.

Definitions of Scientology are inconsistent, and provide substance for debate on Scientology's recognition as a religion versus a science or business. Hubbard himself describes Scientology as a business and a science. One policy says, "The only reason orgs exist is to sell and deliver materials and service to the public and to get in public to sell and deliver to. The object is totally freed customers." (Church management later changed "customers" to "beings.")⁹ Another: "Make sure that lots of bodies move through the shop, no matter whether they're spending or not."¹⁰ Hubbard's science of Dianetics technology moved from "what the soul is doing to the body" to his creation of the science of Scientology,¹¹ "the study and handling of the spirit in relationship to itself, universes, and other life."¹² Hubbard classifies Dianetics as a "science of thought" as well as "the science of survival."¹³ Dianetics technology claims to "prevent or alleviate insanity, neurosis, compulsions and obsessions and it can bring about physical well being, removing the basic cause of some seventy percent of Man's illnesses."¹⁴ The goal of Dianetics Centers around the world is to help customers reach the "state of clear," or someone who has erased their own reactive mind.¹⁵

⁹ L. Ron Hubbard, "The Reason for Orgs," HCO PL 31 January 1983, *OEC Volume 0*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 91

¹⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, "The 'Magic' of Good Management," HCO PL 27 December 1963, *OEC Volume 7*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 628

¹¹ L. Ron Hubbard, *The Fundamentals of Thought*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1983, p. 35

¹² *Ibid*, front matter

¹³ Editorial staff, Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation of 1951, "Publisher's Introduction," *Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: The Church of Scientology of California Publications Organization), 1951, p. ix

¹⁴ *Ibid*, p. 1

¹⁵ L. Ron Hubbard, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1990

In his book *Fundamentals of Thought*, Hubbard defines Scientology as "that branch of psychology which treats of human ability. It is an extension of Dianetics which is in itself an extension of old-time faculty psychology of 400 years ago."¹⁶ Watch for the next reprint of this book--chances are, these words will be altered to remove the evidence of this statement.

Though by Hubbard's admission Dianetics and Scientology are based on psychology, CSI has been ironically embroiled in an ongoing battle against psychiatry and psychology through its group, Citizens Commission on Human Rights. Celebrity spokespeople today actively slam psychiatry and the use of psychiatric drugs. CSI's battle is fueled by rejection of Hubbard's theories from the American Psychiatric Association and the American Medical Association in the late 1940's and early '50s. Hubbard claims he inherited the mess created by the mental health field and that "Scientologists are the people who are cleaning up the field of mental healing and effectively handling mental health on the planet."¹⁷ But celebrities are also slamming Scientology. Just watch the Internet news boards for the latest updated list.

Hubbard credits the founding of psychiatry to Russian veterinarian Ivan Pavlov "whose work was intended to control people like animals."¹⁸ He teaches his followers "almost every modern horror crime was committed by a known criminal who had been in the hands of psychiatrists and psychologists."¹⁹ "The psychiatrist has masters. His principal organization, World Federation of Mental Health, and its members, the National Associations of Mental Health, the 'American' Psychiatric Association and the 'American' Psychological Association, are directly

¹⁶ L. Ron Hubbard, *Scientology - The Fundamentals of Thought*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1983, p. 7

¹⁷ L. Ron Hubbard, "Public Image," HCO PL 3 February 1969, *OEC Volume 7*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 1044

¹⁸ L. Ron Hubbard, "Dianetic Contract," HCO PL 23 May 1969, *OEC Volume 7*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 1096

¹⁹ L. Ron Hubbard, "Criminals and Psychiatry," HCOB 29 July 1980, *OEC Volume 7*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 1144

connected to Russia. Even the BBC has stated that psychiatry and the KGB [Russian secret police] operate in direct collusion."²⁰

Hubbard set out to prove 19th century German psychologist Wilhelm Wundt wrong on his claims that "man was an animal without soul and based all of his work on the principle that there was no psyche (spirit)," as his premise for proving man was, in fact, a spiritual being. Hubbard's subsequent works continue his attempts to negate psychology's teachings that man was nothing but an animal that could not be bettered, that man's intelligence could never be changed, and that Wundtian psychology became standard in universities because of "the indifference or lack of knowledge of people in charge of universities."²¹

Hubbard mentions hypnosis (a psychological technique) throughout Dianetics though discourages its use and instead brings patients into "reverie" and the use of "amnesia trances."²² Ron Jr. reported that his father had an obsessive interest in hypnosis, self-hypnosis, and unconscious states in general, and practiced drug-induced hypnosis on him and his mother. He believed that Hubbard's theories in Dianetics and Scientology were his father's written account of "what was wrong with himself and attempts to resolve it."²³ Ron Jr. stated that the main sources for what became Dianetics were actually "psychoanalysis, abreaction therapy (regression into memories), and general semantics, all psychological techniques."²⁴ Ron Jr. also affirmed in a

²⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, *New Slant on Life*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 126

²¹ L. Ron Hubbard, *The Fundamentals of Thought*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 8

²² L. Ron Hubbard, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1990, p. 470

²³ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 262

²⁴ *Ibid*, p. 263

sworn affidavit that his father regularly "used illegal drugs including amphetamines, barbiturates and hallucinogens, cocaine, peyote, and mescaline."²⁵

Scientology's key solution to achieving their goals on earth is to equip and empower celebrities with Hubbard's technologies, so they can speak and meet the public. Celebrity Centre International in Hollywood is established to do just that. Recruitment of new celebrities is a major strategy of Scientology management, to forward the expansion and popularization of Scientology through the arts, sports, management and government. Tom Cruise and John Travolta are quoted in major media about their beliefs in Scientology as well as attacks on psychiatry. My upcoming book on escaping Scientology will take the wraps off of the Church of Scientology and its strategic manipulation of celebrities for the sole purpose of forwarding its own aims.

The first clue to Scientology's "advanced spiritual teachings" about past-life aliens is found on the cover of *Dianetics*—the trademark volcano, "designed to ensure buyers feel compelled to buy it because of its impact."²⁶ However, it is not until a customer moves up Scientology's bridge to the confidential spiritual awareness level of "Operating Thetan III" that "one finds out the significance of that volcano."²⁷ Hubbard tells all his followers that they experienced this on their past lives time track: 95 million years ago, the head of the Galactic confederation—Xenu—solved his overpopulation problem by freezing his people through injections of alcohol-glycol, and shipped them to Teegeeack (Earth) in space ships resembling DC9s, into volcanoes, where he blew them up with H bombs. Before they were blown up, the thetans were "implanted" with thoughts like the crucifixion, sex perversions, car accidents,

²⁵ Ibid, p. 53

²⁶ Scientology volcanos, <http://www.holysmoke.org/cos/cult-volcano.htm>

²⁷ Peter Forde, "A Scientific Scrutiny of OT 3", Operation Clambake, http://www.xenu.net/archive/ot/peter_forde.html#3.2

psychiatrists, illness, and more. The spirits of these people (thetans) were packaged into "clusters" of thousands of thetans stuck together. Earth has since been thought of as a "dumping ground," hell, and the "evil place." Hubbard called the nuclear devastation, "the Wall of Fire." Customers use their E-meter (a piece of equipment fashioned after a lie detector, used in Scientology auditing) to "audit" these "body thetans" until they leave their presence.²⁸ Church marketing staff actually believe that this volcano image restimulates people on a subliminal level to buy the book.

Hubbard formed his elite squad of management staff called "The Sea Organization" aboard the Flagship Apollo, one of the ships he used to avert tax and government authorities, and also to carry out his "advanced research." Around 1980, Hubbard went into seclusion and secretly resided in random locations, including a ranch near Creston, California, where he died January 24, 1986, estranged from his wife and family. Miscavige, who seized the leadership role over CSI after Hubbard's death, announced to Scientologists from Hollywood's Palladium that Hubbard intentionally "left his body to continue his research into the upper OT levels, doing so in an exterior state."²⁹ However, legal records including eyewitness reports and the coroner's report show that Hubbard had a long history of chronic pancreatitis (caused by alcoholism), and a clinical history that supported neurological problems. He had a crippling stroke several days before he died, and his coroner's report indicated there were 10 needle marks in his gluteal area, made by injections of Vistaril, a hypnotic psychiatric drug. Ironically, Hubbard's long-term aides attest that for years prior to his death, he ingested a variety of drugs during his "spiritual research," many of them "allegedly hypnotic and psychiatric drugs including Hydroxyzine (Vistaril) and other

²⁸ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 364

²⁹ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 13

medications administered by Hubbard's doctor and assistants."³⁰ Ron Jr.'s affidavit also attests that his father "regularly used psychiatric and hallucinogenic drugs, especially during research into advanced spiritual levels."³¹ Hubbard's body was cremated within 24 hours of death, and his ashes scattered at sea.³²

Scientology's game may be the greatest story ever *sold*. Today's customers, also referred to as parishioners, public, and practitioners, can spend an estimated \$500,000 or more to progress through Scientology's labyrinth of courses and spiritual processing in hopes to achieve its highest attainable spiritual state. Ron Jr. said of his father, "Hubbard wanted much more than just money; he intended to have personal power on a scale that only a few in history have ever credibly aspired to. In pursuit of this objective he was a man obsessed..."³³

Part II: The "Scriptures" of Scientology

The most important premise upon which the Scientology empire rests is that Hubbard's writings are truth, referred to as "source³⁴ materials" (coming from the founder) and are 100% standard (written by Hubbard). The Religious Technology Center (RTC) claims to hold and protect the copyrights and trademarks to all of Hubbard's materials and is the approval body for any new material issued in Hubbard's name.

Scientology does not have a single book of scriptures used like a bible. Instead, all of Hubbard's writings suffice for "scriptures" called "source materials." Revelations of truth are

³⁰ FACTnet, "Who Killed L. Ron Hubbard?" From the FACTnet Probate Court brief, <http://home.earthlink.net/%7Esnefru/deathoflrh/FACTnet-death.html>

³¹ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 53

³² Jon Attack, *A Piece of Blue Sky*, (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 352

³³ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 46

³⁴ L. Ron Hubbard, "Source," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, pg. 394

obtained through Hubbard's Factors, Axioms, and Logics,³⁵ the technical bulletins (HCOBs, Hubbard Communication Office Bulletins), policy letters (HCOPLs, Hubbard Communication Office Policy Letters), and the entire collection of the L. Ron Hubbard Library. Every word is considered "source" (truth) written by Source (Hubbard). Believing that Hubbard is "source," and that the publication of his words is 100% standard, are intrinsic beliefs upon which one's allegiance to Scientology completely depends.

The Judeo-Christian Old and New Testaments of the Bible are rejected as truth or the word of God, yet Hubbard's writings include quotes directly from the Bible (without crediting it) as well as examples of "scripture twisting." A familiar saying in Scientology is, "Know thyself, and the truth will set you free," a twist from the Bible's book of John 8:38.³⁶ CSI used (an unaccredited) Bible quote for its Sea Org recruitment campaign in the 1980s, "Many are called, but few are chosen" derived from the Bible (Matthew 20:16).³⁷ "The Factors" are Hubbard's re-write of creation from the book of Genesis. "Before the beginning was a Cause and the entire purpose of the Cause was the creation of an effect..."³⁸

In his book, *Hymn of Asia*, Hubbard reveals himself as the messiah and reincarnated Buddha. In other works, he states that he derived his Scientology philosophy from the writings of Christianity, Vedic scriptures, the Tao, the Dharma, technologies of barbaric cultures, German philosophers Nietzsche, and Kant, the cults of the world, "and a host of other sources."³⁹ The question remains why the "enlightened one" would resort to the cults of the world as his basis for

³⁵ L. Ron Hubbard, *Scientology 0-8*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988

³⁶ The Bible, John 8:32

³⁷ The Bible, Matthew 20:16

³⁸ L. Ron Hubbard, "The Factors" *Scientology 0-8*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 89

³⁹ *Ibid*, pp. 4-5

his Scientology scriptures and the answers for humankind. While Scientology claims to be the fastest growing "religion" today, "its roots are traced to cults,"⁴⁰ pagan spiritualism, early Gnostic beliefs, and occult "magick."

Hubbard's seminal books published in the 1950s include *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, *Science of Survival: Prediction of Human Behavior*, and the "axioms, logics, and laws" of Scientology comprised in *Scientology 0-8*. The core topics are what the soul is doing to the body, theories about the "life force" of humans as spiritual beings who *have*—but *are not*—bodies, and Hubbard's brand of salvation techniques, called "technologies." These three books reveal key concepts and terms coined by Hubbard that form the basic nomenclature of Dianetics and Scientology. The "analytical mind" thinks and calculates for survival. The "reactive mind" contains aberrations and negative memories or "engrams" from past experiences including past lives, which "auditing" or counseling processes help the "pre-clear" to erase.

Hubbard's book, *Science of Survival*, illustrates a key Scientology tool, the "chart of human evaluation," used in both Dianetics and Scientology. This chart measures emotional tones and behavioral characteristics of humans and their value to society. Hubbard's goal of auditing is to raise a human on the tone scale to survive at the highest level, "serenity of beingness,"⁴¹ in a state of total knowingness (God).

Some of Hubbard's most revealing socio-cultural theories are found in these early books. In *Dianetics*, Hubbard states that homosexuality is an illness that causes perversion, that "society's tolerance of it is as bad as punishment for it,"⁴² and recommends that "perverts" either be handled

⁴⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, *Dianetics: Evolution of a Science*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1983, pp. 10-11

⁴¹ L. Ron Hubbard, "Tone Scale chart," *Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 2001

⁴² L. Ron Hubbard, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1990, p. 135

through Scientology processing, or removed from society. He says abortion is murder and contributes to the rapid social decline of a culture. (This contradicts the management of his Sea Org staff where abortion is condoned over the women leaving staff to raise a family).⁴³

Science of Survival reveals his position on "social cleansing," recommending "quiet disposal" or "deletion" of people "low on the tone scale" from society to reverse the dwindling spiral of a culture—unless, of course, they can be handled by Scientology "processing" (also called "auditing," Scientology's counseling procedure).⁴⁴ This book is also the main text used to train celebrity Scientologists how to free themselves from suppression in their careers, as well as how to deal with suppression of Scientology in the environment.

Ron Jr. said, "Hubbard had a formula that enabled him to run his own church for huge profits accruing to him. He could write "scriptures" with a guaranteed market, getting for example \$20,000.00 for one "Technical Bulletin."⁴⁵

CSI and its celebrity spokespeople claim that a person can be a Christian and a Scientologist at the same time because Scientology "does not conflict with other religions or religious practices."⁴⁶ This is contradictory to Hubbard's texts as well as CSI's claim to the IRS in its application for tax-exempt status. "Although there is no policy or Scriptural mandate expressly requiring Scientologists to renounce other religious beliefs or membership in other churches, as a practical matter Scientologists are expected to and do become fully devoted to Scientology to the

⁴³ Testimonies of coerced abortions in Scientology: www.whyairetheydead.net/abortions.html (8 personal testimonies dated 1997 – 2001)

⁴⁴ L. Ron Hubbard, *Science of Survival Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 2001, 195

⁴⁵ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 46

⁴⁶ L. Ron Hubbard, "Religious Philosophy and Religious Practice," HCOB 21 June 1960, *OEC Volume 7*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 995

exclusion of other faiths. As Scientologists, they are required to look only to Scientology Scriptures for the answers to the fundamental questions of their existence and to seek enlightenment only from Scientology.”⁴⁷

Part III: How does Scientology describe Jesus?

Recognition of Jesus Christ as the messiah and Son of God is not found within Scientology materials; on the contrary, Hubbard’s references to Jesus are false or derogatory in nature. The *What is Scientology?* (WIS, 1992) book offers a depiction of Jesus for newcomers to Scientology. The WIS book was designed for the non-Scientology public to explain the teachings and practices of Scientology philosophy. This book refers to Jesus as a Gnostic or new age “Christ consciousness” where he is reduced to a mere mortal, with others before him and after him as having equivalent effects on man. *WIS* includes no mention of Jesus’ virgin birth, life, and ministry, death on the cross as the Son of God, resurrection, ascension, or assumption of his place with God the Father. *WIS* depicts Jesus of Nazareth as a great teacher who lived after Moses and brought wisdom and new hope to mankind by preaching that this life was not all men might hope for, that man was more than only flesh and would continue to live, even after death. Jesus’ teachings were referred to as lessons in compassion and setting a good example. *WIS* states that “Christ” was crucified, and the hope that he brought to man did not die. Instead his death “became symbolic of the triumph of the spirit over the material body and so brought a new awareness of man’s true nature,”⁴⁸ a “new age” representation of Jesus Christ.

It is not until a Scientologist progresses into Hubbard’s more advanced writings and auditing that they learn what Hubbard actually believes about Jesus Christ. In one Scientology

⁴⁷ CSI Response to Final Series of IRS Questions Prior to Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501©(3) as a Church, October 1, 1993, footnote 6

⁴⁸ CSI staff writers, *What is Scientology?* (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1992, pp. 34-39

magazine article, Hubbard describes Jesus as merely moderately able in life. "Neither Lord Buddha nor Jesus Christ were OT's according to evidence. They were just a shade above clear."⁴⁹ "Clear" is a state of spiritual awareness that precedes the advanced OT levels on the "Classification, Gradation and Awareness Chart," also referred to as Scientology's "Bridge to Total Freedom." In essence, Clears are equal to Jesus Christ, and Scientology claims to transform people into Clears by the thousands.

In another context, Jesus is described as a possible member of the cult of the Essenes who studied ancient Egyptian wisdom and who believed in reincarnation. Hubbard's opinion was that Christ did not announce his "sources" except to say that his thoughts came from God, but this could have been the god of the Vedic scriptures. In one of the upper level auditor training courses, Hubbard teaches that followers of Christ possessed an evil memory or "implant" designed to control people, that there was no Jesus, that Christianity is based on watching the behavior of madmen, that leaders of the Christian church use brainwashing, and invented Christ to seize power over people.⁵⁰

Grace and the atonement of Jesus are not terms in Scientology philosophy. Jesus Christ is not the way to achieve "salvation" and in fact, is depicted as not only a deterrent to spiritual freedom, but as never existing at all except as a mental implant, like a figment of the imagination, that needs to be erased along with the rest of the reactive mind. Hubbard suggests that Christ's popularity in Christianity may be due to many Christians' previous lives in the Roman Empire,

⁴⁹ L. Ron Hubbard, "Certainty," Volume 5 #10, (Los Angeles, CA: Church of Scientology), circa 1954

⁵⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, "Lecture 10," *Scientology Class VIII Auditor's Course*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1968

where they themselves may have been crucified.⁵¹ "There was no Christ...the man on the cross is like Everyman."⁵²

Hubbard accused the early followers of Jesus (1st century) with using mental implanting. "These gangsters were the Nicomidians from lower Egypt who were chased out for criminal practices. They took over the 'Niocene' (Nicene) Creed before the year zero, invented Christ (who comes from a portion of the reactive mind 75 million years ago) and implanted their way to 'power.' The original Nicomidians date about 600 BC and people who were Christ date at 75 million years ago."⁵³

Scientology's most vile depiction of Jesus is found in the OT VIII materials, Scientology's highest advanced OT level, described by former Scientologists who have completed the OT VIII process. These materials have been posted on the Internet, and CSI representatives say the claims are a fabrication and only the highest of the high leaders in Scientology know the contents of OT VIII. The unauthorized version released on the Internet states this about Jesus: "...the historic Jesus was not nearly the sainted figure he has been made out to be. In addition to being a lover of young boys and men, he was given to uncontrollable bursts of temper and hatred that belied the general message of love, understanding, and other typical Marcab⁵⁴ PR. You have only to look at the history his teachings inspired to see where it all inevitably leads. It is historic fact and yet man still clings to the ideal, so deep and insidious is the biologic implanting."

⁵¹ The Scientology/Dianetics Comparative Theology Page, [http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co\\$/Christian/](http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co$/Christian/), p. 26

⁵² L. Ron Hubbard, "Lecture 10," *Scientology Class VIII Auditor's Course*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1968

⁵³ The Scientology/Dianetics Comparative Theology Page, "L. Ron Hubbard - Resistive Cases, Former Therapy," [http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co\\$/Christian/](http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co$/Christian/), p. 28

⁵⁴ "Marcab" refers to the Marcab confederacy, Hubbard's belief of a planetary civilization 200,000 years ago, "a civilization which looks almost exact duplicate but is worse off than the current U.S. civilization." – L. Ron Hubbard, Saint Hill Special Briefing Course #291 6308C06

In summary, according to Hubbard, Jesus Christ does not bring "total spiritual freedom;" instead, this state can only be achieved through Scientology labyrinth of counseling and training services to achieve the state of "full operating thetan" and immortality.

Part IV: How Does a Scientologist Learn About God?

Hubbard is known as "Source" to obedient followers, declared in the Technical Bulletins (HCOBs) and Organization Executive Course (OEC) volumes of policy letters (HCOPLs) that embody the technology and law of Scientology organizations. He additionally presents himself as Meiteyya, or the reincarnated Buddha in his book, *Hymn of Asia*. Hubbard holds God's position as the focus of his follower's worship and undying loyalty.

In his keynote writing, *Keeping Scientology Working*, Hubbard makes it clear that he, not his helpers or contributors, is the sole reason why Scientology finally emerged. He said, "We will not speculate here on why this was so or how I came to rise above the bank (reactive mind)."⁵⁵ According to Hubbard, he is the only person capable of overcoming his human imperfections and able to master the mind. Only his philosophy has succeeded above all other efforts produced throughout time to help humankind; all else have failed. In that same reference, Hubbard says, "... man has never before evolved workable mental technology and emphasizing it is the vicious technology he did evolve—psychiatry, psychology, surgery, shock treatment, whips, duress, punishment, etc., ad infinitum."⁵⁶

Hubbard does make mention of God as the supreme being throughout his writings, although his information on this subject is contradictory. Neither of the words "God" nor "supreme being" is included in his Scientology technical dictionary, the only compilation of the Scientology

⁵⁵ L. Ron Hubbard, "Keeping Scientology Working," HCO PL 7 February 1965, *OEC Volume 7* (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, *Ibid*, pg. 10

⁵⁶ *Ibid*, pg. 10

nomenclature. The existence of a supreme being is affirmed in early writings, including *Dianetics* and *Science of Survival*, 1950), though God's nature is not defined. Hubbard says that each person must seek and know the divine nature for himself. Yet he also says the "science of Scientology" does not intrude into the dynamic of the supreme being.⁵⁷

In *Dianetics* and *Science of Survival*, Hubbard refers to God in the context that God exists and is important to the quality of man's life. "No culture in the history of the world, save the thoroughly depraved and expiring ones, has failed to affirm the existence of a Supreme Being. It is an empirical observation that men without a strong and lasting faith in a Supreme Being are less capable, less ethical, and less valuable to themselves and society. A government wishing to deprave its people to the point where they will accept the most perfidious and rotten acts abolishes first the concept of God; and in the wake of that destroys the family...A man without an abiding faith is, by observation alone, more of a thing than a man." However, in another writing, he presents the Supreme Being as a "postulated reality," one of two types of reality—MEST reality (matter, energy, space, time) and postulated reality, brought into being by imagination.⁵⁸

The Factors (1953), exemplifies Hubbard's theory that spiritual beings existed before the creation of life and, in fact, created the physical universe, thereby taking God's role in creation.⁵⁹

Dianetics (1950) compartments life into four dynamics or urges to survive. *Fundamentals of Thought* (1956) expands these into eight dynamics (self, family, groups, humankind, living

⁵⁷ L. Ron Hubbard, *The Fundamentals of Thought*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1983, p. 35

⁵⁸ L. Ron Hubbard, *Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 2001, *Science of Survival*, p. 127

⁵⁹ L. Ron Hubbard, "The Factors," *Scientology 0-8*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 89

things, physical universe, spirituality, and infinity or Supreme Being). The eighth dynamic is called such because of the symbol for infinity "oo" makes the number "8" when stood up.⁶⁰

The first or "self" dynamic means a full expression of individuality from one's body and outward image to awareness of oneself as an individual. One is considered to be the innate source of one's own projected universe, and "one will not understand the first dynamic fully until one also understands the seventh (spiritual) and then the eighth (God dynamic)."⁶¹

The name of the eighth dynamic has changed over the years in Hubbard's writings. In another text, originally released as *Dianetics: The Original Thesis*, the eighth dynamic is called "the Dynamic of Universal Thought, the urge of the individual to survive for the Creator."⁶²

"God" is also presented in the concept of an axiom. "The Supreme Being, for instance, has as the second datum for evaluation the Devil. The Supreme Being is Survive. The Devil is succumb. The basic postulate of Dianetics contains as an understood portion the fact that survive is matched by succumb."⁶³

In another section of *Science of Survival*, Hubbard suggests the existence of an actual divine being: "Dianetics...may be of assistance to a resurgence in man of something of his belief in a Divine Being and in himself as an entity partially divine." "The progress upward toward survival on higher levels is a progress as well toward God."⁶⁴ Yet, in another section he

⁶⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, *Fundamentals of Thought*, p. 35

⁶¹ L. Ron Hubbard, *The Fundamentals of Thought*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1983, p. 36

⁶² L. Ron Hubbard, *The Dynamics of Life*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1983, p. 19

⁶³ L. Ron Hubbard, *Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 2001, p. 261

⁶⁴ *Ibid*, pp. 489 and 490

discourages that. "Man's chances of reaching God are not very good considering the insanities of the world we are faced with today."⁶⁵

Hubbard denies the role of the Judeo-Christian God in creation, as mentioned in *The Factors*. This is further explained in his Advanced Technology at the level of OT III (Operating Thetan) where Hubbard reveals his version of the "creation story." He describes creation as two incidents, neither which involved God or other divine intervention. In Incident I, Hubbard says the creation of the universe occurred by bored spiritual beings (thetans) who existed in the universe (without bodies) and who wanted a "game," so they agreed upon a reality of how they created what we refer to as life. This included a loud snap heard across the universe, waves of light, horns blowing, and then blackness surrounding the thetans. Hubbard has put thetans (spiritual beings) in God's position and says that as spiritual beings, our problem is that we have "forgotten" how to be omnipotent.

Incident II includes the infamous "aliens" story of humankind becoming infested with body thetans (see Section I History and Development). The OT levels of Scientology advanced technology are aimed at rehabilitating the God-like state we each possessed as spiritual beings before creation. The advanced OT levels address the contact and removal of BTs (body thetans) that prevent us from being and knowing ourselves as God.⁶⁶

Part V: Sin and the Human Predicament

"Sin" is excluded from Scientology's nomenclature; analogous terms are "overts," "withholds" and "false or evil purposes."⁶⁷ According to Hubbard, humankind's fall from

⁶⁵ Ibid, pp. 492

⁶⁶ The Scientology/Dianetics Comparative Theology Page, [http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co\\$/Christian/](http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co$/Christian/)

⁶⁷ L. Ron Hubbard, "Evil Purpose," "Overt Act," "Withhold," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, pp. 148, 288, 469

perfection is not due to Satan's intervention, and Satan is not at the core of man's evil impulses.

Hubbard teaches that humans are basically good, basically well intentioned without desire to harm oneself or others.

According to Hubbard, humankind's transgressions stem from two main sources: 1) errors made in choices to do the greatest good for the greatest number of dynamics, and 2) false or evil impulses picked up during past lives that underlie one's reason for transgression. Hubbard teaches that one has an infinite ability to survive and how well one does this is dependent on how well one can use ethics on oneself, to free oneself from the dwindling spiral of life in the current culture. When one does harm others (commits overts of omission, commission, or has withholds) one will eventually destroy oneself in an effort to save the areas one has hurt. On this basis are the concepts of right and wrong, good and evil. To be entirely "right" would be to survive to infinity. To be entirely wrong, a person would be "dead."⁶⁸

When a Scientologist commits an "overt," it is not like sin where a believer transgresses against God's will. An overt is an act against one of the eight dynamics of life (self, family, groups, humankind, living things, physical universe, spiritual life, and infinity (formerly called the God dynamic). An act is an overt if it is not the greatest good for the greatest number of dynamics. Acts, then, are only overts according to one's concept of ethics from a Scientology perspective. For example, if a Scientologist harms a Christian who is speaking derogatorily about Scientology in public, this would not be an overt, because it would be the greatest good for a Scientologist's dynamics because one is helping oneself, one's family, one's group, mankind, and one's spiritual dynamic by defending Scientology.

⁶⁸ L. Ron Hubbard, *Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 2001, p. 264

The human predicament is centered in one's "reactive mind" or "case," or the whole sum of "charge" (harmful energy, force, misemotion from overts and "engrams" resulting from the conflicts and unpleasant experiences the person has had along their time track), plus evil purposes. Engrams⁶⁹ are painful incidents on one's whole track (all past lives since beginning of time) which contain physical or emotional pain and unconsciousness. Hubbard's theory is that details of these incidents are permanently recorded in the mind and have an everlasting affect on the person. Until engrams are removed with Scientology auditing, they prevent individuals from realizing their full potential and personal divinity. The erasure of one's engrams or "clearing of one's own reactive mind" results in the state of "clear" as described in Dianetics. After achieving this "superior" mental state, a Scientologist then gets told (in Scientology's confidential advanced spiritual levels) that although one no longer has one's own reactive mind, to become totally free, one must contact and eliminate one's "body thetans." Upper level auditing in the "Operating Thetan" (OT) levels reveals the presence of "body thetans" (BTs), parasitic souls that plague spiritual beings with unwanted conditions and reactions to life circumstances. Scientologists begin to contact and remove these BTs during the solo-auditing levels of OT III and above. When one has removed all their BTs, and rehabilitated one's powers that one possessed before the beginning of time, one has achieved "total spiritual freedom," the key to immortality.

Other special auditing processes called "false or evil purpose rundowns" help Scientologists to isolate their evil urges, including tendencies to purposely harm others or themselves, and erase these urges. The "false purpose rundown" promises to bring the mental and spiritual freedom to live cleanly and in control of one's life without harming others or oneself.

⁶⁹ L. Ron Hubbard, "Engram," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, p. 141

In summary, Hubbard's solution to the human predicament can only be achieved through Scientology auditing and training to achieve the state of "clear" and then the gradient states of "operating thetan" (OT levels). Hubbard claims that Scientology is the only hope for humankind, since nothing else has worked for the past thousands of years.⁷⁰

Part VI: Scientology's Salvation Road

Salvation is not part of Scientology nomenclature, nor is faith, grace, heaven, or atonement. Hubbard's early reference to the subject in *Dianetics* refers to "blocked dynamics" which the mental health field, cults, and religions have tried to handle but failed. Hubbard said, "Dianetics is not interested in 'saving man' but it can do much to prevent him from being 'saved.'⁷¹

CSI's compilation of Scientology's "theology," *Scientology Theology & Practice of a Contemporary Religion* (not written by Hubbard) does include a description of "salvation."⁷² This publication asserts that salvation in Scientology is "more immediate" than the Judeo-Christian tradition on the premise that the promise of Christian salvation is not realized until death. It omits any reference to the Christian belief that through repentance and upon expression of faith in Jesus Christ, one can receive the salvation of Christ at any age, and is not prolonged until death.

Hubbard offers salvation to Scientologists by claiming to free them from their reactive minds (at the state of clear) and their body thetans (at OT III and above), and by rehabilitating their divine nature that they possessed before creation but "forgot" along their many lifetimes.

Rehabilitation of one's divine nature is exactly the goal of Scientology auditing and training, and is

⁷⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, "Keeping Scientology Working," HCO PL 7 February 1965, *OEC Volume 7* (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p.7

⁷¹ L. Ron Hubbard, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1990, p. 117

⁷² Church of Scientology International staff writers, *Scientology Theology & Practice of a Contemporary Religion*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1998, p. 21

the essence of Scientology processes. A Scientologist is trained to believe that when one's body dies, one's spirit remains alive and independent with one's mind intact, and one takes on a new body for one's next life. In this new body is one's spirit that has always lived along with the mind one has always had. The mind is filled with memories from all previous lives, including engrams, and body thetans. The process of becoming a "full operating thetan," then, requires going through many different training routines that teach one how to control life, how to control communication, how to control people, how to develop and use fifty-seven perceptics Hubbard believes humans possess.

The complete salvation of the thetan is believed to be attainable only through the works of the Scientologist: years of training and auditing requiring expensive payments for progressive steps through the Scientology labyrinth of spiritual awareness levels. The goal of total spiritual freedom is "full operating thetan," freedom from all limitations that promises to bring self-revelation of one's divinity. This clarifies for the Scientologist that as a spiritual being, he has absolute certainty that he will be in control of his future lives. Ultimately, the thetan becomes aware of himself as a divine spirit, independent of the flesh, and he is certain that he will survive future lifetimes with memory and identity intact.

Upon examining the life of a Scientologist, one is not totally free at all. One is entirely dependent upon numerous manmade factors: the existence of Scientology organizations, auditors, e-meters, and the technology of Scientology. One is dependent on the belief that auditing works; that Hubbard is "Source," that Scientology technology is truth and 100% standard; the ability of the auditor to audit the customer 100% perfectly; the belief that the e-meter works. Most significantly, the Scientologist's progress is completely dependent upon the ability to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars for Scientology services to attain the state of "full operating thetan."

VII. Last Things and Life After Death

Eschatology or "last things" (what will happen at the end of time) does not exist as a distinct topic of study within the body of Scientology materials, since its focus is on the immortality of spiritual beings and the ongoing perpetuation of life. However, an important premise upon which all Scientology materials are based, is the expectation that the world is destined to be destroyed by humankind, due to the "basic aberration of the planet," which Hubbard calls the "fourth dynamic engram."⁷³ (See earlier sections explaining the "dynamics" or compartments of life, and the description of "engrams"). In essence, he says individuals possess a mental block that prevents peace and tolerance, which hence prevents us from being able to survive as "mankind as a whole." The urge to "destroy mankind" by blowing up the planet with nuclear bombs must be dealt with on an urgent basis, through Scientology, humankind's only solution.

Hubbard uses the concept of the "fourth dynamic engram" to cause Scientologists to perceive life on earth as a highly dangerous environment. He uses this issue in three main ways: 1) It is the reason he says everyone must do the OT levels, so they can erase the fourth dynamic engram in their own minds and thereby eliminate their own urge to "do in mankind." 2) This is why the Church of Scientology acts with such urgency to get people "up the bridge" and through the advanced levels; CSI perceives it is their duty to do so before it is too late and mankind destroys itself before CSI has the chance to "clear the planet" of this engram. 3) Any effort to criticize Scientology, or to deter or stop its activities, is perceived as a threat against the only solution to save humankind. This also explains its attack against psychiatry (see Section I History and Development), which is perceived as humankind's enemy and hence, Scientology's enemy.

This also explains why CSI stands in staunch defense of itself. In *Keeping Scientology Working*,

⁷³ L. Ron Hubbard, "Death," "Fourth Dynamic Engram," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, p. 170

Hubbard writes, "This is a deadly serious activity. And if we miss getting out of the trap now, we may never again have another chance."⁷⁴

With the fourth dynamic engram looming over the head of every Scientologist, they are told to move quickly through Scientology's advanced levels where the fourth dynamic engram can be erased. The dangerous environment of life on earth is also created by the "merchants of chaos" against whom we must fight to survive: politicians, reporters, the medico, drug manufacturers, militarists, arms manufacturers, police, and undertakers."⁷⁵ *Keeping Scientology Working* addresses this concern: "When somebody enrolls, consider he or she has joined up for the duration of the universe... The proper instruction attitude is, "You are here so you're a Scientologist... We'd rather have you dead than incapable. Fit that into the economics of the situation and lace of adequate time and you see the cross we have to bear. The whole agonized future of this planet, every man, woman and child on it, and your own destiny for the next endless trillions of years depend on what you do here and now with and in Scientology."⁷⁶

Regarding the issue of death, Hubbard's philosophy, though formed from a distillation of disparate philosophies, is based primarily on eastern thought, with emphasis on the immortality of the spirit, and the perpetuation of the physical universe through the postulated realities of spiritual beings. Because of this, there is no sense of finality or importance placed on the individual's death. Hubbard claims that through Dianetics processing he can prove "the immortality or near immortality of the individual," and because of that, "the importance and value of organism death is

⁷⁴ L. Ron Hubbard, "Keeping Scientology Working," HCO PL 7 February 1965, *OEC Volume 7* (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p. 13

⁷⁵ L. Ron Hubbard, *New Slant on Life*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1988, p. 7

⁷⁶ L. Ron Hubbard, "Keeping Scientology Working," HCO PL 7 February 1965, *OEC Volume 7* (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1991, p.11, 13

enormously reduced..."⁷⁷ With such strong emphasis on life as a thetan (spiritual being) the body is seen as a shell, or just necessary enough to use through this lifetime until a Scientologist can learn to live as a spirit outside one's body (as an "operating thetan").

According to Hubbard's philosophy, death is more a state of beingness rather than an event. It means an individual is no longer inhabiting a body; at "body death," the thetan and his body are separated; it is the body that is dead while the individual or spiritual being lives on to take another body, whether he is aware of it or not. One of the goals of Scientology is to equip the spiritual being with spiritual and mental abilities that enable one to be in control of their choices over future lives, and even, what happens to them between lifetimes. A Scientologist may choose to abandon his body when the body can no longer serve the thetan in its goal of infinite survival.⁷⁸

"Total spiritual freedom" is an ability gained by an advanced Scientologist after completing the OT levels. By this time, a Scientologist should have complete certainty that one is going to survive as a spiritual being after one's body dies this lifetime, and one will be in control of future existences with one's memory and identity intact.

The process of "body death" is not traumatic to a Scientologist, nor is the concern about whether one is going to heaven or hell, concepts which are not included in Scientology philosophy. Each time one's physical life ends, the thetan goes to an "in-between lives area," a station somewhere in the universe, where one is held temporarily before being shot back down to earth to take on a new body. While in the in-between lives area, the thetan is most likely given a "forgetter implant" (an enforced mental idea, like an engram, which makes the individual think a certain way)

⁷⁷ L. Ron Hubbard, *Science of Survival – Prediction of Human Behavior*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 2001, p. 487

⁷⁸ L. Ron Hubbard, "Death," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, pp. 105-106

⁷⁹ which makes the thetan forget what happened while one was there, and what happened in the life one just left. One is shot back to earth to take on a new body before it is actually born.⁸⁰ In *History of Man*, Hubbard describes thetans' combating other thetans for bodies, so the selection of a body is not only done at birth, but also with living persons.

One of the goals of achieving total freedom (upon completion of OT VIII) is to become total "cause" (fully in control of and responsible for) all past, present and future life, thought, matter, energy, space, and time—godlike abilities. When an OT's body dies, the OT expects to control what happens when they are without a body during their "in between lives" time, and is not forced into bodies one does not want, but is able to select one's next body. Or, an OT could choose to remain as a spiritual being and not take a body at all. The life of an OT exemplifies a totally free being, free from the endless cycle of physical life and death.⁸¹

The confidential OT VIII materials (called "Truth Revealed" and the final "wall of fire") as well as the OT III materials (regarding purging body thetans) have been posted on the Internet over the last five years in unauthorized forms, making these materials available for public viewing. One of the topics a Scientologist learns in these advanced levels is Hubbard's role in what he calls the Antichrist period, or which Christians refer to as "end-times" as described in the Bible's book of Revelation. Hubbard says, "My mission could be said to fulfill the Biblical promise represented by this brief Antichrist period. During this period there is a fleeting opportunity for the whole scenario to be effectively derailed, which would make it impossible for the mass Marcabian landing (Second Coming) to take place. The Second Coming is designed, among other things, to

⁷⁹ L. Ron Hubbard, "Implant," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, p. 206

⁸⁰ L. Ron Hubbard, *History of Man*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1952, p. 68

⁸¹ L. Ron Hubbard, "Operating Thetan," *Dianetics and Scientology Technical Dictionary*, (Los Angeles, CA: Bridge Publications, Inc.), 1981, p. 279

trigger a rapid series of destructive events.” Here, Hubbard describes the powerful reign of the Antichrist. “This Antichrist represents the forces of Lucifer, being a mythical representation of the forces of enlightenment, the Galactic Confederacy.”⁸² While Hubbard reveals himself in the image of the Antichrist in the OT VIII materials, it is interesting that he also reveals himself as the reincarnation of Buddha and the messiah (Section IV Supreme Being, God).

In the 1986 lawsuit, *CSI vs. Gerry Armstrong*, Hubbard’s “affirmations” of his own handwriting reveal that he hypnotized himself to believe that all of humanity and all discarnate beings were bound to him in slavery.⁸³ “All men shall be my slaves! All women shall succumb to my charms! All mankind shall grovel at my feet and not know why!”⁸⁴ Thus describes Hubbard’s goal for the “end.”

⁸² FACTnet, “The Authenticity of Scientology’s OT 8 Document,” December 5, 2002, <http://www.factnet.org/Scientology/satanism/ot8.html?FACTNet>

⁸³ Jon Atack, *A Piece of Blue Sky*, (New York, NY: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1990, p. 100

⁸⁴ Bent Corydon and Ron Hubbard Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?*, (Secaucus, NJ: Lyle Stuart Inc./Carol Publishing Group), 1987, p. 53