

Revealing Bible Mysteries

- Feedback -

From Denise, a writer from the Literary Arts Festival

Sunday, August 13, 2014 7:49 AM

Hey there. I came home, read several pages of your book, passed out and then awakened several times in the night. This is because I have tremendous social anxiety and I'm still coming down from the extensive stimulation of the week. I finally just gave in and got up out of bed and I'm considering doing some writing. I always try to make good use of my time.

I wanted to give you some feedback on your book on what I've read so far. As a writer, I think your work is excellent. You emphatically state the importance of the message in the beginning, wording the hints of deception in such a way that beckons the reader to want to know more. You created an alarming atmosphere early on. Using the first person perspective, you give the reader the sense that the information is scary and maybe even shocking at the same time, this first person telling of the story eases the reader's mind because you establish yourself as a guide of sorts, that will explain with gentleness, the deception. Much like a parent explaining that Santa is not real. The reference notations are not bothersome, as in some papers and theories I've read. I think the greatest key of exposing deception is to have a neutral voice. The voice author is not angry or acidic, which gives the book a very credible feel, as opposed to the paranoid rhetoric that is spouted out when secrets are revealed to the reader. The author appears confident, caring, educated and authentically interested in relaying a message. Given the subject matter and all the potential buttons that could be pushed, I feel that revealing the character of the author in this light is critical to the success of this work. Like a mystery writer, there are "breadcrumbs" given at the correct times for a person who has read the Bible and can begin, at least, collecting puzzle pieces in the hopes of being able to put them together.

I have some pretty strong ideas about marketing this book if you would like input in that area.

Having gotten only to page 29, these are only my beginning observations. You said your book emotionally charges people. I would agree. The "believers" freak out, the "atheists" click their heels three times celebrating another victory over how the traditions and beliefs of Christianity might just be a crock of soup cooked up for the purpose of social control. It seems like people on either side of the fence would deem this worth worthy of exploration.

I hope these early thoughts help you.

I'm going to see if I can grab some sleep before my 5am shift begins... takes care.

Denise

Denise

Monday, August 14, 2014 5:05 PM

Part 2...

I always viewed Paul as shrouded and bipolar. His writings disjointed and his preaching style like that of a Robertson or Graham. Not my cup of tea. Peter is presented as the wrench in the works most of the time and this was always a puzzle to me. The name game was suspicious to me as well.

So, I stuck with the stories of the Old Testament. The one about the lepers outside of the temple gates being my favorite.

I live by gut. You live by facts. We somehow came to many of the same conclusions. Your research beats my intuition when it comes to awakening others. Well done, Steven. I have come to the point in life where I am very inside of myself and no longer care about the ignorance of others.

Yet I know seclusion will be the death of me if I don't change. I've been on a mission to correct that. I don't date, but I do have "crone" friends that enrich my life. I am very quiet about my spiritual beliefs. Mostly I believe, for me now, religion is how you live your life. My days are spent helping others. My goal socially is to cultivate friendships and to perhaps one day share a path with a best friend/partner/lover who values what I value - which is very little. Things are just things. I respect the values of those I meet but rarely find common ground. Still, I make myself do things like go to the VFW with the girls, coordinate memorial gardens, facilitate community events and assist local businesses with creative marketing ideas...and meet interesting people at Ane Mae's for coffee. That's me.

If we don't plan on meeting this week, the next writing group meeting would be another anti-hermit gathering for me. I look forward to being around other writers.

Forgive the long winded-ness of this email. I like direct communication and hope this email hasn't been too much.

Denise

Denise

--- --- --- TGIF, 8-22-2014, 5:26am

Last night I realized that I had chapters six and seven of your book. Very interesting. The New Testament has an entirely different feel than the Old Testament. The description of "an attorney's language" is on point.

I was impressed by the research you did on the Garden of Eden, speculating the location based on the topography of today's land/sea formations.

I think the most redeeming quality of your work is that it beckons the scientific mind to come out and play. Scientists are a tough bunch. I am on the opposite side of the spectrum when it comes to God. I don't need facts or figures. I have carried life, given birth and watched my mother slowly die. There are sacred moments in life that prove to me that no human could have put this world together. No way. Also, the events in my life where I was the only witness to divine intervention- I don't discount those moments. Scientists do. They need proof and lengthy journals and notations and bibliographies and....on and on.

You have directly called this group of people out with your book in written it in a language that commands the respect of the scientist. Even if they disagree, you are standing on equal ground. They can't just dismiss this work.

I asked you why you thought this work was important. We were at the published author's gathering in the Hall of Fame. You said, "Because it is. People need this information". And I thought to myself, no they don't. From the left side of my brain, I was not able to see the point of the book. I figured it was just another bible book with rhetoric.

Today I understand your audience, your purpose and the need for such a work.

Isn't amazing how God gets His message out?

Denise

--- --- --- 8-25-2014, 8:05pm, Monday

Well...I'm done reading the entire book.

Excellent job, Steven. The gradual building of trust and credibility from the author to the reader is paramount. I never before identified this component in writing. Without it, the book would be nothing.

The initial voice of the author is that of friend, just having a chat at the table. Casual.
Then I heard the voice of the teacher.
Then no voice except God's in the telling of the Laws.
Then the voice of an elder.

The entire work is a fusion of all of these qualities and, again, if it had been written in any other fashion, it would have repelled me.

I sense from your email, that you believe your hands were divinely guided in the sentence about the church being the focal point in the marketing of this book.

I agree.

The way I see it, the whole project is blessed.

It's our job to show up, be vessels, follow divine purpose. You did that for ten years!

Wow.

What adventures will you and God go on next??

Something came to mind in regards to your resistance to public speaking...

Read my NEXT email.

I'm off to dreamland.

Goodnight