The Divine Disrupter

by Kathy Rebsch

Throughout the ages, man has tried to express his understanding of God and Who He is. Through scholarly discourse, mythology, songs, opera, poetry, artistic masterpieces and dramas of every genre, we have a multicolored landscape of fact and fiction when it comes to the

true nature and attributes of God. As believers, we know the one dependable source when it comes to learning the truth about God is the Bible. All scripture is given by inspiration of God (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible also is the only self-proving book in history, with over 300 Old Testament messianic prophecies fulfilled. If one wants to discover the true attributes of God, we need to look no further than Jesus. Jesus is the Word made flesh according to John 1:16, and He is the brightness of God's glory and the express image of His person (Hebrews 1:3). So, reading the Bible, the Word, is reading God.

In the Old Testament we see Jesus hidden, and in the New Testament, we see Jesus revealed. When Philip asked Jesus to show them the Father, Jesus replied: "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say 'Show us the Father'." (John 14:8) This scripture reminds me of a time when I was a young Christian and fresh out of two schools of ministry. With a truck full of zeal and a thimble full of wisdom, I went with my friend to witness in Venice Beach, CA. As a young evangelist, I was fervently handing out my trusty tracts. But it was a wild, tough crowd. We walked by psychic booths, and demons started manifesting with ominous screams. Then two men dressed in glittery long robes of some "religious" sect approached us. Scowling, they yelled "If God is real, part this Pacific Ocean right now!" I told them Jesus loved them and quietly moved on. Just as my zeal was starting to squash like a pancake, a man and a woman walked up to me. The man asked me a simple question in a somewhat belligerent, readyto-fight tone. "Who is God?" he demanded. And immediately, the Holy Spirit fell, and I answered, "Jesus said if you've seen Me, you've seen the Father."

I'll never forget his face. He was still and peaceful. After I said that, and for several moments, we seemed suspended in time. Finally, he moved on without any further discussion, and I knew the scripture had gone down deep.

That man had just encountered Jesus, the Divine Disruptor. Yes, Jesus is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, the Prince of Peace, The Great I Am, Our Redeemer, Lover of Our Soul, Our Friend, Our Righteousness, Our Healer, Our Master, but He's also the Holy Disruptor. That man probably just finished lunch with his date, and both were taking a leisurely stroll, having no idea what was about to happen. He gave all indications that when he saw me handing out tracts, he was ready to have a heated discussion on why I could not prove God. Little did he know that the Divine Disruptor was in his midst, loved him, and in that moment, disrupted and dismantled all hate and earthly pride for his own good, and enveloped him with truth and grace.

Throughout the Bible, we see God revealing Himself as a disruptor for good. In Genesis 11:1-9, the Tower of Babel is described. At that time, all people spoke the same language and decided to build a tower into the heavens and make a name for themselves. Uh-oh! Not good! We can see that this was a rebellious act, self-righteous and prideful, based on selfrule and ignoring the true God. Not once is it recorded that they consulted God on this "project." King David, on the other hand, inquired of the Lord before he'd go into battle, and he was described as "a man after God's own heart." (1 Samuel 13:14) God knew that as the people were united and had one language, nothing they proposed to do would be withheld from them. The building of the tower would lead to more widespread sin and idolatry. The last time God saw that wickedness was great on the earth, He was grieved in His heart and destroyed man from the face of the earth saving only Noah and his family. God, out of love and being the perfect holy Judge, confused the language of all the people and scattered them abroad to put an end to their endeavor. God's divine disruption at the building of the tower of Babel, unlike His judgement during earlier times with Noah, did not destroy His creation, but allowed mankind to continue on the earth. It was an act of God's perfect grace.

Another example from the Old Testament of God as the Divine Disruptor is from Exodus 18. Moses' father-

Israeli Science in the News

Glass that Builds and Heals Itself



PhD student Gal Finkelstein-Zuta and Prof. Ehud Gazit

Researchers from Tel Aviv University (TAU) have created a new type of glass with unique and even contradictory properties, such as being a strong adhesive (sticky) and incredibly transparent at the same time. The glass, which forms spontaneously when in contact with water at room temperature, could revolutionize in an array of diverse industries such as optics and electro-optics, satellite communication, remote sensing and biomedicine. The glass has been discovered by a team of researchers from Israel and the world, led by PhD student Gal Finkel-

"This is the first time anyone has succeeded in creatstein-Zuta and Prof. Ehud Gazit from the Shmunis School ing molecular glass under simple conditions", says Proof Biomedicine and Cancer Research at the Faculty of fessor Gazit, "but not less important than that are the Life Sciences and the Department of Materials Science properties of the glass we created. It is a very special glass. and Engineering at the Faculty of Engineering at TAU. On the one hand, it is very strong and on the other hand, "Among other things, we study sequences of amino very transparent – much more transparent than ordinary acids, which are the building blocks of proteins. Amino glass. The normal silicate glass we all know is transparent acids and peptides have a natural tendency to connect in the visible light range, the molecular glass we created is and form ordered structures with a defined periodic transparent deep into the infrared range. This has many arrangement, but during the research, we discovered uses in fields such as satellites, remote sensing, commua unique peptide that behaves differently from anynications and optics. It is also a strong adhesive, it can thing we know: it didn't form any ordered pattern but glue different glasses together, and at the same time, can an amorphous, disordered one, that describes glass". repair cracks that are formed in it. It is a set of properties that do not exist in any glass in the world, which has great potential in science and engineering, and we got At the molecular level, glass is a liquid-like substance all this from a single peptide - one little piece of protein". thatlacksorderinitsmolecularstructure.Still,itsmechan-

ical properties are solid-like. Glass is usually manufactured by rapidly cooling molten materials and "freezing" them in this state before they are allowed to crystallize, resulting in an amorphous state that allows unique optical, chemical and mechanical properties - alongside durability, versatility, and sustainability. The researchers from TAU discovered that the aromatic peptide, which

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> consists of a three-tyrosine sequence (YYY), forms a molecular glass spontaneously, upon evaporation of an aqueous solution, under room-temperature conditions.

> "The commercial glass we all know is created by the rapid cooling of molten materials, a process called vitrification", says Gal Finkelstein-Zuta. "The amorphous liquid-like organization should be fixed before it arranges in a more energy-efficient way as in crystals, and for that energy is required – it should be heated to high temperatures and cooled down immediately. On the other hand, the glass we discovered made of biological building blocks, forms spontaneously at room temperature, without the need for energy such as high heat or pressure. Just dissolve a powder in water – just like making Kool-Aid, and the glass will form. We made lenses from our new glass. Instead of undergoing a lengthy process of grinding and polishing, we simply dripped a drop onto a surface, where we control its curvature - and hence its focus - by adjusting the solution volume alone".

The properties of the innovative glass from TAU are unique in the world – and even contradict each other: it is very hard, but it can repair itself at room temperature. It is a strong adhesive, and at the same time, it is transparent in a wide spectral range, ranging from the visible light to the mid-infrared range.