



# Way of the Eagle

by Rhoda Collins

## SELF AS GOD

**A** Baptist pastor for 35 years, Howard Pittman died from a massive internal haemorrhage in the hospital and was taken to heaven... this is an excerpt of his testimony in his book "Placebo".

"Suddenly I was overwhelmed with darkness as I was swallowed with this veil. I didn't know where I was. The Bible calls it the valley of the shadow of death. Christian's refer to this as crossing Jordan. I can't describe it because I don't have the words. Suddenly in that darkness without any light I saw an object. I thought it was just tape twirling around and around but it was a single scripture **Hebrew 9: 27 "It is appointed to all men to die but after this the judgment."**

I didn't want to die.

I didn't believe in divine healing. I had been taught as a youth that divine healing ceased. I didn't believe that miracles occurred in our days, as I had been taught that they ceased. I didn't even believe in the supernatural. Even the devil I thought was a cartoon character. We didn't talk about the devil in our church. In fact if you mentioned his name twice someone would rebuke you!

That is a lie that he sows in the church body.

I struggled over scriptures that dealt with demons. I had been taught all about grace, mercy, love and salvation. I had been taught 2/3 of the Bible, but left out 1/3 of the rest of the Bible. That was my spiritual condition.

Like Hezekiah I wanted to live. I prayed to God to extend my life.

Out of that vast darkness a voice spoke to me: "Stop don't breath, no more pain. Peace, rest security all that you ever wanted, just don't breath".

You are not God I said and with that exclamation satan fled from me. He had lied to me... he told me he was God. He couldn't kill me... he had to get me to kill myself. You better know the spirit that speaks to you; your life could depend on it.

After I resisted the devil, angels showed themselves to me and instantly they took my spirit out of darkness into the light. They took me into the spirit realm and the very first thing that I looked upon was a panoramic view with scriptures played before my eyes from **Ephesians 6: 12 -"For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere."**



**ARE YOU  
ABSOLUTELY  
SURE YOU'LL  
GET IN?**

I was raised knowing nothing about spiritual warfare. My teachers didn't know. I didn't know I had an enemy I had to deal with every day of my life.

The angels then took me into the third heaven and told me that they would take me to God.

But first the angels let me watch as 50 saints entered into heaven. The host of heaven testified to me that 1950 more people died in the same time frame but they were not here. Thus only 50 out of 2000 made it into heaven! Mathematically speaking, that's only 2.5% making it to heaven. The host of heaven testified to me that this was the spiritual condition of the earth.

The angel stopped me as I moved toward the gates of heaven and said, "Stay outside these gates and talk to Him and He will hear you." I came up to but couldn't see the tops of the gates. I was not permitted to see God but I was allowed to talk to Him standing in front of the gates.

God then spoke to me in an audible voice telling me who I was, which was not really who I thought I was.

As I was there God gave me a message from His Word in **Deuteronomy 18:20** "But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die." God said if you lie in my name I will kill you physically and spiritually.

He said, "Your faith is dead, your works are in vain, the life that you lived and offered to me as a Christian service I rejected as an abomination and a Pharisee. What made you think I would take that from a Laodicea type Christian? In fact untold millions are living the same life that you live and they stay in danger of my everlasting wrath"!

I said, "Lord that is not me! You have me confused with someone else. Don't you know who I am? I am a preacher. I am a teacher." (He was calling me a Laodicea type Christian. In Revelation 3: 14 these types of Christians are described as lukewarm; a hypocrite that plays church on Sunday morning; one who goes to church and says: "Oh hallelujah" and can't wait to get out of church. They only serve the Lord with their lips. The church players heap to themselves coals of fire!)

I said, "But Lord that is not me. I stood on the street corners and I testified about you. I went to jail and I preached to the prisoners. I went to the hospitals and I prayed for the sick. I opened my home and I shared with others. That is not me. I'm not a hypocrite. You have me mixed up with someone else."

I really thought that. God didn't speak nor the angels. All of heaven was silent.

God then said, "They are in vain because you didn't do them for me. You did them for a false god." And I said, "But God wait a minute, You are my God. I have called you Lord every day." God said, "You did, but you never made me Lord. Yes you did all of those works in My name but not a single one of them you did for Me. You lied. You did it for your god and I will not take them (these works) for I am a jealous God and I will not have other gods before Me." I said, "But I don't have another God. You are the name I've bowed to. You are the only God I have ever known." He said, "No you've served your god in my name. You've served him... SELF!"

Self ruled in my life. Jesus Christ was not the ruler of my life. I was living a wrong life; a life that came from dirt and was going back to dirt. Suddenly as those scales fell from my eyes I saw Him, my real Father, my best friend; the creator of the universe was hurt by me. Nothing else mattered than my Father and His will.

Father in his mercy sent me back to do His will. God gave me a commission to people with a message of warning."

**SELF WILL IS IDOL WORSHIP-SELF AS GOD!  
BEWARE FALLING INTO THIS TRAP!**

Howard Pittman totally recovered from his illness and has taught this warning to countless people around the world for many years. Prior to this event he had been a Laodicea pastor with a church, a street and prison ministry that God said was all rejected, as Howard did it all because he wanted to do it, not because God had directed him to do it. Howard was the god of his life!

Let's each of us do as God specifically directs us, not what we think is important or as we desire!