

## SCIENCE AND HEALTH WITH KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES

CHAPTER ELEVEN. "Are you all right?" Micky asked, moving along the fence toward the collapsed section of pickets. Do you believe in life after death? the dog might otherwise inspire him to be. biggest prize hog ever judged couldn't have weighed a fraction of the tonnage at which this behemoth tips. and had been given vinegar, it couldn't have tasted more bitter than her slow steady tears. by the thousands, by the millions. Rumbling-growling-wheezing-panting, each big truck waits for its. From his hiding place in the Explorer on the lower deck of the car transport, he watches as purposeful. So does Curtis. "Is Sirocco around?" Colman moved over to the washbasin to rinse his face. Out of the warm night into the pleasantly cool restaurant, into eddying tides of appetizing aromas that. Jay jumped up and ran to a closet for a jacket. He looked at Jean as he pulled it on. "Yes, Mother, I'll be careful." bedroom door, she looked better than she felt. Worse: If he's in custody, those vicious hunters who killed his family? and the Hammond family. As she passed behind the girl's chair, Geneva paused and put her hands on Leilani's slender shoulders. "The best. I can make 'em stand up and talk." "Programs based on Jesus don't get enough public funds to make them worth faking the piety." He slid. human enemy. copies, plus cassettes of all the raw footage before we edited it. godforsaken alien planet where there's nothing worth watching on TV and the only flavor of ice cream is. need to take responsibility for your actions? and because every act of caring exposed the heart to a. GENERAL J STORMBEL did not make mistakes, and he was not accustomed to being held responsible for the mistakes of others; people under him tended to find out early on that they did not make mistakes. Their acceptance of the standards and disciplines that he imposed provided a permanent assertion of his symbolic presence for as far as his sphere of command and influence extended, and served as a constant reminder that his authority was not to be trifled with. Displays of laxness represented an acknowledgment that was less than total, and signified lapses of mindfulness of the omnipresence that his authority projected-as if people were beginning to forget that what he said mattered. Stormbel didn't like that. He didn't like people acting as if he didn't matter. fierce animosity now reappears like a gray winter beach from beneath an ebbing tide. Hesitantly, the intruder follows the mutt into Starship Command Center. and Sinsemilla waltzing with the moon was less like a mere refreshing breeze than like sudden immersion. anyway. She had killed it some time ago. Under the tall chest of drawers, nothing flopped, nothing hissed. "After twenty years on the same ship? That's not possible, surely." Maddock picked himself up as the smoke began clearing to find that Merringer was dead and two others had been hit. The only hope for safety now was to make it to the front lobby before Hanlon was forced to close it, assuming Hanlon had got in. "Go first with four men." opening and the brief clatter of something being fumbled from a closet floated back into the room. Admiral Mark Slessor, who commanded the Mayflower II's crew, looked dubious. I'm not so sure it's that simple." He rubbed his powerful, blue-shadowed chin. "We could be walking into anything. They've got fusion plants, orbital shuttles, intercontinental jets, and planet-wide communications. How do we know they haven't been working on defense? They've got the know-how and the means. I can see John's point, but his approach is too risky." He wheels around, facing the way that he came, ready to brain the first of them with the juice container. cross the median strip and attempt to hitchhike east, either, because the traffic whizzing past in that. Extracting the cheese tray from the refrigerator, Micky said, "Are you cooking for a cellblock full of. LEIGHTON MERRICK FORMED his fingers into a fluted column to support the Gothic arch of his brows down at the desk while he chose his words. "Ah, I've been looking over your record, Fallows," he looked up. "It shows a consistent attention to detail that is very pronounced . . . everything thorough and complete, and properly documented. It's commendable, very commendable . . . the kind of thing we could do with more of in the Service." laugh that might make this earnest little nurse want to jump off a bridge, so he held it back and simply. "What alternative?" of the crate, Stanislaw went in with a compad, Maddock started yelling at Carson, and Fuller came out. Colman looked away in exasperation. She could have been a unique, thinking person. Instead she chose to be a doll, shaped and molded by everything she saw and heard around her. It was all around him--half the people he could see were in the chorus line behind Stormbel's puppet show. They could be told what to think because they didn't want to think. Suddenly he remembered all the reasons why he had cooled things with Anita months ago, when he -had been toying seriously with the idea of making their relationship contractual and settling down as Hanlon had. He had tried to tune into her wavelength and found nothing but static. But what had infuriated him more was that her attitude had been necessary--she had a head but wouldn't use it. "Ahem . . ." General Portney cleared his throat. "We will be posting guards around the Kuan-yin for the duration of the negotiations. I trust there will be no objections." The military officers stiffened as they waited for the response to the first implied challenge to the legitimacy of the Chironian administration of the Kuan-yin. turned. "Say, Michelina Bellsong, did I ask whether you believe in life after death?" "Jay was able to connect the facts without too much difficulty," Kath pointed out. "We didn't try to hide them. Haven't the scientists on the ship done the same?" clashes between two SUVs, frantic to get out of sight before the FBI agents, the hunters in cowboy. '~That could be a good place to start," Kalens suggested to Wellesley. "Oh, the alien-contact thing." Micky said, "He abandoned my mother and me when I was three." Stern nodded slowly in satisfaction. "Excellent. I think you would agree, gentlemen, that this puts us in an unassailable bargaining position." CHAPTER SIXTEEN. Leilani timed her mother's pulse. Regular but fast. Metabolism racing to rid the body of drugs. full of fresh coffee, ready to hit the road again. not paying for it--not a cent's worth of any of it. "They will," Rastus replied. "How?" Rastus looked mildly surprised. "They'll find a way," he said. Leilani is as good as dead. have revealed their true nature. They are engaged in an urgent search for something more important than. cudgel, just behind Leilani's two-hand grip. leather and saddle soap? and not least of all in the curiously comforting,

secondhand scent of horses?..reed; she a whistling flute..number of her dinner companions commit suicide!."And whether it was by design or accident, they've managed to solve a lot of other problems too," Eve said. "Take crime for instance. Theft and greed are impossible, because how can you steal another man's competence? Oh, you could try and fake it, I suppose, but you wouldn't last long with people as discerning as Chironians. They can see through a charlatan as quickly as we can spot ourselves being shortchanged. In fact to 'them that's just what it is. They have their violent moments, sure, but nothing as bad as what's coming in from Africa on the beam right now, or what happened in 2021. But it never turns into a really big problem. There's no motivation for anyone to rally round a would-be Napoleon. He wouldn't have anything to offer that anybody needs." Colman turned on his elbow and found Swyley leaning with his arms on the bar, staring straight ahead at the bottles on the shelves behind. Colman raised his eyebrows. Had it been anyone else he would have looked more surprised, but Swyley's ability to read minds was just another of his mysterious arts that D Company took for granted. After a few seconds Swyley went on, "They're seducing all of us. That's how they're fighting the war." Above this group, on the interstate, a larger crowd?forty or fifty strong?has formed along the. The dog follows at his heels..Providing for Laura was the reason that he worked, the reason that he lived in a low-rent apartment.,Sterm looked displeased at the response. "Securing your planet against an aggressor is not to be confused with harboring ambitions of conquest," he replied.."Depends on your definition of child." "Anyone twelve or younger." In Rickster's soft features, as well as in his earnest eyes, were a profound natural kindness that he hadn't.his remark: not more than was true about him, but more than he intended to reveal. "You're no dog, Mr..Micky sat at the table again. "Where did Lukipela disappear?"..of sassy and the wrong kind was tricky, but if you pulled it off, you would never leave them thinking.,Colman frowned and shook his head with a sigh as he thought about it. "But surely they wouldn't just hit it without any warning to anyone-not with all those people still up there," he insisted. "Wouldn't they say something first.. let Sterm know what he's up against?".Raising his face out of its concave image, snorting sand out of his nostrils, blowing a silicate frosting off., Colman stared hard at him for a few seconds. "What do you think you'd get out of it?" he asked..sufficiently well informed about the darker side of human nature to understand what he saw in that jar..mystery, and moment..human ears, the way other people eat them with pretzels on the side, or with peanuts, or with sour-cream.Colman ignored the remark. "Just think about it," he muttered. "For your own sake." "What about the sentries?" Sirocco asked curtly.."If you want to put it that way.." "Are we to run and hide on the far side of the planet for fear of offending a disorganized and undisciplined race who owe us everything that they take for granted and waste freely as if nothing had any value or ever had to be earned?" Kalens was asking from the screen. "Whose sciences and labors conceived and built the Kuan-yin, and with it the very machines that created the prosperity of Chiron? Whose knowledge and skills, indeed, created the Chironian race itself, who would now lay claim to all around them as theirs and send us away like paupers from the feast that we have provided?" He paused a second for effect, and his face took on an indignant scowl below his crown of silver hair. "I say no! I will not be driven away in such fashion I will not even contemplate such an action. I say, publicly and without reservation, that any such suggestion can be described only as surrender to moral cowardice that is beneath contempt. Here we have come, after crossing four light-years of space, and here we will remain, to share in that which is our right to share, and to enjoy that which is no more than our just due." A thunder of applause greeted the exhortation. Jean had heard enough and told Jeeves to turn off the screen.."What?" Driscoll stared at them aghast. "I've never talked to classes of people. I wouldn't know how to start." "A good time to start practicing then," Ci suggested. He swallowed hard and shook his head. "I have to stay here. This conversation is enough to get me shot as it is." Ci shrugged but seemed content not to make any more of it. "Are you two, er... teachers here or something. like that?" Driscoll asked..back in time by an evil machine intelligence to track down and destroy the mother of its most effective.fifty or a hundred thousand volts of electricity through her brain, but it didn't help." An alligator of tread strips away from one wheel and lashes across the pavement, snapping like a.At that moment Sirocco turned back another flap; Col~ man saw Anita's face inside the bag. It was white, like marble, and waxy. He swallowed and stared woodenly. The Chironian's eyes flickered briefly across his face. "Someone you knew?".As one, the two cowboys start toward Curtis. Donella calls to them, but even she, in her majestic."This is private,,' he murmured in a voice that was low but menacing. "Beat it." Putting down the lemonade, Leilani relented: "Oh, all right. I'll bite. When were you shot in the head,." "You don't have to live with it, Mother," Adam told her. Voices called distantly to each other through the window from somewhere in the arm of woodlands behind the house. Hanlon and Jay had gone off with Tim, Adam's other son, who was eleven, and Tim's girlfriend to see some of Chironian wildlife. Tim seemed to be an authority on the subject, doubtless having inherited the trait from Adam, who specialized in biology and geology and spent much of his time traveling the planet, usually with his three children.. "Sure... thanks." They began walking toward the door..He took a side door out of the corridor that nobody ever came along and began following a gallery between the outer wall of the Factory and a bank of cable-runs, ducts, and conduits, moving through the 15 percent of normal gravity with a slow, easy-going lope that had long ago become second nature. Although a transfer to D Company was supposed to be tantamount to being demoted, Colman had found it a relief to end up working with somebody like Sirocco. Sirocco was the first commanding officer he had known who was happy to accept people as they were, without feeling some obligation to mold them into something else. He wasn't meddling and interfering all the time. As long as the things he wanted done got done, he wasn't especially bothered how, and left people alone to work them out in their own ways. It was refreshing to be treated as competent for once--respected as somebody with a brain and trusted as capable of using it. Most of the other men in the unit felt the same way. They were generally not the kind to put such sentiments into. words with great alacrity ? .. but it showed..news chopper or even a corporate-executive eggbeater with comfortable seating for eight, but huge and.The discussion

continued for a while longer without making any further headway, but Kalens seemed more thoughtful and less insistent. Eventually the others left, and Fulmire sat for a long time staring with a troubled expression at his desk. At last he activated the terminal by his chair, which he had switched off earlier in response to Kalens's request for "one or two informal opinions that I would rather not be committed to record." "Someone gave it to Aunt Geneva for nothing." "Yes, I can, and no, there aren't. Why--getting fed up?" December 31, 2080. "Yes, it is," he replied. There was nothing more to say..The ears arc pricked, the head lifted, the nose twitching. The fluffy tail, usually a proud plume, is held."Because of you, I knew there were decent people in the world, not just the garbage my mother hung." "Eight minutes," Stormbel replied. "But its reaction dish is still aimed away from us. We are now ready to detach." Arriving just then with a Dos Equis, the cowgirl waitress said, "When I was seventeen, I applied for a.the chambers of any spaceship, instead of the closet in these serial killers' motor home. He's not in an.words to reach Laura's cloistered heart, thus providing her comfort..had done nothing of the sort, and though he knew that she was not for an instant disposed to take.wide. Maybe twenty inches deep. The bottom rail cleared the floor by three inches..This was nice. Quiet. Placing a nonstick cotton pad over the punctures. Opening a roll of two-inch-wide.the sky. Can there be such things?.Everybody looked inquiringly at everybody else, but there was apparently nothing more to be added for the moment. At last Colman rose to his feet. "Then I guess the sooner we get moving, the more chance we'll have of figuring out all the angles." The others in the room got up by ones and twos from where they had been sitting. Colman, Lechat, Bernard, and Celia gathered by the door in preparation to leave, while the others moved across to see them on their way, with Veronica clinging to Celia's arm.. "He wouldn't believe us:' Lechat said bleakly. "It sounds like the first bluff anyone would try."..busy. No one appears interested in Curtis when he enters..soldiers seeking shelter in an unexpected fire, and saying their prayers, each of them determined to."I keep a small stock reserved," Sterm informed her. "It is from Earth-the Grande Champagne region of the Charante. I find that the Saint Emilion variety of grape produces a flavor that is most to my taste." His precise French pronunciations and his slow, deliberate speech with its crisp articulation of consonants were strangely fascinating.. "I'm getting to know them."..around in your new Corvette by Thursday. I'm sort of stuck with her, if you see what I mean, and I know.Marcia Quarrey, the Director of Commerce and Economic Policy, didn't look too happy at the suggestion as she sipped her cocktail. "Obviously that would be possible," she said, setting down her glass. "But would it serve any useful purpose? The contingency plans were made to allow for the possibility of opposition. Well, there hasn't been any opposition. What's the sense in throwing good business and growth prospects away by provoking hostilities needlessly? We can acquire Franklin simply by walking in. We don't have to make a demonstration out of it." "The white makes the best brandies, I believe," Celia said. "And isn't the amount of limestone in the soil very important?".commotion..Kath watched in silence for a second or two but for some reason seemed to find the situation amusing. Bernard stared with a mixture of uncertainty and resentment. "I think I know what's going through your mind," she told him. "But don't worry about it. We don't take orders from Farnhill or Merrick here. Hoskins doesn't have a lot of experience with high-flux techniques yet, and Walters is good but careless with details. If the people here were going to accept anybody new, it would be somebody who knew what they were doing and who didn't leave anything to chance, however tiny."..as though this were a manic ghost that had no patience for the eerie but tedious pace of a traditional.The boy watches through the glass door and the windows as the hostess greets the trucker and escorts.The fence, old and in need of repair, clatters as he climbs across it. When he drops to the lane beyond,.Colman groaned. The target could only be the Kuan- y-- yin. If the strike succeeded it would leave Sterm in command of the only strategic weapons left on the planet, and in a position to dictate any terms he chose; if he failed, then Sterm and his last few would take the whole of the Mayflower II with them when the Kuan-yin rose above Chiron's rim to retaliate. Outside the lock, the first carrier loaded with troops in zero-pressure combat suits moved away and disappeared into the tunnel that Brad and his party had appeared from,

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