

## VIEW FROM THE MILKY WAY

A veteran senior angel was giving a brand-new freshman angel a tour of the heavens.

The freshman angel was wide-eyed and awestruck as he saw the vastness and majesty and wonder of God's incredible universe.

When they came to the Milky Way, the senior angel said to the freshman angel: "Come over here, son. I want to show you something special. Look down there! That tiny planet is called Earth. It looks rather insignificant from here, doesn't it? It looks so small, so inconsequential, but something quite remarkable happened there some years ago.



"The people of Earth had gotten off the track a bit. They were missing the whole point of their existence. They were missing the meaning of life. So God sent His only Son into that world to save them and turn them around and teach them what He meant life to be for them on Earth."

"Wow! That's amazing!" said the freshman angel excitedly. "You mean to tell me that God's Son actually visited that little planet?"

How pleased the people of Earth must have been to receive Him. I can just imagine that they must have had a great celebration for Him on Earth."

"No," said the senior angel quietly. Then with tears glistening in his eyes, he said, "No ... they tried to kill Him! They were so rigidly wrapped up in their old ways of doing things that when He presented some new ideas, they resented Him, and they tried to silence Him."

Blinded by the old, they missed the new, the senior angel continued. "The Lord was in that place, and they did not know it."

How easy it is to fall into that trap. How easy it is to become so paralyzed by our usual ways of doing things that new ways threaten the life out of us. How easy it is to become so close-minded that we are blind to any kind of new truth.

Blinded by the forms, we miss the force. Blinded by the rituals, we miss our reason for being. Blinded by our narrowness, we miss God's nearness. Blinded by the old, we miss the new.

Blinded by the law, we miss the chance to love. Blinded by common practice, we miss the common sense. Blinded by our systems, we miss the Savior.

(more)

*Then He (Jesus) said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward." Then He said to them (the Pharisees), "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they kept silent. And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other (Mark 3:3-5 NKJV).*

– Beecher Hunter