

## **The Sign of Jonah for America?**

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### **Introduction**

Amidst the vast randomness found in the history of mankind, occasionally events do coincide in ways that seem out of the ordinary. We recognize, and sometimes marvel at the strange and unusual timing of such events. Hence, we label such moments as a *coincidence*!

Merriam Webster defines coincidence as “the occurrence of events that happen at the same time by accident but seem to have some connection.”

Some people simply dismiss a coincidence with “Well, it just happened!” Some wonder, “Why did it happen?” Depending on the level of impact the outcome brings, they may even find the happening awe inspiring.

At times, people will acknowledge a coincidence when it happens with, “Wow! What a coincidence!” Coincidences really make for amazing subject matter when telling stories, often giving an interesting twist at the story’s end!

Interestingly, I’ve heard that in the ancient Hebrew language, there is no word for “coincidence”. Yet they happened! Could it be that coincidences are God’s way of drawing attention? Maybe God is drawing attention to His (God’s) very being?

I believe that!

I choose to believe that no matter how small the coincidence, it is God’s way of reaching out from the dimension which keeps us from visibly seeing Him!

What if you found a common thread linking the coincidences, as if God was orchestrating something peculiar, yet specific in your life? Wouldn’t that make the hair on the back of your neck stand on end? Wouldn’t that be

freaky? Drawing you onward, you feel like a pigeon following perfectly placed pieces of bread.

Soon, you begin to see seemingly insignificant memories from your past, (only now) playing a particular role in future events in your life. You start to connect the dots, and begin to see God's Providence!

As part of this story, I share some simple memories from the last 40 or so years of my life and how they resulted in a coincidence. Other coincidences not mentioned in this story, happened as well.

## **Outline**

- 1. The Bradley house**
- 2. Dr. Stephens Organic Chemistry**
- 3. My Salvation**
- 4. The Cattle on a Thousand Hills**
- 5. Mad Cow Disease**
- 6. The Book of Jonah**
- 7. Smith Dalmatian**
- 8. Thor Eubank**
- 9. Compounding**
- 10. Patenting**
- 11. Concluding Remarks**

## **1. The Bradley house.**

It was the spring of 1975, and a pleasant Friday evening. My good friends - Steve, David, Jim, and I were out driving around – having fun just being together, talking, and looking for something to do. Steve was at the wheel of his parents' gigantic gold Chevrolet Impala. Usually, we would go hang out at A&W root beer - one of our favorite pastimes on a weekend night.

We were seniors at Huntsville High School, in Huntsville Alabama, and graduation couldn't come soon enough. The four of us were all members of

the varsity track team at Huntsville High. Steve, David and I, spent a lot of time together over the years, since grade school. Although David and Jim went to the same church, the rest of us developed a friendship with Jim, during high school – mainly through participation in track.

On that night, Jim had it in his mind to go visit one of our classmates.

“Let's go see Omar Bradley!” Jim said.

Jim and Omar were good buddies, primarily from four years of playing on the high school football team. Omar was a nickname after World War II General Omar Bradley. We all knew that Omar lived on Marsheutz Avenue - across from the Huntsville High School parking lot. With all in agreement, we headed to Omar's house!

When we arrived, Steve pulled into Omar's driveway. One thing distinguished Omar's house from the other 20, or so, houses on Marsheutz Avenue: all of the houses on Marsheutz had a front door which faced directly toward the road. The exception was Omar's house: his front door faced to the side - onto a covered porch on the front side of his house.

We all climbed the steps onto the porch, and Jim knocked on the door. The porch light came on, the door came open, and there stood Omar.

“Hello gentlemen!”, Omar said in his smooth hospitable way, “What are you fellows up to?... Come on in!”

Omar was watching television while doing homework, but, welcomed the surprise visit. We walked in as if to stay briefly, and remained standing.

“We were driving around and thought we'd drop by to see you.” Jim said.

From then, our conversation was mainly high school chit chat. We spoke about fellow classmates, coaches and teachers, and the latest gossip at school. And, yes – graduation!

After about a half an hour of hanging out at Omar's house, we wished Omar a good evening, and headed back to the Impala. I don't remember if we ever made it to A&W that night, or not. I do remember how much fun it was to be carefree, to be graduating from high school, and thinking about which college to go to.

By now, I am 100% certain that you must be thinking something to the effect: this sounds like a flimsy attempt at writing a short essay for a college English Composition 101 class based on the assigned theme: "What is one of my favorite 'pre High School graduation' memories?" There is nothing special about it, other than it's just a fond memory from a night when I was in high school. But, it's funny sometimes, what we seem to remember.

## **2. Dr. Stephens Organic Chemistry**

High school came to an end. Most of my classmates were about to continue their education at either The University of Alabama, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, or at Auburn University, in Auburn, Alabama. I chose Auburn – home of the Auburn Tigers! Auburn's school cheer - "War Eagle!"

My freshman year at Auburn was filled with many challenges, including all the things that go with being a bachelor. I learned how to improperly wash my clothes, and that it was better to add macaroni to boiling water rather than adding it to cold water before turning up the heat!

Campus life definitely could be a proving ground for the average freshman. It required more discipline in study habits- like keeping focused while studying with friends as study partners. It was a time of newfound friends, as well as developing closer relationships with classmates from high school, now attending Auburn.

As it turned out, many of my new friends were people I met in my classes. Most had declared majors in either pre vet, pre med, or pre pharmacy. I chose pre veterinary medicine as my major. The pre vet curriculum was

made up of many basic classes for the first year. But, it also had a strong introduction to math and science.

The first year passed by rapidly, and soon, I had a year of college under my belt. It was an exciting time for us freshmen, and my second year brought some changes:

Some friends from Huntsville— Warren and Ted, transferred from University of Alabama, and David (mentioned previously in Chapter One) transferred from Vanderbilt University – all three to Auburn University. The four of us decided (over the summer) to room together during our sophomore year. We found a two bedroom apartment that served our needs perfectly. It was a fun time for all of us, and created many fond memories: grilling burgers on the hibachi on the weekend, and going out on a date, now and then! Those were some fun times!!

Often, we returned from classes to an apartment filled with the sound of music such as Jimmy Buffet! A lot of our memories centered on music from the seventies.

Ted provided the phonograph and speakers. And, the four of us guys, collectively, had a pretty awesome collection of albums.

The phonograph sat proudly upon a make shift book shelf made out of cinderblocks, supporting four tiers of 1" x 12" stained boards. However, living on the second floor meant you could feel each footstep across the living room. Therefore, when we played an album on Ted's phonograph, we had to remember to walk softly across the room; because of a combination of the shelving and the floor vibrating, one of us could easily make the needle of the phonograph skip across a perfectly good 'Dan Fogelberg' or 'Chicago' album.

Once, a good Jackson Brown album forever bit the dust, except for 'Running on Empty' - the only song on that album side that would still play the whole way through...without skipping!

One thing about having roommates in college is that when things got too noisy, or hectic, it is hard to get any studying done. Yes, our apartment could be quiet, but it is nice to have, as back up, a friend to study with, with a quieter apartment when you need quieter study time!

Also, during our sophomore year, our friends from high school, Jim and Omar Bradley (mentioned in Chapter One), roomed together. Their apartment was across campus from where David, Warren, Ted and I lived. One evening when it was a little noisy at our apartment, I called and asked Jim if he wanted to study together.

Jim said, " Sure, why not! Omar is studying at the library, and I'm studying for an Organic Chemistry test!"

"Okay, great!" I said, " I'll come on over."

When I got there, Jim invited me in, and told me to help myself to the living room sofa as a place to study. That night at Jim and Omar's apartment, I don't remember what I studied. But, I remember my books and notebooks spread out all over the sofa.

Jim sat at a desk in his bedroom, diligently studying a stack of flashcards. He made them as a study aid for his organic chemistry lesson on carboxylic acids. On one side of each card was a skeleton-like drawing made out of varying numbers of the letters - C, H and O, connected by small lines. This represented a chemical configuration of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen atoms. On the other side of the card, was the chemical name of the skeleton-like drawing.

It was quiet studying with Jim, and we were getting a lot done. After an hour, or so, Jim emerged from his room, ready for a study break.

On his phonograph, Jim placed a Bob Dylan album-*Highway 61 Revisited*. The room filled with Bob Dylan's nasally sounding ballads, laced with intermittent-caterwauling-note seeking harmonica sounds. What can I say, we loved listening to Dylan! Next, Jim went into his kitchen to boil some water and made us both a cup of hot tea.

In a few minutes, Jim handed me a cup of tea, and reflecting, he chuckled, “Dr. Stephens – my Organic Chemistry professor, really cracks me up!”

Jim took a sip of his tea, then, looking my way, continued, “He’s teaching us about carboxylic acids -which is another name for fatty acids.”

Jim elaborated, “Dr. Stephens said that simple chain carboxylic acids are named by two types of nomenclature: one way uses the Latin numeric system, which is based on the number of carbon atoms in a row, making up a straight carbon chain. The numbers are of Latin derivative –

Penta - five  
Hexa – six  
Hepta – seven  
Octa – eight  
Nona – nine  
Deca – ten.

And so on...So, the carboxylic acid may take its name based on the number of carbon atoms found in that molecule:

Pentanoic acid  
Hexanoic acid  
Heptanoic acid  
Octanoic acid  
Nonanoic acid  
Decanoic acid”

Jim paused for a moment, then, continued, “The other way of naming carboxylic acids is based on a characteristic of the molecule such as its odor: “Butyr” is latin for butter, so butyric acid, which numerically has four carbon atoms in a chain, smells like rancid butter. ‘Capr’ is a prefix from which we get the word caprine (or a goat). Three fatty acids have the prefix ‘capr’ in their name, as well as possessing a numeric name:

caproic acid (or another name for hexanoic acid), caprylic acid (or octanoic acid), and capric acid (or decanoic acid), all supposedly smell similar to a goat.”

“I really like Dr. Stephens.” Jim exclaimed, “He talks with a deep bass sounding voice!”

Next, in a deep resonating voice (as if to sound like Dr. Stephens), Jim repeated a joke that Dr. Stephens said in class, “So, if you get capric acid on you, you will smell like a goat, Ah Ha! Ha! Ha!”

It was funny listening to Jim repeat what Dr. Stephens said. After a moment of contemplation, with a little sarcasm, I said, “Hey, Jim, That’s a pretty neat story!”

Jim and I both laughed!

Soon, we were finishing the tea, and getting a little philosophical about various lyrics by Dylan. We knew there was something really deep in his words. Anyway, we finished our tea, Jim turned off the phonograph, and we returned to our studying.

For my next quarter at Auburn, I signed up for Organic Chemistry 207 the same class that Jim had just finished. And, Dr. Stephens was my professor, too. From the beginning, I noticed that Dr. Stephens’ deep resonating bass voice was exactly as Jim impersonated.

Interestingly, when Dr. Stephens taught my class on the lesson about carboxylic acid nomenclature, he repeated everything he taught in Jim’s class, the previous quarter...including the punch line about smelling like a goat and his laugh. In fact, it was eerily verbatim to what Jim shared with me that night in his, and Omar Bradley’s apartment.

During that class, after Dr. Stephens’ joke and laugh, I put my pencil down on my classroom desk, and smiled in amazement! I immediately chuckled within, “Wow! That is exactly how Jim described Dr. Stephens and this class lesson... Exactly!”

I guess Yogi Berra, himself, couldn't have said it any better: "It was like deja-vu all over again."

With both Jim's impersonation of Dr. Stephens' joke about the goat fatty acids, and Dr. Stephens repeating the same joke later during my class, that created a very vivid and lasting memory from Organic Chemistry 207. Honestly, if Jim hadn't told me the story and joke (while imitating Dr. Stephen's voice), I am certain that if I had heard it from Dr. Stephens alone, I wouldn't have remembered it!

### **3. My Salvation**

I can recall (several times in my life), situations where I heard the gospel message of Jesus Christ. Those moments include when someone spoke directly to me, or to another person, or to a large audience. Basically, the message was:

- All men (including women)- because we have a sin nature which comes from the first man - Adam, are in opposition to God, and are sinners.
- With sin in our life, comes an eternal death sentence and banishment to a place intended for the devil - called hell.
- Sin in a person's life could only be forgiven, taken away, or blotted out by the shedding of innocent blood, and, that of the blood that was willingly shed by Jesus Christ – God in the flesh, on the cross 2000 years ago, in Jerusalem.
- Man can only receive this forgiveness, through faith in what Jesus did for man on the cross.
- Man, meaning any person individually, including me, could receive this forgiveness called salvation, be spared from eternal torment in a place called hell, and receive eternal life – living forever with Jesus Christ (our Creator) in Heaven in an eternal body!

In general, I would say that I felt drawn to this message by seeing the goodness in it. But I couldn't see where I had done anything very bad - that would cause me to be sent to a place like hell.

Maybe I had a 'safety in numbers' mentality, in that, God wouldn't send a bunch of nice people to hell. Or, I live a good life and have never killed anybody, and try to do good things. Maybe that would be good enough.

But, I wasn't considering that I live in a world created by a Holy God. And, because of the original sin by Adam, sin entered the world causing our world to become cursed, and descendants of Adam to become sinners!

The whole message isn't meant to mean something such as - God created man, so that he could beat man over the head. Rather, I found God's message as one of love, and restoring fellowship with man; in spite of the way man(kind) lives, God still loves man(kind) and wants to be a part of his, or her life. But, God is perfect and can't look on sin.

It wasn't until I was 33 years old that I seriously came to the realization that I wasn't certain where I would go when I died. I believed (in a low key way) that the things which I had done (of which the Bible calls sin), were...well, quite frankly, things which virtually everyone has done! And, I believed our sin – all of man's sins (that didn't really harm anyone) would somehow be neutralized by the good things accumulated on a person's eternal tally sheet. Do you know what I am saying? Have you ever felt that way?

Unfortunately, around that time, I was going through tough times in my life and felt metaphorically, like I was swirling in a downward spiral with no relief in sight! But, I seriously sensed some type of presence in the turmoil, like some supernatural being was dealing with me, as if to be getting my attention.

Since, I didn't believe it to be aliens, or some foreign being – as if lurking in some science fiction realm, I believed it to be God working, perhaps, 'behind the scenes'! However, also during this time of wrestling in my life, I began to feel (or sense) that there may possibly be some sort of ultimatum.

I found myself thinking about it constantly. When I drove my car, I clenched my steering wheel - thinking, "What if I were hit by another car right now...and died?!! What then?"

And, for some strange reason, Christians began to come into my life speaking about God or giving me a Bible leaflet about how to be saved. This became overwhelming. And, I could not stand it any longer; I was being dealt with! And, I had a peculiar feeling - with urgency, 'like I had better make a decision to believe in Jesus!' So, I did. It was the best decision I ever made!

The Journey was on! From the beginning, though, I didn't expect for things that were broken in my life to be immediately fixed. But, as I grew in my faith, I sought out God's promises from His Word – The Bible; if I messed up by not following God's Word, I trusted that God would correct me lovingly, bringing me back on track to his way of restoration.

His way would be better than what I asked for, or better than what I asked to be fixed. I believed that His working in my life would be in His (might I say), "perfect timing."

I heard that God was not a respecter of persons. So, what he did in the life of someone in the Bible, he could, or would do in my life. I began to consider God's omnipresence, and actually sensed it. At first, I was not sure what to think about it. But, as I read the Bible, I took note of God's promises scattered throughout His Word. I realized that he remained true to Bible characters. But, could God do something similar in my life. I just had to step out and believe that during any moment of my new life with God, that God Himself could or would do something in the process.

This was really strange. Some promises that I found interesting, and that began to become helpful in situations in my life are such as:

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (KJV)

Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” (KJV)

Things were not suddenly easy, but in difficult circumstances, as I held my ground, as far as my belief, I began to notice that God’s faithfulness was the Real Deal!

What in the world did I stumble onto?

To new or other believers, I have shared this description of ‘what my early Christian life became like to me’ when faced with troubled times:

I felt like I would go through valleys filled with deep water, coming up for air, all sputtering and everything. But, when my thoughts were fixed on the promise and not on the situation, things would smooth out, or there would be a lesson learned which gave me understanding.

Then that would pass and I would come onto solid ground, only to go back through deep water. Each time, as I responded by trusting God and His promises, it was as if I could keep my head above water again, and anticipated more understanding. I started focusing on God’s promises and in the midst of a trial, God was there, and brought peace, or sometimes joy.

The outcome was worth the trial! Seemingly, my focus began to shift away from the importance of the things of this world, and onto the things of God and Heaven. Some call this the pruning or chastening process. But, it is real. I used to think, “I wouldn’t wish some of the chastening or pruning I went through on anyone, but at the end (of it), I wouldn’t take a million dollars for the assurance I received!”

As time progressed, and as I noticed another new believer going through a similar trial like one I had been through, I found myself teaching that person to swim by using God’s Word in their circumstances - strange, but interesting.

As I write this, I have to stop and ask, “Have you ever thought things like this?”

Why not?

I know God worked in the life of people like Moses, Joshua, Daniel, and King David. He has worked in my life, too!

Why not you?

Why not you *-now?!*

#### **4. The Cattle on a Thousand Hills**

It was July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1995, a Sunday evening at Calvary Baptist Church in Huntsville, Alabama. A missionary from Northern Ireland by the name of Dave was visiting Calvary Baptist Church - one of his supporting churches in America.

It brings great pleasure to listen to a missionary preach from the Word of God. Brother Dave preached with a richly Irish accent, mixed with sincere concern for lost souls.

On that night, he shared a passage from the Bible:

*“And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all [men], apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And [that] they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.”*  
*II Timothy 2:24-26*

Here he elucidated the dangers of being caught in a snare, and the resulting struggle which takes place.

His description focused on how a snare is set for its prey: Often times a piece of wire is threaded into a loop. The wire is anchored and the loop placed next to food or some type of bait. A small animal, such as a rabbit will approach the bait left in front of the snare opening. As the rabbit puts its neck through the loop, and pushes forward to get closer to the food, its shoulder causes the loop to become tighter around his neck. But the wire will not loosen up easily and eventually tightens to where there is no escaping.

In comparison to a person who has committed sin, a man, or woman, soon begins struggling with their sin - just like the rabbit, caught in a snare.

“It is an awful image portrayed in this passage!” Brother Dave reasoned, “to describe the seriousness of sin, and its entangling capability.” He continued, “And, there is an urgency to deliver the person from sin, through Jesus Christ, before the person caught in sin, dies.”

His message continued on, mainly with a common thread of the need to reach lost souls in the name of Jesus Christ, so that they can receive redemption of their sins.

In another service, he also spoke of the all powerful nature of God; one phrase that I remember hearing brother Dave say that caught my attention was, “God not only owns the cattle on a thousand hills, but he owns the hills besides!” By this, he was demonstrating: the ultimate power God has in the world. As a relatively new believer, I wanted to know everything about God, and how He involves Himself in the life of a believer - in our personal lives.

Because I had worked on livestock as a large animal veterinarian, I found the phrase poetic and intriguing. I bought the audio-cassette recording of the service and listened to it over and over, in my truck and sometimes in the evening. Often reflecting on the message, brother Dave’s Irish accent echoed that phrase in my mind - “God not only owns the cattle on a thousand hills, but he owns the hills besides!”

I knew it must be a reference from the Bible, and I wanted to know where it was found. So, I searched a Bible concordance (a resource which references Bible verses for where words or phrases may be found in the Bible). This led me to the book of Psalms:

*“For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.” Psalm 50:10 KJV*

## **5. Mad Cow Disease**

It was a morning, sometime around 1998, and I was getting ready to go to work. While brushing my teeth, I stepped out of my bathroom into my bedroom to watch the morning news on television.

The news reporter opened emphatically with a story of global concern. It was about a new disease diagnosed in cattle living in Great Britain – Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), also known as Mad Cow Disease!

As I continued brushing my teeth, I listened to how Mad Cow Disease was an infectious neurological condition affecting tens of thousands of British cattle. New cases were emerging daily on British farms.

Until the veterinary community could understand more about the cause of the disease, eradication was the only option. This meant, when one cow was diagnosed with BSE, the entire herd was euthanized. I found this heart breaking.

The report continued with how devastating this was to British cattlemen, having their entire herd destroyed. Many livestock owners were emotionally distraught over losing their animals; a herd represented years of cultivation, livelihood and a way of life, which would vanish in one day.

Next, the reporter discussed how Mad Cow Disease was found to be the likely cause of a similar neurological disease affecting people – especially young adults living in Great Britain.

This disease, known as Creutzfeld-Jakob Disease, or CJD, resembled Alzheimer Disease, and other forms of dementia, in many aspects. But, the significant rise in number of CJD cases correlated alarmingly with the increasing number of BSE cases. Hence, fear broke out among the nation's population over the safety of British beef.

As I stood now slowly brushing my teeth, watching the news report, I subconsciously muttered, "If God owns the cattle on a thousand hills, I bet they don't have Mad Cow Disease." Okay! I know it is a funny thought!

I stopped brushing as if startled by what I had just said! "That was an odd thing to say," I slowly pondered.

For the next few minutes as I rinsed my mouth and put away my toothbrush, I wondered:

If we are in the end times as the Bible seems to indicate, and there is an increasing number of problems in the world with no perceivable solution, maybe the answer is in the Bible.

We are often taught something to the effect that the Bible has the answer to every problem; God is the creator of life and in a sense, the Bible is God's handbook for mankind on how we are to live life. What about the kosher dietary laws? – *they DO make for a better healthier diet!*

But, looking deeper, what if treatments or preventions of diseases could be uncovered from the thousands of years of wisdom found on the pages of the Bible, maybe like hidden code, or simply found in a story, phrase or parable?

And in this modern age, when many philosophers and scholars have turned away from God (or even considering the very existence of God), "Wouldn't it be interesting for God to allow those same individuals who consider

themselves wise, to come to the end of them selves?” I found what I believed to be that notion in the following verses:

*“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God, the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom. But, we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness. But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.” I Corinthians 1:18-24 KJV*

I gradually became more perplexed with the thought – could solutions to problems such as medical illnesses, be found in Bible scripture? Gradually, that set me on a quest of *looking for mad cow disease (or some form of dementia) in the Bible.*

For a month or so, I searched the scriptures – looking for descriptive passages that might have a deeper meaning. Since every word in the Bible is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16), shouldn't I think of every word as important? A phrase which, otherwise, would be read without further consideration, might have significant meaning - *not generally recognized.* Or, a story, such as a parable, could have a double, or even a triple meaning! This was my thinking on the subject at the time.

At times, when reading a passage in the Bible, God seems to make a peculiar statement – something noticeably odd, like He is trying to make a point. I wonder, “What did He mean by that?” Or, maybe God could have a ‘double meaning!’ The Bible does say:

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Isaiah 55:8-9 (KJV)*

Then something caught my eye which was found in the book of Jonah.

## **6. The Book of Jonah**

Here is the book of Jonah from the King James Version as I read it:

### **Chapter 1**

<sup>1</sup> Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, <sup>2</sup> Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. <sup>3</sup> But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. <sup>5</sup> Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

<sup>6</sup> So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

<sup>7</sup> And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

<sup>8</sup> Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

- <sup>9</sup> And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.
- <sup>10</sup> Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.
- <sup>11</sup> Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.
- <sup>12</sup> And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.
- <sup>13</sup> Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them.
- <sup>14</sup> Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee.
- <sup>15</sup> So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.
- <sup>16</sup> Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.
- <sup>17</sup> Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

## Chapter 2

- <sup>1</sup> Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, <sup>2</sup> And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.

- <sup>3</sup> For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.
- <sup>4</sup> Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.
- <sup>5</sup> The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head. <sup>6</sup> I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me forever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.
- <sup>7</sup> When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. <sup>8</sup> They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. <sup>9</sup> But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.
- <sup>10</sup> And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

### Chapter 3

- <sup>1</sup> And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying,
- <sup>2</sup> Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.
- <sup>3</sup> So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.
- <sup>4</sup> And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.
- <sup>5</sup> So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

<sup>6</sup> For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

<sup>7</sup> And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water:

<sup>8</sup> But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

<sup>9</sup> Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

<sup>10</sup> And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

## Chapter 4

<sup>1</sup> But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

<sup>2</sup> And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

<sup>4</sup> Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?

<sup>5</sup> So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

<sup>7</sup> But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

<sup>8</sup> And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

<sup>9</sup> And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

<sup>10</sup> Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

<sup>11</sup> And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

At the end of Chapter 4, God converses with an angry Jonah. Interestingly, God refers to the people of Nineveh as ‘not knowing their right hand from their left hand’.

What does ‘not knowing their right hand from their left hand’ mean? That is a good question! One explanation suggests that the Ninevites didn’t know right from wrong. Another explanation is: there was a population of young people within the city – not capable of discerning thought, but not hardened by war and sin, and yet possibly open to believe in God. Anyway, it could be implied that since the people of Nineveh didn’t know right from wrong, they should be cut some slack and allowed the opportunity to repent... and, let bygones be bygones.

But, what was ‘and much cattle’ all about?

I had other questions, too. But, ... ***pivotal to anything about Nineveh and their repentance which resulted in this story was that after Jonah's speech or message, the people of Nineveh – BELIEVED GOD!***

Historically, the warriors in the army of Nineveh were known for their brutality toward conquered prisoners. They were feared due to their fierceness! And, Jonah walked the streets of Nineveh into the heart of the city...and survived?

Remember: Jonah just came from the inside of a whale, as vomited onto the shore. Just because someone who looked and smelled disgusting walked into town and declared a message of warning, was that any reason for the king of one of the most powerful and brutal kingdoms on earth, to repent and call for the entire city to repent?

Really?

I wondered if the people collectively, or in part, had a problem with their memory, or understanding. Maybe, some type of plague was afflicting the people, and maybe the cattle, too.

Why would such a tyrannical leader concern him self by including all of the animals in the repentance?

From reading the book of Jonah, and Jonah's adventure into the city of Nineveh, I couldn't discern whether any type of plague (involving humans, animals, or one affecting both humans and animals) had occurred, or was occurring. But, as a veterinarian, I had a gut feeling that something significant in the form of a disease was causing notable concern, to get that kind of response. So, I began to dig!

Historical information about Nineveh (outside of the Bible) is documented in the early writings of the scribes of Nineveh; kept in the Assyrian king's library, the nation's history was preserved (as cuneiform tablets) for later civilizations.

These clay tablets are currently housed in a museum in London. The plagues are described with the word - mutanu, which is Assyrian for pestilence or famine. (The reports of the magicians and astrologers of Nineveh and Babylon in the British Museum: the original texts, printed in Cuneiform characters; edited with translations, notes, vocabulary, index, and an introduction)

Jonah was a contemporary of Jeroboam II [king] of Israel (782-753 B.C.)... II Kings 14:25

“It is suggested that if Jonah came to Nineveh during the reign of Assur dan III (771-754), he would have found the populace psychologically prepared to expect a total catastrophe, for a serious plague had befallen the city in 765 and a total eclipse of the sun had taken place on June 15, 763. Another plague had followed in 759. “(Archer, Gleason A., 1994. A Survey of Old Testament Introduction = Revised and Expanded; The Moody Bible Institute Of Chicago; p. 345)

“Assyria, a nation which had achieved a near-legendary reputation for cruelty, was in mild decline during these years, but it remained a threat. The repentance of Nineveh probably occurred in the reign of Ashur dan III (773-755 B.C.) Two plagues (765 and 759 B.C.) and a solar eclipse (763 B.C.) may have prepared the people for Jonah’s message of judgement.” (Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts. 1996, p. 256. )

Scholars believe that physicians around the time of the aforementioned plagues were precise and meticulous in their treatment instruction.

From the reaction of the king and the king’s decree announced to the citizens of Nineveh, I considered what actions were required of the population:

“...Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one

from his evil way, and from the violence that *is* in their hands.” Jonah 3:7-8

## Fasting

There is plenty of documentation for the physiological benefits of fasting. It cleanses the body of impurities and basically, gives the bodily organs a rest. A person would experience ketosis, and develop ketones bodies which are used as an alternative energy source (verses glucose) by brain cells. There is a tremendous amount of research information on the benefits derived from fasting on the body’s neurological system.

## No Water

Going without water for longer than three days can possibly result in kidney damage. Any benefit from not drinking water would have to occur within a three day period of time as opposed to up to 40 days. So, I believe if something physiologically noticeable occurred while the people went without food and water, and covered them selves with sackcloth, it happened within the first three days.

## Sackcloth

I remembered hearing or reading that sackcloth was a coarse durable woven material used to make sacks for holding, or transporting grain or flour. It was usually made from animal hair and is described in the book of Revelations 6:12, “I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like **sackcloth made of goat hair**, the whole moon turned blood red,...

My memory of treating goats, reminded me of the permeating goat smell which made my hands, arms, and coveralls reek, long after cleaning with soap and water. Even scrubbing my arms would not totally remove the aroma until after several washings.

It was a stink that stuck!

Could there be a substance in goat hair such as the nasty oil covering the hair?

I knew that wool (from sheep) is protected by lanolin - the oil produced by the sheep's skin. Lanolin has uses in many skin care and medicinal products. Also, after sheep are shorn, individuals who handle and wash the wool, are touted as having some of the youngest looking hands, due to the great amount of time of exposure to (the fatty acids found in) lanolin.

But then, what about goat hair?

Okay, it stinks and nobody cares to touch it... that is, unless they are repenting (in the Bible)! Or, unless there is another reason!

But, what is it made of?

I immediately thought of the joke which Jim Williams told me, as well as, Dr. Stephens' lecture: about the goat oils and how you would smell like a goat (mentioned in the second chapter). Because of that silly joke, I remembered the names caproic, caprylic and capric acids! The species name for a goat is caprine.

So, was caproic (hexanoic), caprylic (octanoic), or capric (decanoic) acid (or a combination), part of the smelly oil found in goat hair?

And, do they (or anything else found in goat hair) possess medicinal qualities?

I called the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in Beltsville MD, about how to find information on the biochemical composition of goat hair. I was referred to Chris Lufton, at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine. He was kind enough to Fax me some information on the composition of goat hair including 2 tables listing fatty (or carboxylic) acids found (through biochemical analysis) in goat hair.

My suspicion was correct! Fleece grease - the oily residue found in goat hair (especially mohair) contains a multitude of carboxylic acids - including

caproic (hexanoic), caprylic (octanoic), and capric (decanoic) acids. So, Dr. Stephens was right, “If you get capric acid on you, you will smell like a goat! Ah, Ha! Ha! Ha!”

I researched all of the fatty acids (listed in the table) as to whether any of them possessed any medicinal uses or notable physical qualities. Keep in mind that the people (and animals) of Nineveh were covered with goat hair. Hence, my focus was on topical uses: could any of the fatty acids cross through the skin? What then?

Although, goat grease contains numerous fatty acids, it is rich in medium chain fatty acids. The three fatty acids mentioned above: caproic (hexanoic), caprylic (octanoic), or capric (decanoic) acid are considered medium chain fatty acids and are found in goat grease. Below is a list of the fatty acids found in goat hair, located in the tables sent to me by Chris Lufton:

acetic acid  
propanoic acid  
2-methyl propanoic acid  
butanoic acid  
2-methyl butanoic acid  
4-methyl pentanoic acid  
hexanoic acid  
heptanoic acid  
octanoic acid  
4-ethyl octanoic acid  
nonanoic acid  
decanoic acid  
dodecanoic acid  
tridecanoic acid  
tetradecanoic acid  
12-methyl tetradecanoic acid  
pentadecanoic acid  
14-methyl pentadecanoic acid  
hexadecanoic acid  
14-methyl hexadecanoic acid  
octadecanoic acid

9-octadecanoic acid  
17-methyl octadecanoic acid  
9, 12-octadecadienoic acid 18-methyl nonadecanoic acid  
eicosanoic acid  
18-methyl eicosanoic acid  
20-methyl heneicosanoic acid  
docosanoic acid  
13-docodanoic acid

(Hunter, L; Mohair: A Review Of Its Properties, Processing and Applications;  
CSIR Division of Textile Technology, 1993, Tables 23 and 24, p. 37)

From this list of fatty acids in goat hair, I chose the following GRAS  
(Generally Recognized As Safe) carboxylic acids to order and recreate a  
form of goat grease:

acetic acid  
propanoic acid  
methyl acrylate  
butyric acid  
hexanoic acid  
heptanoic acid  
octanoic acid  
ethyl octanoic acid  
nonanoic acid  
decanoic acid  
heneicosanoic acid  
docosanoic acid

These carboxylic acids came in a very close to pure state; some were 95 –  
99% pure. They required diluting, lest they irritate the skin. Some of the  
other oils were cost prohibitive or not available. So my rendition of goat  
grease was not complete compared to the list in the tables.

Initially, I used an amber coffee creamer jar; I diluted the combination with  
water (at first) to a safe and tolerable percentage level for each carboxylic  
acid (based on the percentage levels for each oil - as listed in the goat oil  
charts). But, oil and water don't mix well. Hence, the combination of oils in

the bottle did not stay in suspension for very long and had to be shaken well.

Some of the carboxylic acids, interestingly, have antimicrobial properties. Some act as a vehicle - crossing through the skin (i.e. trans-dermal). And one carboxylic acid - caprylic (octanoic) acid, is antimicrobial (anti-yeast and antibacterial), is a trans-dermal vehicle, and can possibly cross the Blood Brain Barrier.

I got excited!

## **7. C.J. Smith**

Shortly after graduating from veterinary school (in 1983) and starting a veterinary practice in Huntsville, AL, I tried my hand at coaching kid's soccer as a past time. My mentor Sam, had two boys enrolled in AYSO soccer, and I agreed to help him coach.

The next year I attended coaches' camp, and became head coach of my own team.

I remember after winning one game in particular, where Coach Smith – the Head coach from the opposing team, crossed the field, shook my hand, and very genuinely said, "Congratulations! Your team played very well!"

"Thank you!" I replied, "It was a great game and a nice day for a soccer match!"

During that second year of coaching, my team took second place in the state playoffs. That gave good memories about coaching that year.

Later in the mid-1990s, I moved my practice out into the county (in the outskirts of Huntsville, AL) on Moore's Mill Road. The Smith's lived in the county and became clients at my veterinary clinic.

C.J. - their beautiful Dalmatian would always lead the way, with tail wagging, while proudly pulling on the leash. C.J. was always a joy to treat whenever she came in for a visit.

One visit in June 1998, C.J. was not doing well. She had gone to explore a wooded area near the Smith's house. And, when C.J. returned home, she was walking very wobbly and had trouble standing. Mrs. Smith loaded C.J. into the car and brought her to my clinic.

Upon arrival, C.J. was displaying weakness in all four limbs. She could feel pain sensation in all four of her feet when I pinched her toes, but she could not retract or move her legs. She had flaccid paralysis in all four legs, which had grown worse since she had originally returned home within the previous hour. However, C.J. could wag her tail and hold her head up. She had normal facial expressions. She just couldn't stand or walk.

Sadly, Mr. Smith's father had just suffered a stroke, the night before. As this was a very difficult time for the Smith family - for C.J. to develop her condition, made it more difficult. What transpired was some heavily emotional decision making, including possible euthanasia - if it appeared that Lady C.J. was going to suffer! The Smith family and I agreed to hospitalize C.J. for further observation.

After consulting with a Veterinary Neurologist at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, a tentative diagnosis was centered on one of three conditions: Tick Paralysis, Botulism, or Coonhound Paralysis (i.e. Idiopathic Polyradiculoneuritis).

The first two were ruled out, leaving Coonhound Paralysis.

Coonhound paralysis is considered an autoimmune disease caused by inflammation of the peripheral nerves. It is associated with raccoon saliva, but contact with the saliva of a raccoon is not necessary.

Treatment often consists of corticosteroids, and intensive long term (several weeks) nursing care. I gave one injection of Dexamethasone on C.J.'s first day of hospitalization. C.J. was placed on a sofa cushion (which was wrapped inside a couple of large plastic trash bags and covered with towels). C.J.'s legs draped over each end of the cushion enabling her bodily functions to occur with minimal soiling to C.J..

The next day, I noticed that C.J. was developing a corneal ulcer. According to one textbook description, corneal ulcers had been documented in dogs diagnosed with Coonhound Paralysis. I also noticed C.J. seemed to be acting weaker, in regard to holding her head up. Her breathing seemed more labored, too.

My mind began to reflect; I remembered reading in some research papers about prion diseases, that some authors postulated that there may be a common thread among neurological diseases, such as CJD, Alzheimer Disease, Parkinson's Disease, MS, and Lou Gehrig's Disease.

I am not one to experiment on my patients, but, I thought at this time, I had nothing to offer C.J., other than nursing care and time. Also, the combination of fatty acids applied topically, from what I could tell, should cause no bodily harm. So, I began applying it to C.J.'s skin along her back.

Because of her corneal ulcer, and corticosteroids are contraindicated, I discontinued giving any more Dexamethasone (after the one injection). But, I began treating the ulcer with ophthalmic antibiotics.

The next morning, C.J. began to crawl on her elbows and knees, much like a soldier crawling under barbed wire – low to the ground on their elbows and knees, with their legs outstretched behind them.

She acted more peppy and cheerful. She seemed to continue improving, and by the nineteenth day (of topical application), C.J. was able to stand on her own. And, on day twenty one, C.J. was pulling hard, when walked on her leash.

I wanted to believe that C.J.'s fast response was related to the fatty acids which I applied. Her improvement seemed to correlate with the applications. But, I couldn't jump to conclusions.

I began videoing C.J. including day nineteen (when she began to rise and walk) to document her progress. As this was before the invention of the iPhone, I used a hand held Camcorder - or video camera. Unfortunately, I did not engage the date mode to document the date of the video, although it was in June/July 1998.

A link to video of C.J. is provided at the end of Chapter 8.

## **8. Thor Eubank**

As a puppy, Thor was from a large Rottweiler litter, owned by one of my clients. The owner of the litter lived in the outer part of Madison County, a few miles from my clinic.

Ms. Eubank, who lived in the middle of town in Huntsville, purchased one, and named him Thor. The breeder spoke highly of me as his veterinarian. So, Ms. Eubank decided to use my veterinary services, as well.

Thor was healthy, grew rapidly, and soon, was a hundred and twenty pounds! For anyone, hauling a large Rottweiler to a veterinary clinic is no easy task! And, Ms. Eubank could have taken Thor to a dozen, or more, really good veterinarians, with less distance to transport such a large dog. I am glad she brought Thor to me - He always was a really neat dog!

With all that said,...It was August 1998, two months after using the oil compound on the Smith's dog. And, what was about to happen still boggles my mind!

By this time, Thor was approximately 3 years old. Ms. Eubank brought Thor to me because he was staggering while walking, and having trouble keeping his balance. He began exhibiting weakness suddenly the night before.

From my examination, Thor did not appear to be in any pain, and I concluded that he did not have Botulism, Tick paralysis, or Coonhound paralysis (polyradiculoneuritis). I considered a back injury, but again, he didn't seem to be in any pain.

He had a normal happy expression on his face and wagged his tail as in some form of 'happy dog butt-dance!' He staggered, however, like a drunken person! Yet, Thor was not intoxicated.

I prescribed Prednisone for Thor. If he didn't show improvement over the following week, I recommended Ms. Eubank to consider having a Veterinary Neurologist, at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, examine him.

Thor's condition declined over the next week or two. Hence, he was referred to an Auburn Neurologist.

At Auburn, Thor was tentatively diagnosed with Rottweiler Leukoencephalomyelopathy (LEM). This preliminary diagnosis was based on his breed and his symptoms.

Typically, when diagnosing Rottweiler LEM, all diagnostic tests usually resulted in normal findings, which can be quite expensive. And, unfortunately, the final diagnosis (back then) was usually determined on post mortem pathology (once the patient has been euthanized) .

Ms. Eubank was given the sad prognosis that there is no known cause and no known treatment for Rottweiler LEM. Due to Thor's rapidly growing weakness, it was clear that he would probably not be able to walk or stand by Christmas (i.e. about four short months away).

Sadly, Ms. Eubank returned with Thor to Huntsville. Before leaving the Vet School, she was given a printout describing Rottweiler LEM and its pathological description. While traveling home from Auburn with Thor, Ms. Eubank called me relaying what the neurologist said about Thor's condition. She reiterated that Rottweiler LEM has 'no known cause and no known treatment.'

Questions that ran through my mind were: Could a common thread run through multiple neurological diseases resulting in different pathological findings?

Could Rottweiler LEM be one of them?

If this goat oil salve helped the Smith's dog (and I mean IF), could Coonhound paralysis (albeit considered an auto-immune disease) have a commonality with other neurological diseases like Rottweiler LEM? Okay, not likely.

Optimistically, with some skepticism, I mentioned to Ms. Eubank about the fatty acids I used on the Smith's dog from the previous months. Ms. Eubank was open to trying the compound on Thor, as it appeared to be relatively safe (think: 'similarity to oils in goat hair'), and with no other options available.

The next day - a Saturday morning, Thor was brought to my clinic. As he was carried into the clinic by my assistant, Alan, I began videoing Thor.

Inside the building, Thor could not rise, nor stand on the tile floor, without assistance. He was not able to rise or walk to food or water.

After being carried outside, Thor would walk with severe spasticity. While wobbling, Thor could only support his weight for up to twenty seconds or so, before clumsily lowering himself down (onto the grass).

Thor was left at the clinic, over the weekend, for monitoring. The only time Thor ever left his blanket (on the floor) was only with assistance - carrying his hundred and twenty pound body outside to perform bodily functions.

Beginning on the following Monday morning (his third day at the clinic), the fatty acids were first applied behind his head and down his back. And he was videoed.

There appeared to be noticeable improvement within about four hours! He was standing on the tile floor. Or, was this just waxing and waning – alternating good days and lesser days during the initial stages of his condition? I didn't want to jump to conclusions. Also, he was still not walking normally and needed care and attention. He just seemed better (Monday midday), than when he arrived three days earlier, on the previous Saturday morning.

Three initial applications were applied over a two week period – approximately once every three days. There was improvement, but, still with wobbliness.

After Thor's second week at the clinic, I stopped the oil application to see what would happen. Within a few days, he regressed back to how he appeared when he was brought to the clinic after visiting Auburn. Oh, No!!!!

I immediately and proactively, began applying the fatty acids again - daily to every other day! Thor again, began to show improvement - just as he did initially, when the fatty acids were first applied.

Interestingly, Thor progressed to the point where he could walk on a leash around my clinic, for a half hour or more, continuously. Just walking Thor outside, round and around the clinic, I would use a full thirty minute video film cartridge, just filming his morning walk. Thor remained at my clinic and the compound applied every other day, for the next two and a half months, until November.

I began to think that it would be better to send Thor home where he could get up and down, and walk around in his backyard, when he pleases. That would allow him more exercise.

When Ms. Eubank came by for her next weekly visit, I asked, "What are your thoughts on Thor's response?"

Aware of his temporary setback early on in his treatment, Ms. Eubank replied, "Well, my only concern is - If he has another relapse, I would feel bad that he wouldn't have been able to spend time in his backyard, again."

I nodded and said, "I was thinking that. And, yes, it would be good to send him home, where he can get up, move around and exercise whenever he wants to. But, I would like to treat him and video his progress in his backyard - maybe during my lunch break, if that is okay?"

Ms. Eubank said, "Sure. I will leave the gate to the backyard unlocked."

I chuckled, and said, "You might want to let the neighbors know that I will be in the backyard checking on Thor, so they don't think I'm a prowler."

"Yes." she smiled, "That would be a good idea!"

As the conversation concluded and she was getting ready to leave, Ms. Eubank said, "I need to give you directions to my house; I live at 524 Marsheutz Avenue."

"Marsheutz Avenue? That is next to my old alma mater - Huntsville High School!", I exclaimed.

I then continued, "I have a friend from high school that lived on Marsheutz."

"I'm the third owner of the house", Ms. Eubank said, "I bought the Bradley house."

"Hey, Omar Bradley!" I said emphatically. "He went to high school with me! We were in the same graduation class."

I paused momentarily, reflecting. Then I said, "Omar and I went to vet school together!"

Suddenly, it dawned on me, as I slowly, reminiscently said, "Oh, Wow! At Auburn, Omar was roommates with another high school classmate named

Jim. Once studying at their apartment, Jim told me a joke his professor said about how fatty acids were named.

I had the same Chemistry professor during the next semester. And, the professor said the same joke exactly like Jim repeated it. From that joke came information which helped me in the development of the compound that I am using on Thor, right now!"

We both stood there silent. I then said, "Wow! I can't believe this. This is strange!...What a coincidence!"

The rest of the day, I felt troubled about how the conversation with Ms. Eubank unfolded - as if God was trying to say something encouragingly to me, regarding the work I was doing with Thor. ***It was just so coincidental!***

Thor made it through two Christmas' at home. He could chase a ball across his yard. After several months of applying the oil (during the treatment process), I ceased the application resulting in Thor declining in his activity, coordination, and ability to walk. I repeated this four times. And each time when application was resumed, Thor regained his ability.

Eventually, Thor was able to stand on his rear legs and put his front legs upon my shoulders, as I was standing straight up.

It was later determined that Thor, in fact, had Rottweiler LEM.

[Please find a truncated (before and after) video from the above work.]

## 9. Compounding

Once I had the chemicals needed for making the goat salve compound, I realized the differences in their consistencies would be a problem. For example, capric acid is hard like wax. I had to melt the capric acid by placing its bottle in a hot water bath. Then, once in a liquid state, the capric acid would mix with the other liquids such as acetic acid and caprylic acid. Once the fatty acids were all mixed, they stayed together (for the most part) in liquid form. But, they were still too concentrated.

Initially, I diluted the fatty acids by adding the proper volume of water, mixing them in an amber coffee creamer jar. Additionally, the solution of fatty acids had to be shaken vigorously before applying them to the skin. But, the fatty acids would not stay in suspension for very long, and would separate from the water – like a salad dressing which contains oil and water.

One option, which would make things easier for me, was to seek the help of a compounding pharmacist. It just so happened that I had an old newsletter from a compounding pharmacy. It sat in a pile of older mail -old letters and flyers, which I kept for reference.

Remembering the newsletter, I went to the pile of mail and found the newsletter which had the pharmacy address and telephone number. I pondered for a moment, then, looked at my appointment book. My schedule for the morning looked very light, so I decided to load my chemicals into my car, and pay the pharmacy a visit.

After loading the chemicals onto the floorboard of the passenger side of my GMC Jimmy Blazer, I hesitated for a moment. I remembered a patient I had seen a few days earlier, which I wanted to call and follow-up on. I would call them first, and then go to the pharmacy.

I went back inside the clinic, and went into a treatment room to use the telephone to call the client. The phone rang and rang with no answer.

Because I had an extra long phone cord on the land line phone, I could walk out of the treatment room giving me a perfect view of the door at the end of the hallway, which led to the waiting area. By watching the space under that door, I could tell if someone was walking around in the waiting area.

A person entering the front door and walking across the waiting room would cast a shadow onto the floor. I could see their shadow and the shadow of their pet on a leash, glide across the tile floor. One shadow usually meant either someone carrying their pet, a customer coming in to buy something, **or** a salesperson.

As I stood there with the phone pressed against my ear, listening to the phone ringing for the 10th time, my gaze was directed down the hallway at the door. The cowbell that we had tied to the front door suddenly clanged, indicating that we had a visitor. I noticed a single shadow glide across the shiny floor visualized beneath the closed door.

A few seconds later, Tina, my assistant came from the reception area, walking down the hallway in my direction. She handed me a business card and looked a little startled.

Tina said, "He's here!... the Pharmacist you were just about to go visit!"

I looked at the card in disbelief, then, smiled. I walked up to the reception counter and introduced myself to Mr. G.

He explained that he was visiting the local veterinary clinics to discuss treatment options for difficult to treat animal patients. Through compounding, certain medications could be added to a chemical vehicle, making it more absorbable to the skin. Rather than risking a nasty bite wound by giving a pill to a fractious cat or a pesky biting macaw, some medicines could be rubbed through the skin.

My clinic happened to be the first clinic for which Mr. G planned to visit, and my delay allowed me to meet him ...right then at my office! I wondered, *"Could delays fall into God's timing?"*

Through Mr. G's help, the compounded mixture of oils was evaluated in various substances until a resulting combination had the consistency of a hand cream. In the raw, the goat oils' fragrance has been likened to goat cheese, bad cheese and salad dressing.

We even added various fragrances to make it smell nicer...perhaps, less robust! Have you ever smelled a goat that had an orange fragrance? What about mint? Or, burnt juniper?

## **10. Patenting**

In light of the results that the oils were having on Thor, I considered it significant. Maybe I ought to patent it. It would be a good idea to talk to a patent attorney. If any of these oils were already helping other people or animals with neurological diseases, then I might gain from this information. If any of these oils that were in my compound were already patented, then I might be infringing on an already established patent.

I looked in the Yellow Pages under attorneys, but found no listing for patents (in any attorney ads). I next looked in the Yellow Pages under "P" for "Patents", and found "Patent Agents" with two listings. One thing that caught my attention was that the second patent agent listed, lived on High Road... his name - Mark Clodfelter.

I called the listed number and spoke with Mark Clodfelter directly. He sounded a little intrigued by my invention, and set up an appointment to speak with me. When I met with Mr. Clodfelter, I held nothing back about the background of my invention coming from the Bible.

I told him about the goat hair and the oils, finding the list of oils with their percentages, and how the oils actually helped Thor. Mr. Clodfelter looked a little puzzled, yet fired various logical questions at me about the grouping of oils, etc.

I found our conversation, very interesting! Although, I sensed that maybe he was wondering, " what planet did I come from?" he followed my theorization as if it was logical. In addition to the biochemistry, I shared with him a few of the coincidences which up until that point, had happened in this saga.

When the conversation came to a lull, I asked, " Well, what you think?"

Mr. Clodfelter stood silent, and looked at me as if there was a reason for his question. Then he replied, "Why did you call me?"

I thought briefly, then said, "I looked in the Yellow Pages, under the attorney listings, but could not find anything (in their advertisements) pertaining to patents. Then I looked for a category for patents; I found a heading entitled 'Patent Agents', under which I found you and another agent."

I continued, "I started to call the first one, but changed my mind, and called you (listed second) instead; because you live on 'High Road', I thought..." pausing for a moment, "...like it sounded spiritual, or something." I chuckled, maybe a little embarrassed, but continued, "That, I guess is the reason why I happened to call you."

Mark said, "There are attorneys in Huntsville that handle patents, but, I am the only one with experience with biomedical patents."

I chimed in, "Then you are the right person I should be talking to about this patent, right!?"

I will say that Mr. Clodfelter sent my patent application to the patent office in Washington, DC. There was an unusual delay in my patent acceptance. My patent was sent around the time shortly after 911, when the Anthrax scare was taking place. My patent application went to Washington, DC and we were told that it (like all the mail) was irradiated at the post office, and apparently got cooked or fried, but made crispy! Mark re-filed the patent application. I was granted US Patent 06652866.

## 11. Concluding remarks:

Let's connect the dots.

- The Bradley house gives this message a starting place.
- Because Jim imitated Dr. Stephens' joke, and later, Dr. Stephens repeated the joke verbatim to how Jim imitated it, is why I remembered it.
- Getting saved led me to study the Bible and go to church.
- Hearing the missionary use the phrase, "God not only owns the cattle on a thousand hills, He owns the hills besides" and watching the news of Mad Cow Disease, led my curiosity to seek the Bible for answers to (perhaps) hidden modern day problems.
- Remembering Dr. Stephens' joke about fatty acids that smell like a goat and sackcloth made from goat hair covering the body, led me to study the possible medicinal properties possessed by some of the oils.
- Studying the prion scientific literature and the potential connection between neurological diseases, led me consider applying topically, the oils to the dogs mentioned in this writing.
- Because Thor lived at the Bradley house (some twenty plus years later) brought this story full circle in a sense.

I have shared this story verbally with hundreds of people. The response is usually that of amazement. I have been asked many questions but will share a few:

**You mentioned neurological diseases and forms of dementia. Do you think the oils found in goat hair will work on diseases like Alzheimer Disease, Parkinson Disease, or Multiple Sclerosis?**

I am not a physician, so I cannot treat people and my opinion is only speculation. Also, if this did help with any of those diseases, it might not work 100 percent of the time.

Interestingly, in 2014, I learned that caprylic acid (also found in coconut oil) in a formulation, when taken orally was beneficial in the beginning and intermediate stages of Alzheimer Disease (see [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) under Alternative treatments - Caprylate)

### **Is this the modern day sign of Jonah?**

Let's look at Jesus' comment in Matthew 12:39-41 (KJV) which raises this question:

<sup>39</sup> But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

<sup>40</sup> For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

<sup>41</sup> The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

Further, in Matthew 16:4 (KJV):

<sup>4</sup> A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

And, in Luke 11:29-32 (KJV):

<sup>29</sup> And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

<sup>30</sup> For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

<sup>31</sup> The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

<sup>32</sup> The men of Nineveh shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

And reviewing Jonah again:

Jonah 3:4-5 (KJV)

On the first day of his walk, Jonah set out into the city and proclaimed, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned!"  
And the Ninevites believed God. They proclaimed a fast and dressed in sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least."

Some people believe there will also be a modern day sign of Jonah as evil increases during the present time. And, we are an evil and adulterous generation!

Two recent events have been scrutinized as a sign of Jonah:

One is the destruction of the Tomb of Jonah by ISIS in 2014. Jonah's tomb was located under a mosque built in the archeological finds of ancient Nineveh near the modern day city of Mosul, Iraq.

The second is a blue whale observed swimming off the coast of Israel in the Mediterranean Sea - a finding that is considered very rare. But, it has been considered as a sign to the prophet Jonah.

Maybe this could be one, too. I do believe that the two recorded plagues (mentioned above in Chapter six) affecting Nineveh may have been neurological in nature – perhaps some sort of dementia. Remember the citizens of Nineveh knew not their right hand from their left (which could be another way of saying they didn't know the future from the past).

I also believe the plagues may have involved both humans and animals. Of course I am speculating. And, I don't know if a spongiform encephalopathy outbreak (such as what Great Britain experienced with Mad Cow Disease) also occurred in ancient Nineveh.

### **Do you think America needs to repent like the people of Nineveh?**

God has a long memory of the things Americans have done to serve and honor Him. But honestly, America (presently) is evil and adulterous and most assuredly needs to repent! Read God's Word as to what evil and adulterous mean and what God's judgement entails.

If you don't believe that – Don't repent!

If you do believe that – start repenting, earnestly!

I believe America is on borrowed time and rests at the tipping point of coming under God's judgement - be it pestilence, an uprising of terrorists, or Natural Disaster (wildfires, volcanoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunamis)!

I categorize responses to the above story into 4 groups:

1. Disbelief: I don't believe this story (or the Bible stuff)!
2. Ignorance (perhaps of the Bible), OR, indifference: I don't understand this and will see what others think. It is too deep for me.
3. Focusing on the jar of salve and science: Do you have any of the salve for sell? How much do you apply? Etc.
4. Believe God ... *And, they get it!*: I need to repent! I need to trust Jesus as my Savior! I need to get in God's Word! Maybe I need to find a goat fleece (sackcloth)!

Lastly, I finish with the following passage from the book of Jeremiah:

### **Jeremiah 6:10-30 King James Version (KJV)**

<sup>10</sup> To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore I am full of the fury of the LORD; I am weary with holding in: I will pour it out upon the children abroad, and upon the assembly of young men together: for even the husband with the wife shall be taken, the aged with him that is full of days.

<sup>12</sup> And their houses shall be turned unto others, with their fields and wives together: for I will stretch out my hand upon the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

<sup>14</sup> They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

<sup>15</sup> Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

<sup>16</sup> Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

<sup>17</sup> Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them.

<sup>19</sup> Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.

<sup>20</sup> To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me.

<sup>21</sup> Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will lay stumblingblocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbour and his friend shall perish.

<sup>22</sup> Thus saith the LORD, Behold, a people cometh from the north country, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth.

<sup>23</sup> They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they are cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O daughter of Zion.

<sup>24</sup> We have heard the fame thereof: our hands wax feeble: anguish hath taken hold of us, and pain, as of a woman in travail.

<sup>25</sup> Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side.

<sup>26</sup> O daughter of my people, gird thee with sackcloth, and wallow thyself in ashes: make thee mourning, as for an only son, most bitter lamentation: for the spoiler shall suddenly come upon us.

<sup>27</sup> I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among my people, that thou mayest know and try their way.

<sup>28</sup> They are all grievous revolvers, walking with slanders: they are brass and iron; they are all corrupters.

<sup>29</sup> The bellows are burned, the lead is consumed of the fire; the founder melteth in vain: for the wicked are not plucked away.

<sup>30</sup> Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them.

