# Epilogue

Since I can remember I’ve had an interest in both evolution and creation—for many a mix of contraries, legal arguments, biological and religious inaccuracies, and emotional fervor. But for me, this bridge of uncertainty became a lifelong quest—a flickering light if you wish—and a deep desire to simply understand: who or what was right?

My intentions when first designing this project was to create a visual time-line of religions; for my own better understanding of ancient history. But after countless reams of scribbled notes and piles of crumpled paper, and as the volumes of books began to mount, it somehow took on a life of its own.

I do not profess of being an expert in any one field. Now retired I have been fortunate to have experienced numerous beliefs first-hand throughout my life: including Native American Circles, working with farm animals and wildlife, numerous Christian and non-Christian disciplines, and spending hours and hours out in the deep woods following my own spiritual connections. And from the discussions that often ensued after a late night Inipi ceremony, or a moment of meditation with a greater power no matter where I might be, it has made me realize—no matter who or what we believe, an energy force permeates all things. Spirituality is the foundation of our being.

Since the ensoulment of mankind some 200,000-years-ago spirituality had bonded itself to whoever would listen. And over thousands of years, each individual’s quest has continued to seek the answer to one most important question: Who am I?

 Even today the same holds true. No matter what road we travel, what side-road we venture down with all its twists and turns and bumps and bruises (sometimes taking us way off track), the answers are always just out there. Through studying humankinds many beliefs, I know the often difficult road we travel, of moralities and misfortunes—of loss and gains and emotional extremes—is often complex and tiring. But I have also found, when I look beyond the doctrines of elite rulers, or search between the lines of ancient scribes, I find a commonality in all beliefs: equality for all… no matter where we search or who we’ve become…

In referring to the ancient cultures of the Near East, Ian Lawton in his wonderful book *Genesis Unveiled* states “there appear(s) to have been no real intermediate stages of development from hunter-gathering to agriculture to urbanization in the more advanced of these settled communities.” Another words--Did they had help?

He goes on to speculate: because of urbanization “religions [are] increasingly being seen for what it is and always has been—primarily a political control mechanism that is far removed from the original wisdom from which it sprang,” suggesting a great loss of wisdom, and a disturbing detour from a path of enlightenment we once followed.

As they say ‘through age comes wisdom’—a metaphor for all times. But it does warn us of our complacency, and our growing needs to move on… to what, that is for each to find. I know the paved-over roads and byways of time have been tough. And I know the knowledge we seek is often fleeting. But the open eye can often see further when the spirit is allowed to venture beyond the boundaries we create. For the many roads we travel, I welcome them all…