

The other side countered with the powers Imperial Britain, France, Imperial Russia and, after 1916, the United States. Imperial Russia was one of the most powerful and largest states on the face of the Earth in 1916. Russia, of all the nations of the world, has the distinction of being named at Fatima. For the most part, Russians were still loyal to the Russian language and culture. Christianity was the principal religion.

By historical hindsight, the survival of Russia or the downfall of it is best summarized by the 1905 massacre of hundreds during a citizen peace march in downtown Moscow. Russia appeared tough in name, but it lay in turmoil from which it was never to recover. The horrors of WW I and the 2 million Russian casualties and dead exacerbated the situation. The gigantic crisis came to a head with the resolution being what is considered one of the most important secular historical events of the 20th Century: the October Revolution of 1917. In October, Lenin encouraged an insurrection against the provisional government and from that ensued the connecting rise of Marxist-Communism. (That ideology which, if you have forgotten, promised to end religion and faith.) Moreover in 1917, there occurred an outbreak in Rome, where a big demonstration was held by Masons on the 200th anniversary of the 1717 Freemason Lodge, with signs saying, "The Devil shall rule in the Vatican," and pictures of Lucifer.

On the 13th of June, 1917, the Catholic feast day of St. Anthony of Padua, Portuguese government officials came looking for the three children at church service. Only Lucia was there, but she escaped and went to the Cova da Iria as instructed the month before, the meeting place in the green pastures.

The Lady appeared to them for the second time over the same oak tree. During the apparition the Lady revealed their future. "I have been sent by God with a message for every man, woman and child living in this century," spoke the Lady. Only about 70 people were there, but only the children heard her say to come back the next month and to pray the rosary. She stated she would take Francisco and Jacinta to heaven soon but, told Lucia she was to remain on Earth a little longer. "Have no fear," she told them, adding for Lucia to remain to help bring a path to God. Also in the message the Lady, who did not reveal her name, desired the children to learn to read and write and pray, and to establish a devotion to the Immaculate Heart in the world. The children couldn't read or write, and at that time the nearby school was just for boys, and the mother of Lucia, the eldest, did not allow her to go to any school. Two magnificent rays of light encompassed the children. The children perceived a heart on the Lady, who was clad in white garment, with a blue mantle over her head. The mantle was bordered by a thread of gold. The heart was circled and pierced by thorns.

The reported apparitions spread all across Portugal. Yet, the Catholic priests told the children it was possibly the work of the devil. The three were forbidden from going back to the cova, yet they went back. On July 13th a very serious message was **given**. The Lady told them to continue praying and that the war was going to end. She wanted them to continue to come every month, and that in October she would let them know who she was, what she wanted, and that she would perform a miracle so that everyone might see and believe.

She told them about a strange future where certain fashions would be that would offend God and that many marriages would not be of God. At this time she outstretched her hands from which light streamed, a light that streamed to Earth, and the children were permitted a vision of Hell. This came to be known as the First Secret of Fatima. The existence of Hell is very real but in today's mundo, many think it is a figment of the imagination.

She then told them further secret things she did not wish others to know. The Lady predicted another world war, worse than the first and that it would break out in the time of Pope Pius XI. She detailed to Lucia, "When you see a night illuminated by an unknown light, know that this is the great sign that God is giving you, that He is going to punish the world for its crimes by means of war, hunger, persecution of the Church and of the Holy Father." To forestall this, she asked for the consecration of Russia. If her request was honored, there would be peace and Russia would be converted. But if not, Russia would be powerful, spreading wars, persecution and much suffering. Russia would be the instrument of punishment. The good news was that eventually Russia would be converted and a period of peace would follow for the world. She asked that the rosary be prayed. Then followed a Third Secret.

Described in chapter 5 with more depth, as described by Lucia about the Third Secret, there was an Angel "with a flaming sword in his left hand. Flashing, it gave out flames that looked as though they would set the world on fire, but they died out in contact with the splendor that Our Lady radiated towards him from her right hand: pointing to the Earth with his right hand, the Angel cried out in a loud voice: Penance, Penance, Penance!

"And we saw in an immense light that is God: something similar to how people appear in a mirror when they pass in front of it, a bishop dressed in white. We had the impression that it was the Holy Father. Other bishops, priests, men and women religious going up a steep mountain, at the top of which there was a big Cross of rough-hewn trunks as of a cork-tree with the bark; before reaching there the Holy Father

passed through a big city half in ruins. And half trembling with halting step, afflicted with pain and sorrow, he prayed for the souls of the corpses he met on his way; having reached the top of the mountain, on his knees at the foot of the big Cross he was killed by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows at him, and in the same way there died one after another the other bishops, priests, men and women religious, and various laypeople of different ranks and positions. Beneath the two arms of the Cross there were two Angels each with a crystal aspersorium [a vessel that holds holy water] in his hand, in which they gathered up the blood of the Martyrs and with it sprinkled the souls that were making their way to God.”

Tens of thousands of people, however, went to see some apparition the next month in August, but nothing happened. No heavenly apparition appeared; for that matter the three children did not show up either. The local Portuguese magistrates had kidnapped them and placed them under arrest. The police tried to extort a confession that they lied but the children did not budge. The government wouldn't let them go, and they co-mingled with bandits and murderers. They prayed in the dirty dungeons of the jail. On August 15, the government released them. On August 19, at Valinhos, the Lady reappeared to the children. She promised to return. She repeated her message of prayer in September, and again said that a miracle would occur in October.

The difficulty of measuring the future is a heartache, especially if it is distant. Our daily life is packed with stress and challenging things, despite this, we are in a fantastic wondrous era where even the average person can be able to understand. We are reminded our Earth is part of a larger cosmos. Yet, within this physical realm, is the nonphysical—that which is not easily touched or seen.

Some of the religious stories once thought of as legend have a basis of truth, and, depending upon one's faith, can even harness lessons in humanity. One needs to learn what Fatima is all about. The main focus is on a message, a peasant girl Lucia, which means light or the light of dawn, and the luminous apparition of a Blessed Lady, the Mother of Jesus. The Mother of Jesus Christ the divine Son of God is as unique as can be and is part of this book.

She lived 2000 years ago and is known as the Blessed Virgin Mary of Nazareth, the mother of Jesus. For many, she is held in high esteem and reverence because she has ways that touches people in this day and age.

She is from higher and more beautiful regions than those which ordinary men and women know. What lies ahead today falls under the category of supernatural, yet may be answered by knowing a little bit more about the story.

## **OCTOBER 1917**

Finally, there came the historic meeting on October 13, 1917, with thousands present at the cove. For the first time in modern history, a miraculous event supported by thousands of eyewitnesses was recorded, an event normally associated with ancient biblical accounts.

Summer had definitely evaporated as a storm raged fiercely throughout Europe. In the figurative sense, on display was the mortal storm of world war which was still being waged with horror unparalleled. Countless soldiers were killing each other in Europe, most notably in the fields of France. In the literal sense, Portugal was drenched in heavy rain October 13 after a long night of constant drizzles, and Fatima was dark and gloomy. So the stage was set. With as many people as can easily fill any football or soccer stadium, throngs of people were there to witness a miracle. The number on foot, in wagons, bikes and cars, beside many donkeys each with its own little bundle of straw, was fantastic and estimated between 60,000 to 70,000—much greater than any indoor basketball crowd you can ever visualize. A professor from the University of Coimbra, Dr. José de Almeida Garrett, estimated the crowds at over one hundred thousand. A rumor had been spread that the authorities were planning to explode a bomb at the very moment of the apparition, close to the children. Nevertheless, people came.

Close to noon, a tiny column of blue smoke seemed to appear and disappear three times around the children. Whatever conversation took place between the children and the apparition, no sound was discernible except the children's voices. Lucia asked who she was, and was told She is the Lady of the Rosary. She was the mother of Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God. A chapel must be built in honor of the mother of Jesus; that people should pray the rosary daily; that people all over the world must cease sinning and offending God; and that the world war would end soon.

The climax, to use Lucia's words from her memoirs, "The Blessed Mother outstretched her hand just as she was leaving, opened her hand and rays of light extended in the direction of the Sun. The Sun broke through the clouds, and gradually grew pale so all could gaze." The Sun brightened as light seemed to blend and gleam from The Blessed Lady's hands, to paraphrase Lucia's own words. It appeared as a silver saucer. Rays of multicolored light streamed from the Sun in every direction, every color of the rainbow. While this was going on, the children were witnessing another view. Unlike the movie of Fatima the three children also saw Saint Joseph to the left of the Sun holding the infant Jesus. The baby Jesus, along with Joseph, appeared beside Mother Mary. The Blessed Lady appeared to Lucia twice more, once in her

blue and white apparel, and the final time in a brown robe. While she was still in blue and white, Jesus and Joseph were clothed in red, and appeared to be blessing the world. This vision did not remain, but it was replaced by a more mature Jesus blessing the crowd.

As the children were enraptured by their most heavenly visions, the entire crowd was bathed in a continuous shaft of slowly changing light of different colors. The people, the animals, the trees and hills, and all the Earth were painted in the colors similar to the coloring display that took place most recently and was seen by eyewitness of the solar eclipse on August 11, 1999. Such an eclipse was international, but a uniqueness happened in 1999 near the tiny hills of Reims, France, baring the clouds. People there were actually bathed in a spectacular blue that seemed to eerily transcend Earth. One can only imagine how it looked in 1917 with the changing colors.

The view was reported by numerous newspapers. The newspaper *O Dia* reported, “The sky had a certain greyish tint of pearl, and a strange clearness filled the gloomy landscape, every moment getting gloomier. The Sun seemed to be veiled with transparent gauze to enable us to look at it without difficulty. The greyish tint of mother-of-pearl began changing as if into a shining silver disc, that was growing slowly until it broke through the clouds. And the silvery Sun...was seen to rotate and wander within the circle of the receded clouds! The people cried out with one voice, the thousands of the creatures of God whom faith raised up to Heaven, fell to their knees upon the muddy Earth.

“Then, as if it were shining through the stained glass windows of a great cathedral, the light became a rare blue, spreading its rays upon the gigantic nave....Slowly the blue faded away and the light seemed to be filtered through yellow stained glass. Yellow spots were falling now upon the white kerchiefs and the dark poor skirts of coarse wool. They were spots which repeated themselves indefinitely over the lowly holmoaks, the rocks and the hills.” The lively colors continued for many minutes. The words of Dr. Garrett is most telling: “During this occurrence, the air took on successively different colors. While looking at the Sun, I noticed that everything around me darkened. I looked at what was nearby and I also cast my eyes away towards the horizon. Everything had the color of an amethyst, the sky, the air, everything and everybody. A little oak nearby was casting a heavy purple shadow on the ground. Fearing impairment of the retina, which was improbable, because then I would not have seen everything in purple, I turned about, closed my eyes, cupping my hands over them, to cut off all light. With my back turned, I opened my eyes and

realized that the landscape and the air retained the purple hue.

“This did not give the impression of being an eclipse. While still looking at the Sun, I noticed that the air had cleared and I heard a peasant nearby say, ‘This lady looks yellow.’ As a matter of fact, everything far and near had changed now. People seemed to have jaundice. I smiled when I saw everybody looked disfigured and ugly....”

One of the most interesting descriptions attributed to Dr. Garrett’s eyewitness accounts is his description of the disc. In some books it seems he described the Sun as something different from the disc, which in most accounts are the same thing. He saw a disc of smoky silver, “a disc with a well-defined rim and clear edge, luminous and lucent.” Dr. Garrett is claimed to have said it could not be confused with the Sun because the Sun was shining through a slight fog. Hence people may think he saw

something like a UFO saucer.

body with

He did say, everybody “saw and felt that it was a body with life. It was not spheric like the moon, neither did it have an equal tonality of color.” He said there was no fog at that time. The rain and the fog had stopped. But, he did say, “It could not be taken for the Sun as though seen through fog,” meaning

it was the Sun but not as a Sun through fog. Get the picture? The disk appeared to spin profusely by every account. It was about two o’clock wartime or about noon, Sun time.

The phenomenon of the Sun was not witnessed by a select few; it was witnessed by all present—a huge crowd composed of atheists as well as Christians. The Sun seemed to hurtle down into the Earth, but pay close attention, for as far fetched as it may seem, what appeared to come down was something silvery and disk-shaped with the power of immense solar energy to dry all the mud of a rain soaked Earth. God did not come to destroy the Earth, but to save it. Villages surrounding Fatima saw the apparition, but the rest of the globe did not experience the calamitous spin of the solar object on the terrestrial phenomenon. How the Sun came down while an Earth was hurtling through space at 66,600 miles per hour is beyond me. It was not felt on the battlefields of France or the skyscrapers of New York. However, it was very real indeed. The Sun broke through the clouds so that everyone could gaze at it and it did its thing for at least 10 minutes. The drama that it entails was chronicled by the words of eyewitnesses and by the pen of newsreporters who were there. When the Sun began to spin inexhaustibly on its axis, it appeared to turn a bright red.

The Sun defied all laws of nature, and subsequently, appeared to grow larger and

larger as if it were getting closer. People screamed as the heat increased. They, in anguish, frantically ran every which way as the shared effect, apparition, call it what you like, materialized itself. One can imagine the effect it had on all the people, the ordinary people and the military, plus the countless police and reporters. All felt the “miracle of the sun” on that October, 1917.

The world had witnessed a strange sensation of the Sun that is difficult to explain. It seemed to detach itself from the firmament and grew larger. Who knows how many thought this was the end of the world. But, it was not.

The profound changes lasted approximately 12 minutes. To top it off, when the Sun stopped plummeting, it just as suddenly ascended to its normal state, but not before one more miracle was performed: as if by magic, the Sun had thoroughly dried all the clothes of every person, plus the ground. Mass hypnosis does not dry clothes and land. The largest newspaper in Lisbon, an anticlerical paper, had this account, as written by one skeptic Avelino de Almeida, the chief editor of *O Seculo*: “A spectacular, unique and incredible event, if one had not been a witness to it! The crowd is turned toward the Sun, which revealed itself free of clouds at full noon. The great star of the day makes one think of a flat plate of silver, and it is possible to look on it, without

the least discomfort. It might be an eclipse. But, it burst forth in a colossal clamor, and we hear spectators all cry out, ‘miracle, miracle, marvel, marvel.’ Before the astonished crowd— whose attitude transported us to Biblical times, and whose uncovered dumbfounded heads contemplated the blue of the sky— the Sun trembled, made strange

brisk movements, unprecedented and outside of cosmic law. The Sun has danced.”

It is not easy to say what the people did witness from a non-supernatural viewpoint, but because so many witnesses, both Christian and non-Christian alike, experienced the same thing, it confirms a reality that it happened. It was more than angelic; it was the mother of God trying to speak to the whole **collective human race**, sharing through a spiritual matter and terrestrial event how to avoid a doomed future. Mother Mary has a big goal and that is to redirect human energy into creating good because we are worth it. Perhaps this eye-opening event of October could serve as warnings for the future of humankind, and deserves prominent attention in historical documents; I doubt the significance will ever air on the nightly television news.

Of the three children from Fatima, only Lucia lived until the next century.

She was admitted to the Sisters of St. Dorothy and then she became a nun of the Carmelite Order in 1948. The name Carmelite is derived from Mt. Carmel, one of 13 principal holy mountains of the ancient Israelites. Mt. Carmel is visible from Nazareth. It was made holy by Elijah the prophet, and model of the Carmelite Order.

A series of events since 1917 have continued to occur in connection with the Mother of Jesus, albeit their path touches Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic alike. Part of the story continues along the path of Fatima, but the other part does not.

From May, 1946, Lucia never returned to Fatima until May 13, 1967, on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the event. At first she did not want to return, but was ordered to go. The Pope also travelled to Fatima. The whole event was televised live and everybody was looking to see what Sister Lucia would try to say to the Pope concerning Fatima.

A crowd estimated at between a million and a half to two million was in attendance. After mass, Pope Paul VI, seated near the altar, met Sister Lucia. He placed his left hand on her head as she knelt. She gave him an embroidered square linen, and then they both arose. The pope turned toward a statue of the Blessed Mother and tried to place a rosary between her hands. However, he could not reach them, so he placed them at Her feet. Over and over millions of voices rang out, "Lucia, Lucia." Finally, the two stood together on the podium for a few minutes. The crowd went wild.

Lucia was seen crying on television. Many thought that her tears came from her jubilaity and happiness, but the real reason was that she had asked the pope to speak to her, and he signaled no. Because he signaled a negative, she knew he was afraid. He was afraid of what she knew, something much more terrible than she was willing to tell. Yet, right before, in front of all the people, she was powerless—powerless not for the sake of herself— but for the sake of humanity. Several times on the podium she had told Paul VI she wanted to speak with him alone, but his quiet reply was that if she wished to communicate something to him, she should communicate it to her bishop. He told her to let the bishop communicate it to him and not her. The Pope refused to meet with her. In fact, until he passed away in 1978, the Pope never again met Lucia face to face or spoke with her directly in public.

The seer of Fatima has remained true to her cause and never has forgotten her mission as a witness of the apparition and of the message of Our Blessed Mother. Chances are, as mentioned before, the real reason Lucia cried was not for tears of joy but for tears of sadness. She was so close, yet so far away...and the pope was afraid to give her even a few minutes alone, as if in avoidance. An avoidance of what?

For years a Divine Lady's **message** of warning had been entrusted to Lucia for revelation. The love of the Mother of Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God is unique. She seems to transcend all the yesterdays and todays of world history. She knows that one learns from the past to be mindful that the themes of today are ironically more important than yesterday's; yet, is it not true that in perspective that what is going on today needs the past as a base? Through her helpful intercession, She assists human-kind in attaining a union with her Son, Jesus Christ.

For over fifty years, a secret request entrusted to Lucia at Fatima for the consecration of Russia (the Soviet Union) to the Immaculate Heart of Mary went unheeded. [The fervent ideology behind that great nation was: Communism. Communism descended upon the world and, in my lifetime, it seemed unthinkable that the Soviet Union could ever be toppled without a war.] Paul VI, like his predecessors, avoided speaking with Lucia directly as if she had the plague. Yet, when she finally did go face to face with the Holy See, the only exchange of conversation was part pure showmanship for television and part a holy event for the masses.

The magazine "Fatima" reported on September 27, 1967, that a Bishop Joao Pereira Venancio gave the pope a letter from Sister Lucia, perhaps outlining some message or request unheeded. To this day it has never been made public. Perhaps this letter is a rumor. This so-called letter is part of a much larger story which is associated with three secrets. The Third Secret is the one never revealed during the 1990s and is the more frightening of the three.

### **Lucia Takes to Pen**

The secrets delivered over the initial six appearances made by the Blessed Mother at Fatima, in addition to the consecration of Russia, were revealed for the first time in 1941 by Lucia as containing three accompanying parts, but only the first two were told. By 1941, little Francisco and Jacinta had sailed to the other world, for death had arrived on their doorstep within 28 months of the miracle of the Sun.

Francisco died of influenza in April, 1919. Jacinta died in February, 1920. On September 12, 1935, the corpse of Jacinta was removed to Fatima. When the casket was opened for examination the face of the little girl appeared preserved, despite the fact her body had been covered with quicklime as a medical measure against influenza. Quicklime is a substance used to hasten the decomposition of dead bodies.

The hierarchy of the Catholic Church began its official inquiry into the events at Fatima in 1922, after two of the children had died. The apparitions were declared worthy of belief in October, 1930. In the same year the cultus of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima was heralded. A prophetic warning and a secret was given to the three children following the apparition in July, 1917, but Lucia would not disclose it until World War II.

Before we tell you the story, it is worthwhile to note that the Lady from Heaven reappeared thirty-three times between November 29, 1932, and January 3, 1933, to five French-speaking children on the French-Belgium border at Beauraing. Andrée and Gilberte Degeimbre and Fernande, Gilberte and Albert Voisins experienced the glowing form of the statue of the Virgin Mary, both walking on the bridge and above a hawthorn tree. Each time the five fell into an ecstatic grace as she conversed. Numerous times she told them to tell the world to pray.

On August 31, 1941, as Roosevelt and Churchill met to formulate plans for humanity called the Atlantic Charter and Adolf Hitler was unstoppable, Sister Lucia finished writing her third memoirs. In it she described how the Blessed Mother had forewarned her of strange lights to be visible before the coming of another world war. On January 25-26, 1938, a glow of light, predicted at Fatima on July 13, 1917, had appeared in the sky like **crimson fire** from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., witnessed by all including Adolf Hitler. It was seen in both Europe and the United States plus North Africa and was unusual. The scientists termed it an Aurora Borealis of “exceptional magnitude.”

Forty-seven days after the light, Hitler marched into Austria, and the armies of Nazi Germany began carving up the world. No descent was allowed for everything was for the Socialist State. Soon after, the world descended into World War II with the invasion of Poland in 1939. Country after country tumbled to the new wave of national socialism and Hitler. Soon the armies of Imperial Japan and Italy joined and bound the rest of the world to war. Before it would end, an estimated 30 million civilians and 30 million in the military would lie dead; countless numbers suffered the loss of an arm or an eye or leg or some other limb. Over 1,700 cities and towns were blasted. Some 25 million people were made homeless in Europe alone.

Lucia moreover disclosed two of the distant secrets. Note that she disclosed that there was a special secret of three distinct parts, but she did not write it all down; she only revealed the first two because she did not have heaven’s permission for the final one, as she said it. The first secret was the terrifying vision of Hell, and that in order to be saved from the consequences of such a place, “God wishes to establish in the

world devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart." The second involved the end of WW I and the coming of a miraculous peace God wished to grant the world if Russia would be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Also contained in the second part was the continuous practice of prayer and communion of reparation on the first Saturdays of the month. The first Saturdays as explained are 5 blasphemies against Her Immaculate Heart; Her perpetual virginity; Her divine maternity of God and humankind; indifference to Her and Her Holy Images. An announcement of terrible punishments on the people of the Earth would come to pass—however, Lucia was not permitted to reveal the third part of the secret in the 1940s.

At age thirty-six in 1943, Sister Lucia fell gravely ill several times. In October her bishop, José da Silva, gave her an express command to write it down, and for the next 2 ½ months she tormented whether to do so or not. Finally, on January 9, 1944, she wrote the bishop she had written the text. She had fitted the third part on a small sheet of paper, reportedly with margins on each side of three-quarters of a centimeter. An envelope sealed with wax was delivered by the Archbishop of Gurza just eleven days after the famous D-Day Normandy Invasion of France, June 17.

Bishop da Silva was allowed to read it. The bishop did not want responsibility of it and tried to pass it on to Rome, but they refused it. Sister Lucia expressed her wish to see the pope of that time, but Pius XII refused. On October 31, 1942, **Pius XII** in Fatima had consecrated **the world**, but, not per se Russia, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary via radio. On the 8th of December, in Rome, he repeated the world consecration.

No matter what anybody tells you, the Soviet Union was not the mighty world power that everybody remembers when they speak of cold war or detente or whatever. This was a Soviet country still struggling to beat back the power of Nazi Germany. Stalingrad, like detente and the cold war was still far off. Within three years the Second World War was over, but the influence of a mighty Soviet Union grew especially her military might. Two different world powers arose in 1945: the United States and the Soviet Union. For five short years, only the U.S. drastically reduced its armies, while the Russians did not. The 21st Century ground on—and so did war—although not as mighty or terrible as WW II. From 1949-1999, all sorts of wars or deadly conflicts covered our globe at varying times. Regarding the United States, not one was declared an official war by Congress as World War Two had been.

The first two secrets were written long after they were given, but it is curious to note that a certain book published in 1927 entitled *The Great Miracle of Fatima* by Dr. Manuel Formigao foretold of several predictions made by Jacinta on her death bed in