

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS

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TAPE #102
3/10/93
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1 (Tape 102)

2 MAX: -- is for an adult. Some adult person
3 to come out of there the next time a tape comes out or
4 there's some reason for us to come physically close
5 together an adult come out. And I'm recommending Judy
6 because of the injury. I really am. And I think -- I
7 don't see how you could object to that.

8 STEVE: I haven't.

9 MAX: Okay. And I think -- okay, I know.
10 She's got her choice. But you, you and she have a
11 long history. If you can think back, you and she have
12 a bond.

13 STEVE: Well, this is true. We do --

14 MAX: And, and you have to do sometimes what
15 is right for her whether she at the moment realizes it
16 or not. And an adult, significant adult coming out of
17 there to gain medical treatment would --

18 STEVE: I see I -- Max, I, I --

19 MAX: -- go so far right now --

20 STEVE: -- I appreciate. I --

21 MAX: -- to continue.

22 STEVE: I --

23 MAX: Do you remember what a big step the
24 milk was? It would just be that much and more.

25 STEVE: I appreciate all that you're saying,

1 the considerations. But she's still an individual
2 that has her own conscience that she has to answer to
3 and her own convictions. I can, I can sit there like
4 I told you and lay out the pros and the cons. But
5 ultimately it's for her to decide.

6 MAX: Well, okay. Let's -- if I may
7 interject, Steve, you know.

8 STEVE: Um-hum.

9 MAX: We go -- we look back and we see when
10 the children were released. We know who released the
11 children. David said you go and you go at this time.
12 And then he said you go and you go the next time. Or
13 you four or you three. He didn't send any of his own
14 out.

15 STEVE: Well, he did ask --

16 MAX: It's funny that this --

17 STEVE: -- he did ask the mothers.

18 MAX: -- funny that just the children that
19 were not his --

20 STEVE: He did ask.

21 MAX: -- all volunteered to go out at the
22 given times when David decided it was time to release
23 someone. So I really think, you know, you look at the
24 political side of the, the structure you have in
25 there. David is in control of those things. And if

1 you can use your influence on both David and Judy.
2 And I don't think you've totally lost it with Judy.
3 There's still got to be something there somewhere.
4 That you -- the two of you could do the right thing
5 for her before she is disabled somehow or worse.

6 We are your best friends out here. Those of
7 us that plead with you on the phone and try to, to
8 make you think back a few years before you were so
9 deeply involved in this thing, we are trying our best.
10 We are the best friends you have.

11 STEVE: I realize where you're coming from,
12 Max.

13 MAX: All of you have.

14 STEVE: I do realize where you're coming
15 from.

16 MAX: And without us, things are going to be
17 different. I can't say just how. But I don't know.
18 But I know without the influence we have out here --
19 it's kind of like the influence you have in there.
20 Without the influence --

21 STEVE: I really --

22 MAX: -- we have out here the situation is
23 going to turn --

24 STEVE: Max, I don't have the kind of --

25 MAX: -- to others. And you've seen how

1 | some of the others deal.

2 | STEVE: Max.

3 | MAX: Without you in there, I know this
4 | situation would be a lot worse.

5 | STEVE: I don't have the kind of influence
6 | you think I do. I don't. You don't understand. I
7 | really don't. People will hear my opinions, but
8 | that's about as far as it goes.

9 | MAX: No. You have more credibility than
10 | that, Steve.

11 | STEVE: You don't --

12 | MAX: You know you do.

13 | STEVE: You're giving me credit that, that
14 | is not even so. That, that doesn't even belong.

15 | MAX: You stood up and argued with us the
16 | first day. You have something, or you couldn't have
17 | done that.

18 | STEVE: Oh, I mean of course I've been in
19 | (indiscernible), you know --

20 | MAX: You get angry and you tell us -- you
21 | put us in our place sometimes verbally. You --

22 | STEVE: Well, we all do that. You do
23 | that --

24 | MAX: -- know that you've got some stroke in
25 | there. It comes from you.

1 STEVE: We all have our opinions and, and
2 believe in certain things that we'll stand up for and
3 try to lay down as we see it. You and I both. But
4 you know, again we're looking at a book that talks
5 about if you put father, mother first, sister, spouse,
6 brother, you're not worthy of me Christ said 2,000
7 years ago. He repeats that in all the gospels.
8 That's not a reality to those people that claim to
9 know him throughout all the churches, but it is to
10 this group.

11 MAX: Why --

12 STEVE: So you got, you've got to keep that
13 in mind.

14 MAX: Why is it so hard for you to accept
15 credit for, for being someone of influence, someone
16 worthy and someone --

17 STEVE: It's not --

18 MAX: -- that gets something done?

19 STEVE: -- it's not that I don't accept
20 credit. It's just that once --

21 MAX: It hasn't all been stripped from you,
22 has it?

23 STEVE: Well, here's the thing. Once these
24 people have met him and have seen his ability and what
25 he can do with that book, it's night and day between

1 | them and myself.

2 | As an example, when I went to England in '88
3 | in about June, July of that year, I went to a couple
4 | of religious schools and raised questions. And a
5 | number of theology students stopped, and they were
6 | amazed at the questions. And they looked at me, said
7 | do you have the answer? And I says well, they're in
8 | the book. Would you show us? So I raised more
9 | questions. When I showed them where it was found they
10 | were astounded after spending 10,000 a year to go to a
11 | school that showed them literally nothing.

12 | So in the process, I studied with about oh,
13 | 30, 40 people for 6 weeks, Max. And they had never
14 | heard anything like it in their life. Even though
15 | they were listening to many scholars in a, in a
16 | particular school they were going to. I finally told
17 | them, I said what I'm showing you is nothing. There
18 | is a guy that will blow you and I both away that will
19 | come behind me if you're really interested.

20 | MAX: I know you think a lot of his
21 | interpretations. No question about it, you really do.

22 | STEVE: Well, I'd give anything if you could
23 | come up with some, some of the greatest scholars in
24 | Catholicism or in the Lutheran church, Methodists that
25 | could either on the phone or in some manner debate

1 with him on any given topic that they would like.

2 MAX: I would give anything in the world if
3 I could have had this conversation with you 6 years
4 ago. I think you would have hopped on one of those
5 motor scooters out back and, and raced to the front
6 gate with Judy on behind you.

7 STEVE: One never knows.

8 MAX: But --

9 STEVE: One never knows.

10 MAX: -- a little too much influence here
11 is --

12 STEVE: I, it's --

13 MAX: -- you know, you've lost something to
14 it I guess.

15 STEVE: Max, I know. I realize.

16 MAX: Where's your drive?

17 STEVE: I know from your perspective it
18 would seem that way. I know that. If I were in your
19 shoes now, I would be saying the same thing to this
20 human being sitting where I am now myself. I'd be
21 going through the same process you are trying to talk
22 myself out of it using the same arguments.

23 But see, the whole thing is it comes down to
24 that book which you don't believe nor do you
25 understand. Now if I can see that that book is not

1 credible itself, all the book talks about is some guy
2 that comes in the final days. It may not be this man,
3 Max. It may not be.

4 MAX: Well --

5 STEVE: But so far he's been able to do --

6 MAX: -- you're taking an awful big gamble
7 it is, aren't you?

8 STEVE: Well, why can't the scholars shoot
9 him down? Why can't they rip him apart? Why can't
10 they controvert what he has? I mean if it wasn't --

11 MAX: I don't think it's a matter of
12 knowledge. I think it's a matter of presentation.

13 STEVE: Oh, presentation --

14 MAX: He's a great BS'er.

15 STEVE: -- presentation is nothing. There
16 are guys that are have, are such -- have such ability
17 to speak to --

18 MAX: Um-hum. Um-hum.

19 STEVE: -- articulate their words --

20 MAX: This looks good.

21 STEVE: -- to really express themselves.

22 MAX: (Indiscernible.)

23 STEVE: There, there are times, you know, I
24 mean he'll even say himself it depends upon who he's
25 talking to. But that's not what impresses me. It's

1 the very information, the knowledge. And Mark Bro
2 (phonetic sp.) himself who gained a Master's degree
3 was not able to, to shoot this guy down to controvert
4 what he has.

5 David flew all the way to Australia to give
6 him that opportunity. Then he sent me back a second
7 time, 6 months later. And he didn't want me to debate
8 with him. I, I really did want to. But he says take
9 down what he has. Let him open up his doctrine.
10 Bring it back. Let everybody have an opportunity to
11 hear it, to wrestle with it, to decide. So that's
12 exactly what happened. But no one --

13 MAX: You, you are, you are so -- calling
14 yourself up so short, counting yourself in so short,
15 Steve. We talked to -- how many people do you think
16 there are that are former members of your group or
17 your sect or that have been involved with you and Mark
18 and David over the years. Former members.

19 STEVE: I have no idea.

20 MAX: Be quite a few of them, wouldn't
21 there?

22 STEVE: Not really. Not that many at all.
23 The majority would have been Australians. And even
24 that there's not that many.

25 MAX: Um-hum. Okay. There's a few in

1 California, and there's a few people out --

2 STEVE: Yeah, the Bunds family.

3 MAX: -- there still associated with --

4 STEVE: But the father remained, you know.

5 MAX: But the, the people that have been
6 associated with you or are knowledgeable of you and
7 David are not all in that compound. We've talked to a
8 lot of them. That's our job. We go out --

9 STEVE: Um-hum.

10 MAX: -- and we find these people, and we
11 talk to them.

12 STEVE: Okay.

13 MAX: And you, you would be amazed at what
14 we're hearing.

15 STEVE: I wouldn't be because --

16 MAX: You've got the most credibility in
17 there. You are the one that is the, the person, as I
18 said earlier, that has the organization, that has the,
19 not necessarily the feeling but the cause, the drive
20 to keep it going and get it done.

21 STEVE: Not at all.

22 MAX: And, and David is the preacher.

23 STEVE: That's not -- there's no truth to
24 that, Max.

25 MAX: He is the figurehead, and you are the

1 organizer.

2 STEVE: Max, these people --

3 MAX: You're the one that's respected.

4 STEVE: They would never --

5 MAX: He's -- he may be feared.

6 STEVE: Max --

7 MAX: And he may be held --

8 STEVE: They would never --

9 MAX: -- in awe. But you are the one that
10 holds the respect.

11 STEVE: These people would never stay here
12 because of me. Never, ever.

13 MAX: No, no. I'm not saying --

14 STEVE: In fact, when Mark --

15 MAX: -- they would stay there because of
16 you.

17 STEVE: -- when Mark and I had a dividing of
18 ways back in the summer of '89 in the month of August-
19 September, we were in communication. When we went our
20 ways, these people did not see me in a positive light
21 at all nor have they really since those days.

22 They've realized they've got to trust their
23 own conscience to dictate to their own mind and
24 hearts. They've got to decide by the information they
25 see coming from the book. And if it does -- if it's

1 not actually there, they're out of here. We have had
2 people that have left here. We've encouraged people
3 to leave here.

4 There was a girl not long ago that traveled
5 here from, from one of the eastern states. And David
6 sent her out. Get away from us. Take time to go to
7 scholars, to wrestle with the information, and then
8 make a decision. You can come back and hear more.
9 See this is normally and usually what we do.

10 MAX: Well, I'm just telling you what people
11 are telling us on the outside after so many of these
12 interviews that, that we do.

13 STEVE: Um-hum.

14 MAX: And --

15 STEVE: Well, I, I'm --

16 MAX: -- you know, who's going to represent
17 the people that come out? You know, the children and,
18 you know, whenever this is over with, days, weeks from
19 now, there's going to be some people who are going to
20 be involved with legal difficulties, because they will
21 be accused of crimes in connection with this. And
22 there's a process for that. And then there will be a
23 lot of people, a majority of them probably, that will
24 be leaderless.

25 STEVE: Well, see right from the beginning

1 | there --

2 | MAX: Who's going to handle them? Who is
3 | going to be the --

4 | STEVE: See --

5 | MAX: -- leader of that lost flock?

6 | STEVE: Well, right from the beginning there
7 | have been, there -- we have been here to try to get
8 | this thing resolved --

8 | MAX: Um-hum.

9 | STEVE: -- to, to get to the bottom of the
10 | thing, to get on with business as usual of course.
11 | And the only thing that has slowed down the process is
12 | what these people want to do is wait to see what he
13 | might have to say.

13 | MAX: Do you think there will ever be
14 | business as usual again after this week --

15 | STEVE: Who knows. Who knows. In reality
16 | it --

17 | MAX: Somebody's going to have to pick up
18 | the pieces and go forward with the beliefs.

18 | STEVE: Well, look. You know --

19 | MAX: If, if --

20 | STEVE: -- it's, it's always come down to,
21 | Max, if this isn't true, I'm back to Hawaii to finish
22 | up whatever kind of a life I might have.

23 |

24 |

25 |

1 MAX: Well --

2 STEVE: I mean if, if there's no God, if the
3 Bible's not true --

4 MAX: You can't sail away from this. I
5 don't think you can go, go and walk away. You can't
6 shrug your -- you may -- you're in all of this, and if
7 it doesn't work out, you're going to shrug your
8 shoulders and go back to Hawaii.

8 STEVE: Hey, look.

9 MAX: Without a church, without anything?

10 STEVE: In my -- oh, of course. Of course.
11 Because in my past there was like I told you my
12 mother being Catholic, Dad, Lutheran became Seventh
13 Day Adventist. I rebelled in my high school years. I
14 did not -- I saw hypocrisy in all the churches. So I
15 left for about 4 or 5 years, hung around with movie
16 stars, actually made a lot of connections. But that
17 got to be old hat. I got kind of tired of that scene.

17 I had a friend, he was going to be a
18 quarterback for the Rams. He gave up his life to get
19 into Hinduism.

19 MAX: Well --

20 STEVE: So that, that got me checking into
21 eastern religions. Why would a guy give up such an
22 awesome career for something so off the wall? So I

23

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25

1 started studying comparative religion. I wanted to
2 see what men had to say about all the different
3 possibilities of another world. So after that, one
4 thing led to another, I got into the Bible.

5 But the bottom line has always been either
6 I'm in it or I'm not. If, if this isn't true, then
7 forget all religion. I'm going back to just do what I
8 can in this world for others, for myself, and that
9 will be my religion.

10 MAX: Well, that doesn't sound like 100
11 percent dedication to me, Steve. Seems like you
12 leaving a loophole there. You got a ticket in your
13 pocket to Hawaii in case the Lord doesn't come next
14 week.

15 STEVE: Well, it's not quite like that.

16 MAX: (Laughing.)

17 STEVE: What I've said I'm either or I'm
18 out --

19 MAX: I made light of it, Steve. I --

20 STEVE: Oh, I, I know you are. I know are.

21 MAX: -- I apologize for that.

22 STEVE: But no, the bottom line is I'm
23 either in or out. I'm either -- you know, I've always
24 tried to go -- the key catch phrase for me has always
25 been by a weight of evidence. Where is the weight of

1 evidence? Where does it lie?

2 MAX: Where do you use evidence? You got to
3 have a court to use evidence in.

4 STEVE: I'm glad you brought that up
5 because --

6 MAX: So come on out here --

7 STEVE: -- the whole Bible deals in a
8 judiciary system with attorneys, with mediators, with
9 a judge. You know, you -- if you're used of Western
10 literature you would be familiar with the Bible, how
11 it's based in fact and, and law. All the way through,
12 right from Genesis through to Revelation. That's what
13 David's message is is there's a, there's a judgment
14 set in Revelation 4 and 5. And all the eyes of all
15 the beings of the universe are on that book.

16 What's in the book? One that sits on the
17 throne is quiet. He's not speaking any longer. The
18 information's already been written. It's been
19 foreordained. There it is. Who wants to know ahead
20 of time --

21 MAX: Come back, Steve. Come back.

22 STEVE: I know. I know you don't like to
23 get off into anything to do --

24 MAX: You're going too far for me.

25 STEVE: -- with the Bible or religion.

1 MAX: How many pockets you -- how many
2 tickets you got in your pocket? One or two?

3 STEVE: Well, I don't have any. But
4 anyway --

5 MAX: Well, you're plan. You going back to
6 Hawaii alone, you going to take Judy with you?

7 STEVE: Oh, I have no plans of that. I just
8 take a day at a time and try to do the best one can
9 for that day.

10 MAX: Well, there's, there's another one
11 that give you reason to, you know, make your loophole
12 a little bigger. Make it big enough to drag Judy
13 through to and both of you go back to Hawaii.

14 STEVE: Oh, I have, I have the highest
15 respect for Judy. Always have. We've always, we've
16 always been seen as the, the most perfect couple
17 anybody's ever known.

18 MAX: We hear the same thing. We hear the
19 same thing. In fact, that article --

20 STEVE: And it's not changed.

21 MAX: -- I, I was reading the other --

22 STEVE: It's not changed.

23 MAX: -- night to you.

24 STEVE: Um-hum.

25 MAX: Someone said just the same thing.

1 Said she was "sweet." And let me find it here. I
2 still got the article. They said your apartment in
3 Hawaii was dinky too. I left that out last night,
4 because you were so down, but I'll tell you today.

5 STEVE: That it was dinky?

6 MAX: Said she was -- huh? Yeah.

7 STEVE: That it was --

8 MAX: Dinky apartment. Is that right?

9 STEVE: Oh, yeah. It was not large. It was
10 a one-bedroom apartment.

11 MAX: (Laughing.) Well, I can remember when
12 we first started, my wife and I first started. We had
13 a very dinky apartment too. Former cult members say
14 that Judy was sweet if the word was ever used
15 properly. That they were -- Judy and Steve were a
16 team and that they couldn't -- whatever Steve couldn't
17 do she could. So --

18 STEVE: Oh, yeah. We've always --

19 MAX: -- that's, that's about the nicest
20 thing that can be said about --

21 STEVE: David himself has said as Mark and
22 everyone else said if there was ever a marriage where
23 two really worked out they had never seen anything
24 like it, it was her and I. This is -- and it's always
25 been that way. It's not changed.

1 But when it comes down to spiritual things,
2 when it comes down to one soul and the possibilities
3 that there's a God, I've always told her don't ever
4 let me make up your mind. I can't be responsible for
5 your decision. That's between you and your maker if
6 there is a God. I mean everybody's got to come to
7 that on their own. And there's -- I can share with
8 what I understand, what I know, what I think. But the
9 bottom line is everyone has to make up their own mind,
10 their own decision with something so serious as that.

11 So right from the beginning when I met Mark
12 Bro and he opened up what he did I said to Judy look,
13 if I go, don't you go before -- because I do. Or if I
14 stay and you believe it, don't you stay with me and
15 you believe it. I says go with what you see. Go with
16 what you believe. And that's the way it's always
17 been. Always has been.

18 And I've even been very hard with her on
19 that. But I have seen that it has, it's not been
20 necessary, because she has followed the dictates of
21 her own conscience.

22 MAX: Well, that's, that's strange. It's
23 very unorthodox following that, you know, a marriage
24 would be treated that way in a religious --

25 STEVE: Well not, not if you read the -- not

1 at all, Max, if you read the -- read any --

2 MAX: Well, like I say --

3 STEVE: -- read any book of the New
4 Testament.

5 MAX: -- it's a little hard to understand.
6 Little hard to --

7 STEVE: Any book of the New Testament. Any,
8 any -- you could go to any minister, they'll tell you
9 the same thing. It doesn't matter what --

10 MAX: Not many people thought you have to
11 give up your wife to be, you know, part of the --

12 STEVE: Oh, the ministers will --

13 MAX: -- to be dedicated to, to --

14 STEVE: -- the ministers will tell you that
15 also. If you put mother, father, spouse, sister,
16 brother before God, you're not worthy of God. But of
17 course, you put God first, first and the scriptures
18 say he'll put you first. He'll work it out for you.
19 So I mean it's always worked for me, and we've not had
20 any problems.

21 MAX: Hmm.

22 STEVE: But when it comes to something
23 like --

24 MAX: I bet that was hard to accept in the
25 beginning, wasn't it?

1 STEVE: Pardon?

2 MAX: Wasn't that a little hard to accept in
3 the beginning?

4 STEVE: No, because all through my life as I
5 read that Bible I always figured how come it was for
6 the apostles of 2,000 years ago and the people they
7 worked with, and it no longer exists in this
8 generation.

9 There's definitely I -- in honesty I'll tell
10 you the truth. I don't believe there is any such
11 thing that exists in this generation as Christianity.

12 It doesn't exist anymore. I'm not a Christian. I
13 don't know of any. A Christian 2,000 years ago they
14 would lay hands on one another's heads, they would
15 have a supernatural power to be able to raise the
16 dead, heal the sick, feed thousands. That doesn't
17 happen anymore.

18 So I can't blame the world in their worldly
19 wisdom when they see all these religious social clubs
20 taking money and like say Baker and like Swaggert and
21 all the others. I, I mean anybody that has any
22 insight should be able to read through all of this.

23 So people say that about this group from
24 what they understand. But they haven't -- those that
25 take the time to hear, then they can evaluate, and

1 then they have something to judge by. But if one
2 doesn't take the time, they'll never be able to see
3 the points laid out, the consistency, and thereby
4 they'll be doing themselves a disservice.

5 MAX: Well, let's if we can, can we just
6 assume for a minute that, that the exact conclusion
7 that David envisions has a flaw. How would you like
8 to see it resolved?

9 STEVE: Well, you know, it's such a weird
10 situation that we're in. It's so strange. I mean in
11 regards to number one I mean all that took place
12 and --

13 MAX: Hey, hey, little equivocation there.
14 If there's a flaw in David's vision or his perception,
15 how would you like it to work out? Let's discount the
16 way he says it is going to for a moment. What's the
17 alternative?

18 STEVE: I really don't know. In honesty I
19 don't. I mean I -- how, how do you second guess
20 something like this that has taken place and where it
21 might go and where it could go. I don't have the
22 foggiest idea.

23 MAX: Second guess. Let's look at it as a
24 fall back plan.

25 STEVE: Okay. For instance like with him,

1 if he says that he's expecting something, it has
2 always happened. There's never been a time where he
3 hasn't had an answer or hasn't at least given one.
4 And in, in doing that, you're going to have people
5 reacting pro or con to it and making a decision and
6 going with it. But they've all decided they on their
7 own, it's concluded on their own that they've wanted
8 to give him the opportunity one last time to see what
9 he has or what he has to say.

9 And of course, this is why on a day-by-day
10 basis I still go and ask people do you want to leave
11 today? What do you think?

11 MAX: Oh.

12 STEVE: Do you see?

13 MAX: Oh. Are you saying their, this is
14 sort of a test?

15 STEVE: It, it would seem like --

16 MAX: Wait a minute. If he pulls this one
17 off then, you know, it's, it's 100 percent. And if he
18 doesn't then --

18 STEVE: No, it would seem like it is. It
19 actually would seem like it is.

20 MAX: Well, yeah. I, I can see that.

21 STEVE: So --

22 MAX: If he doesn't, you go back to Hawaii.

23

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1 STEVE: Well, it's true.

2 MAX: Uh-huh.

3 STEVE: It's true. This thing falls apart,
4 if he's not able to show and to continue to do so -- I
5 mean I've -- see I make my judgments every day. It's
6 not like I accepted this 6-1/2 years ago and I'm
7 stuck. In honesty if you, you talk to those that know
8 me that are on the outside or that were part of this,
9 they'll tell you for a fact that every day is a new
10 wrestling match looking over the issues. Is this
11 right? Is this wrong? Do I go with this today? Do I
12 throw my hands up in disgust and go back to Hawaii and
13 go back to what I was and what I had?

14 MAX: How about just throwing your hands up
15 in disgust and walking out the front gate?

16 STEVE: Well, you don't think I consider it
17 constantly?

18 MAX: Well, I sure wish you'd think about it
19 more seriously.

20 STEVE: I do. It's a daily thing. It's
21 something that I'm wrestling with constantly moment by
22 moment.

23 MAX: Well, I'm glad to hear you say that.
24 I really am. It, it leads me that there's some hope
25 here. It leads me to believe that you have a mind of

1 your own and there is some hope for this thing.

2 STEVE: Well, I'm not the only -- they
3 all -- I mean I'll give you names of people that come
4 to me today like yesterday also, and they'll say --
5 they'll tell me their thoughts. And I'll sit there
6 quietly and listen.

7 MAX: Yeah.

8 STEVE: And what they're going through.
9 And, and I tell them well, do what you think you've
10 got to do. Do what you think is best for yourself. I
11 mean always, you know, wrestle with the issues. So I
12 mean that's the way it's got to be, and I'm always
13 expecting, you know, anybody can go. Anybody can
14 choose to and they may.

15 MAX: Well, is there, there any questions in
16 your mind that we could answer out here or find the
17 answers to or anyone we could talk to for you to, to
18 give you facts or give you reason to, to tip these
19 scales in one direction or --

20 STEVE: Well, the biggest --

21 MAX: -- anything you need --

22 STEVE: Max.

23 MAX: -- to help you make a decision.

24 STEVE: Well, the biggest thing would be for
25 honestly for these people, you've got to be able to

1 find a scholar from maybe the university of this or
2 the -- there's got to be some man out there that's,
3 that knows --

4 MAX: No, no. Somebody to come in there and
5 argue with David. He's too --

6 STEVE: Well, not quite.

7 MAX: -- big of a manipulator. That's not
8 going to happen.

9 STEVE: Well, no, not quite like that.

10 MAX: It's, it's the presentation.

11 STEVE: You don't by choosing --

12 MAX: It's, it's not the, the show, it's the
13 showmanship.

14 STEVE: Could there be a way -- see well,
15 these people are expecting that there, there should be
16 a scholar out there with a number of degrees or the
17 ability of language that, that's older than David that
18 in their ability of memory, memorization, holds and
19 understands something of scripture where they can
20 raise the questions or shoot him down. Or at least
21 show that he's fallible, that he's not able to have a
22 consistent answer directly from that book. There's
23 got to be.

24 I mean before I came here, I went to Andrews
25 University. I went to the University of Hawaii. I

1 spent some time studying on my own at the University
2 of Wisconsin and had spent time in England. And with
3 all the comparisons and, and listening to these men of
4 different ability, there was a man over there in
5 England, his name was Dr. Scoil (phonetic sp.), who
6 could speak many languages. There's been many men
7 I've met through the years that have quite an ability.

8 But I would like to see these men take this
9 guy and controvert what he has. You would see these
10 people walking out of here so quickly you wouldn't
11 believe. Seriously. Just let them raise some
12 questions that he can't answer clearly or consistently
13 or that, that it's very questionable.

14 There's got to be men out there like that.
15 I mean look at all the millions of people that, that
16 say they're into the Bible that make money off of this
17 book that have studied it all their lives that are,
18 that are more than twice his age, maybe almost three
19 times his age. Do you understand what I'm saying?

20 MAX: Yeah. I've, I've heard it all before.

21 STEVE: There's got to be some men out
22 there. What about Baylor University? There's over
23 10,000 students that go there. They've got to have
24 some sharp minds there, some doctors and so forth.
25 But where are they? Where are the arguments? Why

1 don't they raise the questions with the man? Have you
2 considered this? What about that? I mean if this
3 group here could hear and see a dialogue --

4 MAX: Well --

5 STEVE: -- questions raised that he could
6 not answer or at least that where it's questionable,
7 it would make a huge, a huge difference. I mean if
8 you look at that tape tonight, it's because these
9 people have experienced Adventist ministers, Lutheran
10 ministers, Catholic priests, and they've not seen
11 anyone that even came close to having an ability to
12 have answers, always having answers. But it's not to
13 say that they're not out there, Max. It's not to say
14 that at all. And, and --

15 MAX: No, there's no one out here. There's
16 no one anywhere in the world that we can bring in
17 there with David and with the people in there and sit
18 and have a discussion that you and everybody in there
19 would not see David as really 100 percent winner.
20 Whether he said a word or not, he would be declared
21 the winner.

22 STEVE: Max, no, it's not like that.

23 MAX: There's nobody going to win in a
24 religious argument with him in front of that audience.

25 STEVE: It's not like that. Max, honestly,

1 it is not like that.

2 MAX: It is.

3 STEVE: They will always take the time like
4 I did with Mark Bro in November over in Australia of
5 1990. I did not interrupt him. I sat there quietly,
6 attentively -- in fact, I've even wanted to see an
7 underdog like Mark come about and, and come up with
8 some doctrine or the ability to shoot him down. I
9 really -- if you ask Mark back in '89, I says Mark,
10 you've claimed to be a prophet all these days. You
11 know, Mark is another human being that has claimed to
12 have visions and dreams. Did you know that?

13 MAX: No, I, I didn't know he did that.

14 STEVE: Oh, yes. I've got -- you ought
15 to -- I've got stacks of papers that he typed out of
16 his visions and dreams. He denied that he ever had
17 this experience and that he was a prophet in Michigan
18 a year ago before the judge. And that really floored
19 me. Because he had made the biggest thing of that
20 right up until the very time he took, his seat, stand
21 in the courtroom.

22 MAX: Um-hum.

23 STEVE: And so that blew his credibility
24 with me. I told him Mark, well what's the thing now.
25 Now you're saying you're not a prophet. And then

1 after the courtroom situation was over, then he went
2 back, reverted back to that yes indeed, he was a
3 prophet.

4 MAX: Well, wait a minute. He lost
5 credibility with you because he had visions --

6 STEVE: Well, yeah. I've got --

7 MAX: -- and David didn't need the
8 credibility with you because he has them.

9 STEVE: He volunteered -- you see, Max, he
10 volunteered giving me those visions. I never asked
11 for them.

12 MAX: Okay.

13 STEVE: He sent them to me. I, I could send
14 you copies. I could give --

15 MAX: No.

16 STEVE: -- or I could get them out to you of
17 course to the gate out there, and you could look them
18 over. This is the guy that introduced me to David.

19 MAX: Um-hum.

20 STEVE: I never knew this David. Not at
21 all.

22 MAX: Well --

23 STEVE: It was, it was he.

24 MAX: -- you know, he says that he
25 introduced you to him to be able to shoot him down.

1 Thought you were the only one that could. And then
2 you got taken in also.

3 STEVE: Well, not -- that's not exactly how
4 it happened at all. It was Mark --

5 MAX: Well, excuse the phraseology but --

6 STEVE: It, it was Mark --

7 MAX: -- basically --

8 STEVE: -- that actually wanted me to look
9 over his phenomena, his experience. And I told him I
10 was very dubious, very skeptical of his experience. I
11 said if it was based in fact, it was a continuation
12 clearly of that which the prophets had written, the
13 apostles. Well, and it takes some time of
14 scrutinizing.

15 Well, I took all his information, and I sent
16 it to a professor friend of mine at a university. And
17 he got back to me. I says well, what do you think?
18 And he said to me I'm also dubious. And I says well,
19 take more time with it. Wrestle with it and get back
20 to me.

21 Well, we were in contact probably six
22 different occasions long-distance from Hawaii to
23 Michigan where the professor was. But ultimately when
24 Mark came back, he had all this information. I says
25 Mark, where did you get it? And you know, ultimately

1 told me from the source. And so I finally flew over
2 to that source.

3 And Mark took a back seat when David spoke,
4 and I could see why. Because his information was so
5 far beyond what Mark had, I could then see the very
6 mannerisms that Mark was using he had picked up from
7 David.

8 But through the next 6 months I went back to
9 Hawaii to get away from him and wrestled with those
10 scriptures, with the text. Some friends of mine in
11 Hawaii called up a man by the name of Ortega. And I
12 think he's got a doctor degree if I'm not mistaken.
13 But they flew him over to deal with me to show where
14 this was wrong. And I was such a, so naive and a
15 novice as to the information David had opened up. But
16 I had the basics down.

17 So I started saying to him well, show me
18 what you think about what he has shown me. And I, I
19 laid out that number of chapters. The man kept on
20 reverting to the scholars' opinions. I says I don't
21 need that. Show me what the writers have said. Go
22 back to that same source. Well, he was not able to do
23 so. And those people that sat to listen and see what
24 happened were astounded at the lack of ability of this
25 man that was much older than myself. So that just

1 gave more strength to the arguments to the very
2 doctrine that David had opened up.

3 So and every day since that day, I've never
4 been able to rip the man apart. And I have tried.
5 I've lost my patience with him at times and said what
6 about this, what about that. What are you going to do
7 with -- I've had it with this. And he's always been
8 able to go back to chapters and context. Always has
9 been able to do that.

10 See, that's the reason why I'm here still.
11 If that, if that would stop, if it, if it had quit, if
12 it had abruptly come to a close. But it has not.
13 That's why I even hoped that Mark on the outside would
14 still be able to have some strong arguments.

15 We invited Mark to come back and bring
16 anybody. We'd pay his way. Fly him back. He could
17 present whatever he wanted before everybody. But of
18 course, he would not do it. So that showed to the
19 people that he had nothing. That he, he was not able
20 to do it even though he boistered (sic) his opinion
21 and, and made some pretty strong statements, when it
22 came right down to it he was not there to, to back
23 what he thought he might be able to do.

24 MAX: Okay. Well, it's, you know. I've
25 never seemed to accomplish much. We never seem to

1 accomplish much toward resolving this with discussions
2 of, you know, the religious issues and the, the
3 connections therewith. It's too big of a gap in, in
4 the perceptual world or perceiving worlds that we have
5 here.

6 What we are able to put together from out
7 here, and as I said earlier, you know, we talked to
8 people and, and they tell us the position that you're
9 in and the position that David's in and a lot of what
10 goes on in there and what is necessary to, to be a
11 member and to stay a member in good standing and all
12 those things. And we pretty well know how that fits
13 in with the, the society in which we all must
14 function, this real world that exists around you,
15 around Mt. Carmel. And you know, that's one of the
16 problems that brings us up to where we are now.

17 And I -- and, and that's where we all
18 believe the situation is going to be solved is from in
19 that real world setting. And I think David knows
20 that. I believe you know it. And it's a matter of --
21 I think David is very concerned if not if I may be a
22 bit stronger afraid of what an unknown judicial system
23 might do with him. The difficulties that he might
24 face in this system. I think that's the bottom line.

25 STEVE: I --

1 MAX: And if we --

2 STEVE: -- I don't really think so, Max.

3 MAX: -- if we through you could help answer
4 some of those questions for him, it might bring about
5 a resolution that we can all be happy with. And you
6 can use your ticket.

7 STEVE: I really don't believe the man is
8 afraid of the system. I really don't. I think that
9 he's the type that in his own mind would accept and,
10 and do what he would have to do. And I mean just by
11 what I saw a week ago Tuesday, he was ready to march
12 on out of here. I mean of course --

13 MAX: Steve, look, look at what we see.
14 Look at what a lot of people who came from there
15 earlier see. David is in a, a cocoon. He's in a
16 safety bubble. He -- there are not any threatening
17 men around him. He is, has surrounded himself and
18 resides with the women and the children of the commune
19 with which he takes his own liberties and keeps
20 anybody who might be a possible threat at a distance.
21 Or if they're too big a threat he says you don't
22 belong here, and he runs them off.

23 And he is in relative control in there. He
24 is the figurehead, and everybody has yielded to him
25 their will, their power, their money, their will,

1 their women. And he --

2 STEVE: Not at all.

3 MAX: -- is using it. And he can't have
4 that out here. He can't have that out here in this
5 system. He is, he is reluctant --

6 STEVE: Max.

7 MAX: -- to come out.

8 STEVE: What does he have?

9 MAX: And face a world that would take some
10 of that from him.

11 STEVE: Monetarily --

12 MAX: And all he has to do to, to stay in
13 there --

14 STEVE: Let's look at the issues.

15 MAX: -- is to whip everybody up into
16 believing like he does --

17 STEVE: Let's --

18 MAX: -- into sharing his paranoia of the
19 world.

20 STEVE: Max, I'm, I'm familiar with --

21 MAX: That's what he's done.

22 STEVE: -- I'm familiar with cults, how they
23 work and all that sort of thing. And I go along with
24 you. I, I mean we all see stereotyped pictures. But
25 let's, let's take that point step by step here.

1 Monetarily, financially, what does the man have?

2 MAX: Well, he has everything.

3 STEVE: This is the -- this is a dumpy
4 building. It's a, it's a lousy --

5 MAX: He's got everything you had, and he's
6 got everything everybody else in there ever had.

7 STEVE: He -- but he does not. That's the
8 whole --

9 MAX: What's yours is his and what his --

10 STEVE: What does he have? Max, what does
11 he have? What does he own?

12 MAX: He has money. He has motorcycles. He
13 has --

14 STEVE: I've got motorcycles.

15 MAX: -- cars. He has stereos. He has
16 all --

17 STEVE: Why --

18 MAX: -- the women he wants.

19 STEVE: -- there's two things, there's two
20 things he has bought. And he never has used it. And
21 the -- and I'll come right out and tell you the reason
22 why. He bought a Harley-Davidson, a used one.

23 MAX: Oh, yeah --

24 STEVE: And he bought a --

25 MAX: -- you told me. That was to reach

1 someone who was lost. I, I remember the story.

2 STEVE: Well, yeah. The rock and rollers
3 out in --

4 MAX: Yeah.

5 STEVE: -- the Hollywood strip. And it was
6 a draw. It didn't bring people to a place where we
7 could then communicate with them. He never liked the
8 big, loud thing, the way it rode and so forth. And
9 it's always sat.

10 Same with the, an old Corvette, a '67 Vette.
11 And when, if it didn't work, there it sits. He's
12 talked right from the beginning, Steve, go have it
13 sold. Let's do this or that with it so we can use the
14 money for helping someone else.

15 But he -- when it comes to clothes he has
16 nothing. He owns nothing with gadgetry. The group
17 all of us because we believe in music have --

18 MAX: He's --

19 STEVE: -- we've --

20 MAX: -- he's reported -- you say he has
21 nothing. He's reported to run around town rolling off
22 \$100 bills to purchase things that he wants, and you
23 people come in there in sackcloth.

24 STEVE: With like what familiar?

25 MAX: Looking for groceries and crumbs.

1 STEVE: No, I've got, I've got a myself the
2 wardrobe I own, no one, not David doesn't even have a
3 tenth of what I have. No one does here. I mean I've
4 always been into clothes. I still am. And there are
5 other people. I can give you their names. Some
6 people are into one thing. Someone's into something
7 else. They've all got their things or hang-ups or
8 whatever else --

9 MAX: Well, nobody out there has it as good
10 as David.

11 STEVE: We all have money. Hey, seriously,
12 no one's hurting. No one's wanting. If someone needs
13 something, they all go out, and they're able to get
14 it. There's not been a problem with that.

15 MAX: Nobody out there has it as good as
16 David. We all know that. We all know, you know, what
17 the situation is there. He's, he's on the throne.
18 Not that he --

19 STEVE: You really don't.

20 MAX: -- has all the respect and all the,
21 the control, the organization. But he's on the
22 throne.

23 STEVE: He does have. He does --

24 MAX: And --

25 STEVE: -- have the control of the

1 organization in that if they're willing to allow that.

2 MAX: No, you got a big piece of that.
3 You've got a big piece of that whether you want to
4 accept it or not.

5 STEVE: I don't have. That's where you're
6 not right. I do not -- they could care -- I'm like
7 they are. I, I don't have inspiration, Max. They --

8 MAX: You have common, a little more common
9 sense I believe than, than those --

10 STEVE: Common sense.

11 MAX: -- with the great inspiration.

12 STEVE: See I mean if you can show from the
13 Bible like in the last --

14 MAX: Ah, ah, don't go that --

15 STEVE: Look, this -- I'm giving you the
16 very reason why these people are here and what they
17 see.

18 MAX: Well, I'm, I'm giving you the very --

19 STEVE: Like I told you last night --

20 MAX: I'm trying to give you the very reason
21 they're in there today. And that is that it's a
22 cocoon, and David fears outside that --

23 STEVE: Not at all.

24 MAX: -- cocoon.

25 STEVE: That's not what it is.

1 MAX: I, I really believe. What I would
2 like for you to do, what I would like for you to do or
3 at least consider is for -- do you have any law books
4 in there, any legal books or --

5 STEVE: Wayne Martin does. He's got --

6 MAX: Okay.

7 STEVE: -- I've never really looked at them.
8 But he's got quite a library I'm sure there.

9 MAX: Why don't you get a hold of some of
10 those books and get Wayne -- not necessarily Wayne to
11 review them for you. But why don't you sit down and
12 review some of the, the books on the federal process
13 and just learn what is in store here. How structured
14 a system it is. And where, you know, the days between
15 events is even set out and how things go overboard for
16 the defendant's rights and things like this. There's,
17 there's no way that system can abuse him the way that
18 he fears it.

19 STEVE: When does the --

20 MAX: It's not as bad outside that bubble as
21 he would lead you to believe. And you I think need to
22 convince him or help us allay his fears of coming out
23 that he will be treated properly, and he will be
24 treated with respect. That is everyone's right. And
25 paranoia in there be what it may, that right exists

1 out here in this world. And will be given to him and
2 will be given to you and any and all in there.

3 Wayne is very curious about what's going on
4 here. He's very concerned.

5 STEVE: Well, of course he is. I mean what,
6 what he's a person --

7 MAX: And I think both of you share a lot in
8 that regard. And --

9 STEVE: Well, he's been a person that's
10 always been --

11 MAX: And he can help you do that research.

12 STEVE: He's always kept himself updated as
13 to current events, what's been taking place in the
14 world nationally, internationally. And he doesn't
15 like being cut off as he has been. I don't know if --
16 I think he was on the phone the other night. I think
17 it was with -- was it with you or John?

18 MAX: I've talked to Wayne.

19 STEVE: You have.

20 MAX: Um-hum.

21 STEVE: I believe then that was you that he
22 was talking to when --

23 MAX: He has a bit of a incorrect maybe
24 twisted view of what we as an organization do, what
25 the Federal Government as an organization does --

1 STEVE: Are you talking about the FBI?

2 MAX: Yeah.

3 STEVE: I know. I -- in fact I, I --

4 MAX: Law enforcement in general. But

5 FBI --

6 STEVE: Well, yeah.

7 MAX: -- in particular.

8 STEVE: I, I do remember. I, I was here
9 when I, I heard him make the comments. And I must
10 admit I was quite surprised. I don't know -- I never
11 heard that before. I don't know where he got it from.

12 Apparently he had been reading some books about J.
13 Edgar Hoover.

14 MAX: Well --

15 STEVE: Where I was raised with --

16 MAX: (Laughing.)

17 STEVE: I know. I know. I was raised on
18 the other hand where my folks I once said when I was
19 in the 8th grade I said who are some of the greater
20 men in this country, because it was part of a civics
21 class I had. And in their estimation, that was one of
22 the names that they jotted down on a piece of paper
23 for me that he was the opposite of what his views
24 were.

25 So my, my understanding of that organization

1 through the years is I've never seen any or had any
2 negative things said or thought about the
3 organization.

4 MAX: Well, help give us some credibility
5 then. Help us resolve this thing.

6 STEVE: Well, I have. I have. And you
7 know, I've tried to give it as I see it and as I
8 always have. I, I must admit I'm, I'm very leery of
9 this other group, this ATF, of which I never -- but at
10 the same time I told you --

11 MAX: Well --

12 STEVE: -- I've never been involved with
13 that group, because I was not into firearms or alcohol
14 or whatever else.

15 MAX: Um-hum.

16 STEVE: And even seeing, being a Seventh Day
17 Adventist, we don't drink or smoke. And being part of
18 this group it was something only we've done only in
19 the past maybe 4 years.

20 MAX: Well, you can avoid the alcohol and
21 the firearms, but you better not avoid the tax part of
22 that. I mean --

23 STEVE: Well, this is --

24 MAX: -- ATF, you know, the T does stand for
25 taxes.

1 STEVE: Uh-huh. Well, I don't --

2 MAX: (Laughing.)

3 STEVE: -- see the whole thing as I don't, I
4 don't really know a whole lot about it nor do I know a
5 lot about weapons either. Nor I never --

6 MAX: Okay.

7 STEVE: -- really have. I've never had an
8 interest in those things.

9 MAX: Now point being it is, you know,
10 certainly at this point two different agencies with --
11 and we have our goals, objectives, and we're trying to
12 get this thing resolved. Putting the past behind us
13 for everybody.

14 STEVE: No, I realize that. I really do.

15 MAX: And I as I say, I really, really we,
16 speaking on behalf of all of us who have been
17 whispering in this phone for a week now, need some
18 credibility, or we're going to lose that credibility.

19 We're going to lose that, the ability to continue in
20 this vein if we don't do something. And --

21 STEVE: See, I wouldn't --

22 MAX: And from in there, Steve --

23 STEVE: I realize --

24 MAX: -- I've told you what a lot of the
25 world perceives out here.

1 to go back to some walk of life where -- I'll tell you
2 one thing. If I ever -- if I leave here I mean this
3 organization, it's all over for me with this whole
4 business. I'm going to get into the world, back into
5 the world of being a sales rep or something.

6 Religion is -- I'm not into religion because
7 I'm into money, I'm into fame, I'm into any of that
8 sort of thing. I've looked for something better, and
9 if it's not there I'm going to -- as every day I've
10 got to weigh out and evaluate. If it's not there, I
11 leave it be. It's behind. I gain an experience.

12 It's something that isn't, it wasn't. It didn't work.

13 I mean every day I'm looking at issues like that in
14 that manner. So and I --

15 MAX: That sounds so good, Steve. But it
16 hasn't played through in what, in your actions.

17 STEVE: That's -- well, that's what I'm
18 telling you. But this is what I have to weigh out,
19 and every day I've got to wrestle. And at this point
20 of time I've put so much into it, I'm looking to see
21 what he's got to say. And he's not disappointed me
22 yet. So I'm going to give him an opportunity here
23 yet. So I'm waiting to see what he -- see that's --
24 there's a curiosity. There's a, there's a wonder.
25 People are wanting to see well what is it? What are

1 | you waiting for? What do you have? And I'm wondering
2 | the kind of time or what the element will be myself.

3 | MAX: Well, Steve, you're saying that you,
4 | you don't, you know, are not fully dedicated to this
5 | anymore. And, and in some circles --

6 | STEVE: I always believe --

7 | MAX: -- in some opinions, you know, lives
8 | are on the line.

9 | STEVE: You don't understand. Understand I
10 | always leave the option open. I'm a free moral agent.
11 | I make choices. Those choices I can't -- I'm not,
12 | I'm not stuck in any of the choices. I, I see myself
13 | as being --

14 | MAX: Well, you're --

15 | STEVE: -- free to always review --

16 | MAX: You've stuck --

17 | STEVE: -- to look back and to compare.

18 | MAX: -- yourself in this one though, Steve.
19 | You are stuck in this one. You have a lot -- you've
20 | lost a lot already and have a lot to lose.

21 | STEVE: And what's that?

22 | MAX: For just a --

23 | STEVE: What do you see that I have --

24 | MAX: -- for just exploring a theory here,
25 | one that you don't have total commitment to in your

1 mind, you've really got a lot hanging out here, buddy.

2 STEVE: No, what I'm -- remember again,
3 remember the phrase that I use that works for me.
4 Weight of evidence. I'm here because of weight -- not
5 because all the answers are here. I've never been
6 anywhere in my life or to a source where all the
7 answers are there. But --

8 MAX: I don't have them all out here either.

9 STEVE: Well, see that's the point.

10 MAX: But my answers are safer.

11 STEVE: That could be. And I mean no
12 question about it as to today. No question about
13 that.

14 MAX: Come out of there and start another
15 life. No, no gamble to it. Bring Judy out of there,
16 Mina if you wish. But come out of there.

17 STEVE: We're working on that. We're
18 working on that.

19 MAX: And have a life for Steve and Judy.

20 STEVE: Well, that's what we're talking
21 about. I mean it's not only me. It's, it's others
22 here --

23 MAX: Buy those --

24 (End of tape 102.)

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