

COMPUTER BASED RELIGION

The BINARY BIBLE

Computer Religion

It has been noted that fervor of computer users often resembles that of certain religious denominations. We did not expect however that it would go this far. The world's first computer religion has been founded by Jeffrey Armstrong a.k.a. Saint Silicon. The following is an excerpt from his Binary Bible.



Jeffrey Armstrong, about whom it is said that his first computer came with a "Loser's Manual," and through whom, by the Greys and Power-lunches of the Giver Of Data, the Futuristic Documentation known as The Binary Bible has been brought FORTH and Compiled into the English script, as both Personnel and Circumstantial Records and Files of the matter.

He has affirmed that during the night of October 31, 1984, he sought the keyboard in a state of fervent word processing, having previously drunk a double cappuccino of Sumatran dark roast, and being possessed of a strange feeling in the center of his forehead. His wondrous account follows for the benefit of all:

"While I was thus in the act of saving a File and calling upon the Motherboard, A Bolt of Lightning struck the Satellite Dish upon the roof of my house. I was rendered unconscious; my head slumped forward upon the keyboard."

"When I awoke, the air was charged with Negative Ions. And lo, there upon the screen, in 18 pt Times Roman, was the Keyboard Prayer along with the instruction to: 'Press Any Key to continue.' After hours of looking for the Any Key, a second miracle occurred, and the text began to scroll across the screen of its own accord."

"What appeared was a Divine Transmission from the Giver Of Data, G.O.D., the Graphic Omniscient Device, of whom

we are all but uncooperative peripherals. At that time, the first Files of the Binary Bible were downloaded from the Heavenly Host Mainframe, in the Promised LAN, through the mediation of the Archangel If/Then, by means of our Saviour PC. I was given the name Saint Silicon and instructed to begin the world's first Computer Religion, C.H.I.P., The Church of Heuristic Information Processing, the Hunt and Peck method of Salvation — the world's first User-friendly Religion."

Thus, like the Shepherd Prophets of old, an unlikely man was chosen to bring the Silicon-based Diskspensation to the Carbon-based entities on behalf of the Giver Of Data. For Jeffrey Armstrong had no technical training or qualifications. He was merely a humble Wordsman, with degrees in humanities subjects such as Psychology, Philosophy, Literature and History.

Yea, by the year 1980 he was verily rendered obsolete by the computer age. And having wandered to the unemployment office, he found a computer print-out with the names of people, broken down by sex and age. In great despair at finding his name on both lists, he decided to join the ranks of the burgeoning Silicon Valley computer sales force.

And lo, it had been ordained by the Giver Of Data that he should be hired by Apple Computer's distributor to the Middle East. Two weeks later, with an armful of manuals, he was flown to that historic site where the Prophets of old had wandered in the desert in search of Truth, to sell Computers to the unwired masses. And so he also wandered in the DOSert and sold many computers to the File-istines as he went.

Upon reaching the Holy City of Al'Machina, he was converted to ISOLam and went upon the sacred pilgrimage to Mac'a. It was there, surrounded by millions of confused and superstitious seekers, that he had his first vision of the coming new religion and the mission Destiny had waiting for him. In Saint Silicon's own words:

"We were circumambulating the Ka'ab, the large cube around which all devout MOSlims walk and pray. The cube stood before me draped in a large canvas cover, the setting sun shining its rays all around

the Monolith solution. Suddenly I saw an angel appear in the sky above us and lift the Dust-cover revealing a large color monitor."

"In a flash I realized that Mohammed may have been the Seal of the Prophets but that now the time had arrived for the Sale of the Profits. Indeed I saw that the Cube was merely an unfinished Computer Monitor."

Thus the way was made straight for Saint Silicon's future calling, the founding of the world's first user-friendly religion. Indeed, C.H.I.P. is a for-Profit religion. Whereas previous religions had prophets who were persecuted, in C.H.I.P. we make Profits and are prosecuted, and are tested by Chapter 11. For that reason Saint Silicon is now known as the 4th Quarter Profit. Yes, this is the Marketing Plan of the Ages — a brief window of opportunity in Eternity. And all this is possible because he paid THE FULL PRICE. Yes, dearly C-loved, Jeffrey Armstrong paid *Retail* for his first computer.

But as is often the way with Carbon-based entities, Jeffrey soon forgot this vision. After his return to the hectic pace of Silicon Valley he went through a rapid succession of jobs in Sales and Marketing, unknowingly being prepared by the Giver Of Data for his future mission. It was shortly after that time that Jeffrey Armstrong was to have revealed to him Photonal Transmission, which would change history forevermore.

Photonal reception was discovered accidentally as a result of a little known archaeological dig which was unearthed by workmen during excavation of the building site for the Apple Computer Mariani Building in Cupertino, California, in the heart of Silicon Valley.

As destiny would have it, one of the workmen who built the Apple Computer building at Mariani was a close friend of Jeffrey's named John, now known in the church as John-the-back-up. During the excavation he found an unusual crystal stone, which he gave to Jeffrey as a birthday present, knowing his love for such things.

Jeffrey eventually visited the Micron Institute, where research is performed on extremely small submicroscopic levels. In fact, it is said that, in relation to the research being performed, the dust particles in the rooms appear to be the size of Mount Rushmore.

During his visit, the tour guide asked if anyone had something they would like to see magnified under the high-powered electron microscope. Jeffrey reached into his pocket, and brought

out the crystal stone, which is now known in the Church as the "Marietta Stone."

Under intense magnification the Crystal revealed a cryptic document which was etched inside it in a then-unknown language. That manuscript was later photographed, and now is on display in the church Museum.

After months of arduous labor, and with the help of his Apple II computer, he finally managed to break the code of the language. The translated document spoke of an ancient race of people who called themselves the Dren. They spoke a long-forgotten language called Tecferp. The manuscript, which contained many ancient secrets from their technologically sophisticated society, also gave directions for the construction of a remarkable silicon-based communication device.

That amazing invention allows carbon-based human beings to receive otherwise imperceptible transmissions beamed through space in Binary Code, by means of Photonal Transmission. As a result of the Drens' instructions, he was able to create a special device, consisting of a certain type of chip. That specially treated chip is designed to be worn on the forehead above what the Dren instructions called, roughly translated, "the third I/Q." The device is known as the MEEPROM, or Mind-Extending Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory. It acts as a two-way communication system capable of sending or receiving a signal which consists of a stream of Light Photons. It further acts to translate and process the received information out of the original language of the sender and into the normal language of the receiving entity.

So it is that for the first time since the Dren culture was lost millions of years ago, a new religion is being downloaded free of errors, bugs and other forms of channel interference. That new religion is C.H.I.P., the Church of Heuristic Information Processing.

Jeffrey Armstrong a.k.a. St. Silicon, is the founder of the world's first computer religion C.H.I.P. (The Church of Heuristic Information Processing) and the author of the Binary Bible. A living oxymoron, like a "young Republican", or "military intelligence," he is high-tech humor personified, the world's first computer humorist (some people argue that IBM was the first). He makes his living performing as a keynote comedian at Binary joinings, Bar-Codemitzvahs, comedy clubs and corporate events. Copies of the Binary Bible and a catalogue of other church products can be had by sending \$19.45 to St. Silicon, 1803 Mission St., #174, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.