

# WACKY CULT LEADER 'PROVED' EARTH IS HOLLOW

**He even rewrote the Lord's Prayer: Thy will be done IN Earth...**

**THE EARTH is actually a hollow sphere... with the entire universe packed into the space inside.**

"And anyone who believes otherwise is denying God and all his works," declared Dr. Cyrus R. Teed. "All that is opposed to the hollow Earth is the antichrist."

Dr. Teed, a New Yorker, took America by storm in the spring of 1894 when he brought his followers to South Florida and declared he could prove scientifically that the world was hollow.

Weathering a storm of scorn and abuse, the fanatical physician adopted the biblical name Koresh - as would another visionary 100 years later, a certain Vernon Wayne Howell who became the notorious David Koresh of Waco, Texas infamy.

But Teed's followers were not Branch Davidians. They were known as Koreshans and they believed that if they could prove their inverted Earth theory, the new religion of Koreshanity would gain worldwide acceptance.

Teed was so convinced he lived inside a hollow ball, he rewrote the Lord's Prayer for his followers: "Thy will be done IN Earth as it is in heaven." Teed and his followers moved to Naples, Florida,

by RAND LePAGE



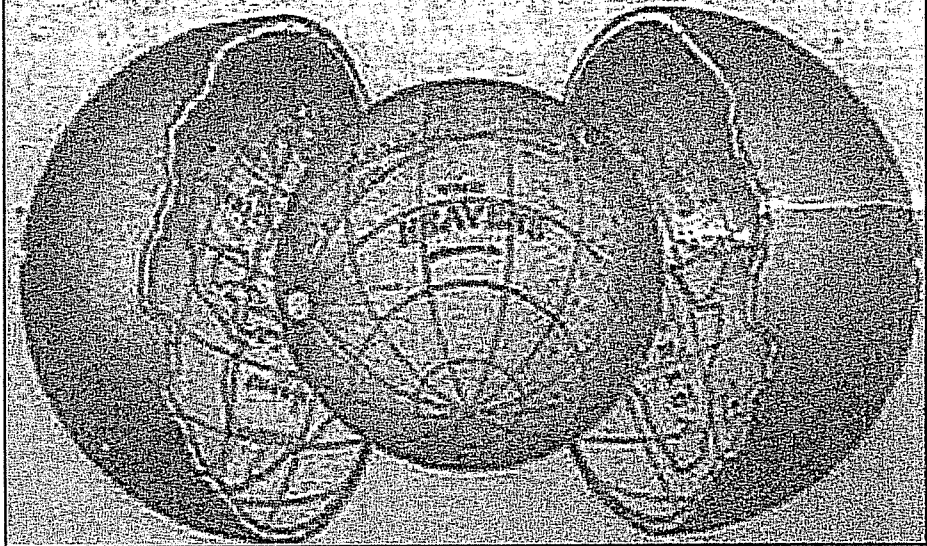
●DR. CYRUS R. TEED: Took biblical name Koresh

where the good doctor planned to build a utopian community named New Jerusalem. The great city would one day be home to 10 million Koreshans, former non-believers who would flock to his metropolis once his theory was proved.

"The hollow Earth emerged from a vision that overtook me as I meditated," Teed explained to his disciples. "I went

WE LIVE INSIDE!

DROP IN AND SEE US.



●THE ABOVE drawing depicts Cyrus Teed's conception of the universe inside a hollow planet

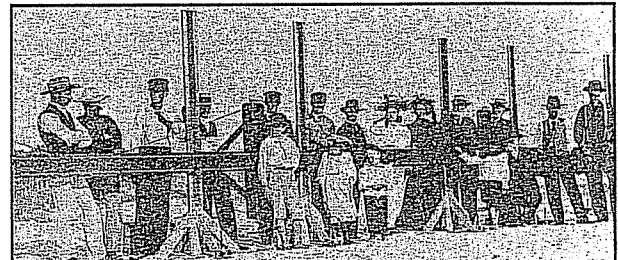
into a trance and a beautiful woman revealed several cosmic truths - one of which was that we live within a sphere."

In an attempt to provide "irrefutable proof" that the hollow Earth was a reality, Teed built a device called the Geodisic Rectilineator.

"The machine will show," Teed declared, "that two lines going straight upward within a hollow sphere will intersect."

The Rectilineator, a massive device made of mahogany and steel, was made to Teed's specifications by the renowned Pullman carriage company. After five months of dragging the contraption up and down the beach at Naples, the doctor's team declared their experiment was a complete success. In fact the lines were never shown to intersect, but Teed put that down to a mistake in his calculations. And with a masterly twist of logic he said the "mistake" verified the Earth was indeed hollow. A handful of new believers trickled into Florida, but by the early years of the 20th century interest in the hollow Earth theory waned.

However, as recently as 1949 a few scientific magazines still touted the idea that man lived inside a sphere.



●SOME OF Teed's followers with his 'Rectilineator'

photos: Koreshan State Historic Site Archive Collection

●CULT LEADER Vernon Howell (right) took the name Koresh before leading his followers to destruction in Waco, Texas (below)

