The Jumping Jesus Phenomenon
By Robert Anton Wilson
Updated by Bob Pauley

Assume the measure of *all known scientific facts* at the beginning of year A.D. 1 as *One Jesus*, named for the celebrated philosopher born in that year. That first year A.D. was *One*, by the way, *not Zero* – much the same as the first inning of a ball game is Inning 1, *not* Inning 0, from beginning to end.

That knowledge brought *Homo sapiens* from about 100,000 years ago and the discovery of *fire*, let's say, through the early years at the University of Athens (Socrates, Pythagoras, Plato, Aristotle, Archimedes, etc.). Prior to that, of course, it actually took all the billions of years that led us to such a pivotal moment in time.

How long did it take us to double this accumulation of knowledge, to achieve the equivalent information of *Two Jesuses*? …Only 1,500 years or so with the likes of Cicero, Seneca, daVinci, Fibonacci, Gutenberg and their learned colleagues.

And doubling again? Only 250 years, taking us up to year 1750 and *Four Jesuses. Eight Jesuses* took less than 125 additional years, through about 1875. By 1940 we were at *16 J*, and 1970 at *32 J.* These were the times of Pascal, Leibniz, Boolean, Babbage, Bell, Edison, Ford, Marconi and Einstein to name but a few.

By 1985 the count was up to *64 J*, 1992 at *128 J.* 1995 brought us to *256 J*, 1998 over *512 J.* We now have developers of our modern computer in the mix, along with the research labs of Bell, IBM, Xerox, Hewlett-Packard and the like. And there's Bill Gates and Stephen Jobs, helping to market the computers that thousands of scientists around the world are busily developing.

We are now at several thousand Jesuses and the Jesuses are jumping quickly. In short, we are living in a mental transformation space; that is, an omni-dimensional halo expanding toward infinity in all directions. The innovators are now people like you and me, creating new ideas from anywhere there's a plug-in.

The electronic center of this halo of mentation is no longer confined; it is everywhere. It is available to you right where you are seated at this moment. Just plug in a terminal or turn on your PDA, desktop or laptop and there you are. The machine doesn't care who, what or where you are. Thanks to Vint Cerf and Bob Kahn for their PCP/IP, the protocol that enables the global sharing of information, and Tim Berners-Lee who brought us the World Wide Web.

What's next? Pencils that store all the information they write; textbooks being replaced by laptops and PDAs; robots teaching our children? We can only imagine what the future holds for us but rest assured it will be an exciting time to behold.

The Jumping Jesus Phenomenon is not a theory anymore; it is a fact: Technology is doubling our vast knowledge today with unprecedented rapidity, and it is available to you and me literally *anywhere there's a plug-in* or a *Wi-Fi connection*! If you are an accomplished educator, as I suspect you are, you won't want to miss out on this incredible era in which you and I have been fortunate enough to have been born.