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JUDGMENT DAY!

ISLAM, ISRAEL, AND THE NATIONS

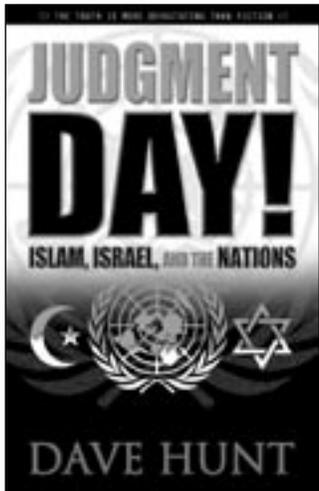


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JUDGMENT DAY APPROACHING

by DAVE HUNT

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SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST: *Advance manuscripts of this pivotal work are being sent to key individuals in the government and media, including a copy hand-delivered to President George W. Bush. Please pray that the Lord will open the hearts and minds of those who read the book, especially for those who are outside the body of Christ. Also pray that a "great door, and effectual" will be opened for Dave to speak widely on this crucial subject in churches and public interviews.*

PLEASE NOTE: TBC OFFICES AND PHONE LINES WILL BE CLOSED

for inventory Thursday, June 30, through Friday, July 1, and will remain closed on Independence Day, July 4. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, July 5.

Cover graphic

Blood flows from the symbols of Islam, Israel, and the United Nations. Scripture declares the entire world will rise against Jerusalem in the last days, with devastating results.

Judgment Day Approaching

Dave Hunt

Israel is the major topic of the Bible. The word "Israel" occurs 2,565 times in 2,293 verses. More than enough prophecies have already been fulfilled in Israel's unique history to prove that "the God of Israel" (203 times) is the true God. In Zechariah 12:2-3, He declares:

Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

This is an amazing prophecy not only that Jerusalem, which was then in ruins, would become a burden to the whole world, but that all of Israel's neighbors would be united against her. They have fought one another in the past. Yet today, for the first time in history, "all the people round about" are united by Islam to destroy Israel.

For more than 50 years, Israel's neighbors have launched surprise attacks against her and she has proved too strong militarily, even though they outnumber her forty to one. God said, "I [will] make...Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood... and they shall devour all the people round about..." (Zech 12:6). Soundly defeated every time, her Muslim neighbors feign a desire for peace, hoping to deceive and ultimately destroy her—a strategy established by Muhammad.

The real battle is not between Arabs and Jews, but between Allah and Yahweh. There is no question of the outcome, but it will be costly for both sides: Israel will be severely punished for rebellion, and her enemies will be destroyed.

Exactly as foretold, Jerusalem is a burden to all people of the world. More than 60,000 individual votes have been cast in the UN against Israel. This tiny nation with one 1,000th of the world's population has occupied one-third of the United Nations' time—a burden indeed!

Skeptics accuse Christians of trying to fit current events to the Bible, claiming

that no one recognized such prophecies until Israel was formed in 1948. On the contrary, for centuries most evangelical Christians have preached from the Bible the return of the Jews to their own land. Even John Owen, a leading Calvinist, wrote in the 17th century: "The Jews shall be gathered...into their homeland."¹ This was also the opinion of the poet John Milton, of John Bunyan, Roger Williams, Oliver Cromwell, and many others.

Martin Luther wrote: "If the Jews are Abraham's descendants...[they should be] back in their own land [with] a state of their own. But...[they are] scattered and despised."² He therefore wrote of the Jews as God's chosen people and persecuted them. But today the Jews *are* back in their own land after 2,500 years of being scattered worldwide, speaking Hebrew just as King David did 3,000 years ago. No other people have returned to reestablish their own nation and language after being cast out of their land for such a period of time.

Some prophecies applicable only to our day are frightening, foretelling God's judgment. The language is often graphic:

If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies...my sword shall devour flesh... (Dt 32:41,42). For, behold, the LORD will come...to render his anger with fury...by his sword... (Is 66:15,16). And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other...they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried.... (Jer 25:33)

The question is often asked as to whether the United States (or Canada, Australia, et al.) is in Bible prophecy. Of course! Scripture declares that *every nation* in the world will join together to invade Israel in the last days and be destroyed in the battle of Armageddon: "I will gather all nations [surely *all* includes America] against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken...Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations..." (Zech 12:9; 14:2-4).

But wouldn't the United States be spared for being Israel's friend? In fact, the U.S. State Department has often been against Israel. This was true in the Yom Kippur War. In a sneak attack (October 1973), 80,000 Egyptians overwhelmed 500 Israeli defenders along the Suez and 1,400 Syrian tanks swept down the Golan with

only one Israeli tank in service to oppose them. Israel was taken by surprise. Most of her armed forces were on holiday. The initial success of the attackers so electrified the Arab world that nine other Arab states rushed to get in on the slaughter.

Historian David A. Rausch writes: "Jordan's King Hussein sent two of his best armored brigades to Syria. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait financially underwrote the huge cost while sending thousands of troops to fight the Israelis. Kuwait lent her British-made Lightning jets to Egypt. Libya's Muammar Qaddafi turned over forty French-made Mirage III fighters and 100 tanks. Iraqi MiG fighter jets as well as tank and infantry divisions fought on the Golan Heights, while a squadron of Iraqi Hunter jets were utilized by Egypt. Arabs predicted the extermination of the Jewish state and the 'liberation' of Palestine..."³

The Soviet Union blocked any UN attempt at a cease-fire and reformed the Arab forces with armaments and supplies by sea and air. It was the closest Israel ever came to being defeated. But when the war ended, the Israeli tank columns were on the outskirts of Damascus and Cairo and could have taken those cities had they not turned back. Tragically, Israel suffered about 3,000 dead—which would be comparable to the U.S. losing 150,000. Except for a series of miracles from God, Israel would not have survived.

Where was her friend, the United States? Dozens of notices were sent to the Nixon White House by America's National Security Administration (NSA) that an Arab Pearl Harbor was about to be launched against Israel. Nixon sat on them. Kissinger hid at the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York the day of the attack and waited another three days before convening the UN Security Council. Declining to rush desperately needed military supplies to Israel, the White House said it had to be careful not to upset the Arabs and cause an oil crisis.

Six years earlier, on June 8, 1967, the fourth morning of the "Six-day War," the USS Liberty, an electronics eavesdropping vessel, arrived off the Sinai coast and began to suck in every Israeli military communication, relaying it all to the British Secret Service's giant computer installation on Cyprus. From there, complete maps of every Israeli military move were transmitted in advance to the Arab armed forces. With that help, the Arabs

might have been able to use their overwhelming numerical superiority to turn the tide of the war. Israel had no choice except to sink the Liberty. Of course the media screamed about this “cold-blooded attack.” No one believed Israel’s public excuse that the Liberty had been mistaken for a hostile Egyptian ship—and neither the U.S. nor Israel has publicly told the truth.

Yes, the United States, too, will attack Israel and will be punished at Armageddon. God declares plainly that He will bring *all* nations against Israel to destroy them:

In the latter days...I will bring thee against my land...my fury shall come up in my face...there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel...the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things [on] the earth, and all the men [on] the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence...[all nations] shall know that I am the LORD. (Ezk 38:16-23)

This is terrifying language! What causes this “great shaking” of the entire planet and every living creature upon it? God is personally coming to earth as He did at Mount Sinai when He gave the Law—and He is going to take vengeance upon the enemies of Israel!

There are two specific reasons for God’s judgment: “I will also gather all nations ...into the valley of Jehoshaphat [between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, where God miraculously destroyed invading nations without Israel lifting a finger (2 Chr 21:10-25)], and will plead with [punish] them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have [1] scattered among the nations, and [2] parted my land” (Joel 3:2).

Of course, all nations have participated in persecuting and scattering the Jews from country to country for 2,500 years. The second reason for God’s judgment falling on *all* nations, however, is something that has only occurred within our generation: “they have...parted [divided] my land.”

Israel has been overrun by invaders many times—but never did any conqueror divide the land. The victor does not share its spoils with others. Since World War I, however, all nations have joined to divide the land of Israel.

The 1917 Balfour Declaration, the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, and the 1922 Declaration of Principles by the League of Nations all recognized that the land that had become known as “Palestine” (since the Romans renamed Israel in A.D. 135) belonged to the Jews. It was set aside to become the national homeland of the Jewish people “internationally guaranteed, and...formally recognized to rest upon

ancient historic connection.” Of course, history ties Israel to all of “Palestine.”

Britain was given the mandate to see that the Jews were safely settled there. The discovery of huge reservoirs of oil under Arab lands caused Britain to keep Jewish immigrants out and let in tens of thousands of Arabs. Just when millions of Jews desperately needed a haven to which they could flee from Nazi Germany, Britain’s 1939 White Paper limited Jewish immigrants to 10,000 per year for a maximum of five years, plus an additional 25,000 “refugees” during that period—then the door to Palestine would be shut entirely to the Jews. Since the Nazis had marked for extinction 11 million Jews in Europe, the quota of 25,000 defied God and conscience.

A year earlier, President Roosevelt had gathered delegates from 32 countries in Evian, France, to discuss the worsening plight of the Jews. Roosevelt made it clear that the United States would do nothing. Britain said there was no room in Palestine and it was not to be discussed. Professing their great sympathy for Europe’s Jews that everyone knew were to be exterminated, the nations offered various excuses why they could do nothing to intervene.

Hitler shrewdly declared, “We...are ready to put all these criminals at the disposal of these countries...even on luxury ships.” When the conference ended with the Jews completely abandoned, Hitler mocked the participants: “It was recently regarded as wholly incomprehensible why Germany did not wish to preserve in its population...the Jews...[yet these] countries seem in no way anxious to [receive them] now that the opportunity offers.” The entire world was Hitler’s partner in destroying the Jews!

In 1944, Hitler offered to sell to the allies 500,000 Hungarian Jews for \$2 each—and no one would take them! England said there was “no room” in Palestine for them! In 1943, Britain and America had agreed to say and do nothing about the Holocaust, fearful that if pressed, Hitler would dump the Jews on his critics. The Allies steadfastly refused the repeated urgent appeals from Jewish organizations to bomb the rail lines going in and out of the extermination camps. God will judge all nations!

After the war, a trickle of emaciated survivors of Hitler’s death machines sought to reach “Palestine” in half-sinking ships. Some who got within sight of the land God had given to them as an everlasting inheritance (1 Chr 16:15-18) were driven back by the British navy and put into internment camps on Cyprus. Many who did manage to find shelter within what would become the new Jewish State

of Israel were rounded up by the British and removed to those camps. Britain created Jordan out of most of the Promised Land. The demise of the British Empire, upon which “the sun never sank,” can be counted from the time Britain betrayed the Jews—one more fulfillment of the prophecy, “I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee...” (Gn 12:3).

When the UN finally voted to partition Palestine on November 29, 1947 (UN Res. 181), God’s “chosen people” received about 13 percent of the land that had once belonged to them! Thus Joel’s prophecy was fulfilled that all nations would join to divide Israel. The only part of that prophecy remaining to be fulfilled is the judgment on the nations for having “parted” God’s land: “The land shall not be sold [partitioned] for ever; for the land is mine” (Lev 25:23).

God’s anger is growing hotter against the nations of this world for robbing Israel of what He gave to her. Yet in continued defiance of God, every peace proposal that the West has imposed upon Israel has involved further dividing of God’s land. President Bush, a professing Christian, originated the so-called “road map to peace,” which calls for a further dividing of the land of Israel. He ought to tremble and repent, as should President Putin, the EU, and the UN, who have joined Bush to make up the “quartet” sponsoring this plan.

On her part, Israel has been willing to give away more and more land in exchange for promises of “peace” from the PLO in spite of the fact that its charter calls for the destruction of Israel and that its maps and those of the entire Arab world do not even acknowledge Israel’s existence. The fact that Israel has been forced to do so by the West is no excuse. For this she will be punished severely in what is called “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jer 30:7). Yes, God will deliver her, but only after two-thirds of all Jews on earth have been killed (Zec 13:8,9).

There is no more appropriate place and way to destroy the nations that have abused Israel than when they, in the spirit of Satan, come to effect once and for all what Hitler called the “final solution to the Jewish problem.” Believers are to meet together to encourage and exhort one another from Scripture, “so much the more, as ye see the day [of judgment] approaching” (Heb 10:25). Fulfilled prophecies are heralding that day as never before.

TBC

This article contains excerpts from Dave’s brand-new work, JUDGMENT DAY! which is available now as a downloadable eBook; hardcovers will ship in July. See page 2 for details and special offer; or visit us online at: www.theberean.org.

Quotable

If the Saudis have the right to travel to Western countries and build mosques [they've built thousands and many are centers for terrorist activity and spreading hatred of the West], then we should have the right to engage in open missionary activity in Saudi Arabia or anywhere else [and] proclaim our ideas of Western freedom and an open society, whether this offends other countries' rulers or not. We have no obligation to "respect other cultures" and ideas when those cultures and ideas lead to human suffering, misery, and servitude....

Islam is a collective psychosis seeking to become global, and any attempt to compromise with such madness is to become part of [it]. No one who believes that jihad is the right or duty of all Muslims...promotes adoption of Shari'a law or reestablishment of the caliphate, should be allowed to settle in any Western country, and every applicant should be asked. The passport of anyone preaching jihad should be revoked. This may be called discrimination but the quarrel is not of our choosing.

Islam, in Muhammad's texts and its codification, discriminates against us. It is extremely offensive. Those who submit to that faith must solve the problem they set themselves. Islam discriminates against all "unbelievers." Until the petrodollars support a Kuranic revisionism that does not, we should go for it with whips and scorpions, hammer and tongs [and] act together before it is too late.

Serge Trifkovic, The Sword of the Prophet, pp. 299, 301 [See resources]

We are fighting a religious war, and knowing it is the first step in winning it. Our refusal to acknowledge this...because it might offend our Muslim and Arab friends, or...a politician might lose the Muslim vote here at home—does not make it untrue. We can't duck this...[there are] governments that publicly condemn terrorism but make deals with the radicals who run the madrasses and incite violence and jihad against the West, including Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, United Arab Emirates....

The United States doesn't want Israel to defeat its enemies. The reason...is bizarre but true. There is a small but powerful Palestinian lobby inside the State Department who reason that Israel is part of the Middle East problem. This crowd says the Palestinians are simply defending themselves, that the Palestinians need representation. These bleeding hearts, misguided government workers...are wrong.

Colonel David Hunt, U.S. Army (Ret.), Fox News military analyst, They Just Don't Get It, p. 59

Q&A

Question: In your article on the Pope's passing you said, "like the Pope, the Church he led firmly rejects Christ's promise of eternal life." Contradicting your statement, the May 2005 *Christianity Today* bears an American evangelical missionary's testimony that the Pope's message was "the clearest presentation of the gospel that I ever heard." The Pope also gave Billy Graham the invitation he needed for his crusade in a country where evangelicalism was considered cultic. Bill Bright and Campus Crusade were able to accomplish far more in Poland with his help and assistance. The Catholic youth organization, Oasis, even adopted Campus Crusade's evangelical materials as part of its curriculum, and the soon-to-become Pope defended the relationship between Campus Crusade and Oasis in 1977, allowing the evangelical-influenced curriculum to continue being distributed. Shouldn't we thank the Lord for the gospel of the late Pope?

Answer: The Pope was the head of the Roman Catholic Church, a Church that proclaims a false gospel of salvation through prayers to Mary and various "saints," works and rituals, purgatory, medals, scapulars, and the Mass that denies Christ's once-for-all-time sacrifice on the Cross and its sufficiency. The late Pope was the leader in proclaiming this false gospel, which has sent billions to the Lake of Fire while promising them heaven (after an uncertain amount of time in purgatory, from which the Church will deliver them through countless Masses for a price). I will let you try to reconcile the claim of the *CT* article to which you refer—that the Pope was truly an evangelical Christian—with the truth that I present about him and his beliefs in my May article. I gave ample evidence that no matter what the Pope's public relations statements to evangelicals, he had no hope of salvation through faith in Christ but looked to Mary to get him to heaven.

I'm no expert on Poland, having only been there once for a series of meetings in a number of cities—but I do know the Bible and the gospel. At one meeting in Warsaw, the Campus Crusade Director for Poland stood up and defended the Roman Catholic Church. I met with the leader of the Catholic Charismatic Movement in Poland, who admitted that his church had a false gospel centered in the Mass and Mary. I brought to Bill Bright's attention the fact that all of his staff in Ireland were practicing

Roman Catholics. He thought I would be pleased that they were getting Catholics to embrace Christ through the *Four Spiritual Laws*. I told him that every Catholic already believed these "Four Laws," but other things they believed nullified the gospel and that Campus Crusade was only reinforcing Catholics in Rome's false gospel. That is the same situation that Campus Crusade embraced in Poland. These are not the only places that Campus Crusade has compromised with false gospels. As you may know, they licensed the Catholic Church to make its own version of the *Jesus* film including a purely Roman Catholic ending.

Christianity Today praises a Polish Roman Catholic youth movement called "Oasis" known for its "spiritual" retreats attended by thousands. It was founded in communist times by Franciszek Blachnicki, a priest who had become a close friend of then Cardinal Wojtyla of Krakow, who became Pope John Paul II. The article mentioned that Blachnicki had had a "conversion" experience in a Nazi prison. If he had been converted to Christ through the biblical gospel, then he would never have become a Roman Catholic priest presiding over the Mass that denies the gospel. What he really believed is clear. The *CT* article states that Oasis retreats that Blachnicki organized involved "spiritual renewal exercises structured around the mysteries of the rosary"—to which Wojtyla was also devoted all of his life. I explained the Rosary in the May article: it derives from apparitions of the alleged "Virgin Mary" and focuses upon her instead of on Christ, looking to her for protection and eventually salvation.

The *CT* article also mentions that Wojtyla opened the door to Billy Graham to hold his crusades in Poland. We have quoted Graham in the past, declaring that his beliefs were basically the same as those of orthodox Roman Catholics and that any differences in belief between him and the Pope were not important as far as salvation was concerned. He consistently referred Catholics who came forward at his Crusades to the nearest Roman Catholic Church. To show that Bright and Graham were not "theologically naïve," the article mentioned that Trinity Evangelical Divinity School professor Norman Geisler was recruited by Crusade as guest speaker for a joint Crusade/Oasis Polish summer retreat. After returning from Poland, Geisler wrote of his trip in *The Christian Herald*: "What I experienced was a dynamic, joyous, Christian, and evangelistic community of believers who were more eager than most American evangelicals I know to learn and live the Word of God." *CT* went on to say that "Geisler described that summer as the most gratifying experience of his then

25-year ministry.” One can only wonder, why Geisler refused to sign ECT (which accepted Roman Catholics as evangelical Christians) and rebuked those who did.

I’m sure that whatever Graham and Geisler preached in Poland, it did not correct Catholicism’s false gospel. Had Oasis youth believed that Christ paid the full penalty for our sins on the Cross, they would have left that Church. And had Blachnicki preached this, he would have been cast out.

The *CT* article declares, “Certainly John Paul II’s biggest accomplishment was his ecumenism”—as though that were good! I pointed out that his ecumenism gathered leaders of world religions such as Hindus, Buddhists, Muslims, et al., for prayer and declared that they all believed in the one true God.

The facts I presented in my article prove that the late Pope was *not* a true Christian trusting in Christ alone for his salvation. Posing as the friend of evangelicals in the U.S., he vigorously opposed them in Mexico. He was an ecumenist uncertain of his own salvation and willing to embrace followers of any religion who would submit to Rome. Indeed, he was the guiding hand behind Chuck Colson and Catholic priest John Neuhaus in their composition of ECT.

I’ll let you reconcile these two faces of John Paul II. You might ask the opinion of former Catholics who received Christ and had to leave that church (there are millions), and let them explain the facts.

Question: Why would anyone who has died need to get their body back in the resurrection? We will be spiritual beings in heaven. If it is because we’re coming back to reign on earth with Christ in the Millennium, couldn’t God just take some dust and give us a new body? He is God. Also, I can’t imagine a God of love, which He is, giving back some people a deformed body.

Answer: If the resurrection left dead bodies behind in the grave, it wouldn’t be a resurrection. For there to be a resurrection, the body that died must be raised to life again. Our resurrection is because of and like Christ’s: we will be “in the likeness of his resurrection” (Rom 6:5). The disciples thought He was a “spirit,” but He said to them, “Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have” (Lk 24:39).

Nor will God give anyone back “a deformed body”—or a baby body, or an old, worn-out body. We will all have perfect bodies just like Christ’s. We will not be “spiritual beings in heaven,” but we will have spiritual bodies, able to handle

things and to be handled and even to eat as Christ did to prove to His disciples that He was not a spirit—yet able to walk through walls and to transport oneself instantly from one place to another no matter at what distance (Jn 20:26-29).

Question: Revelation 20:9 says that Satan will be loosed and will deceive many nations who will then come against the saints and Christ in Jerusalem. Would you agree that these are the same raptured and martyred saints that will reign with Christ for 1,000 years?

Answer: Yes. Those who have come to faith in Christ before the Great Tribulation have been raptured and are in heaven during that time of God’s wrath upon earth. Multitudes will come to faith in Christ during the Great Tribulation and will be martyred for their faith (Rv 6:9-11). They will be resurrected at the end of that seven-year period (Rv 20:4), but not raptured, because Christ has returned to earth to reign on David’s throne. Both those who were raptured and returned with Christ at His Second Coming in their resurrected and glorified bodies, and the Tribulation martyrs who are resurrected at the Second Coming, will rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 years. They are the “saints” who, together with Christ, are the objects of the attack upon Jerusalem.

Incredibly, millions (“the number of whom is as the sand of the sea” – Rv 20:8) remain rebels, and they are the ones who attack Jerusalem when Satan is loosed. Thus the Millennium will be the final proof of the incorrigible evil in the human heart. In spite of the fact that Satan is locked up for 1,000 years so that he cannot influence those on earth, and that no evil can be practiced anywhere, and in spite of the fact that Christ is present on David’s throne in His resurrected and glorified body revealing the fullness of His power as God, and in spite of the fact that the saints are ruling along with Him in their glorified and resurrected bodies—yet when Satan is loosed, the world follows him again just as Adam and Eve did in the beginning.

Those attacking Jerusalem are not after the new converts all over the earth, but direct their hatred at Christ and His throne and the glorified saints ruling with Him from Jerusalem.

News Alert

Press Trust of India, 5/10/05: YOGI JOINS MOTHER TERESA, POPE IN U.S. LIST—The passage of a unanimous resolution by U.S. Congress last month honouring the late Yogi Bhanan, a popular Sikh religious leader in the United States, is being

celebrated this week at the Capitol.

Bhanan died on October 6, 2004. In the history of the U.S. Congress, his admirers point out, only a handful of spiritual leaders have ever inspired a joint resolution from U.S. Congress honouring their life and work. They include Martin Luther King, Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa.

On April 5 and April 6, the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate respectively passed a joint resolution praising the life and work of Yogi Bhanan. The resolution read, in part: “the (U.S.) Congress recognizes that the teachings of Yogi Bhanan about Sikhism and yoga, and the businesses formed under his inspiration, improved the personal, political, spiritual, and professional relations between citizens of the United States and the citizens of India...”

The House resolution, which passed by a voice-recorded vote of 405–0, was sponsored by U.S. representative Tom Udall. The Senate resolution was passed by unanimous consent. It was sponsored by U.S. Senators Jeff Bingaman and Pete Domenici and co-sponsored by John Cornyn.

“Whatever your faith, Yogi Bhanan had the right words, the right lesson, the right message,” Udall said on April 5.... “I am pleased that he has been honoured by Congress today.”

“Yogi Bhanan was an inspirational figure and a proud legacy for New Mexicans who remember his hopeful message and practice his teachings of humanity,” Domenici said. The passing of Yogi Bhanan last October was a loss not only to the Sikh-American community but to the entire nation,” said US representative Earl Blumenauer.

In addition, Yogi Bhanan founded the 3 HO (healthy, happy, holy) organization. With over 300 centers in 35 cities, 3 HO uses kundalini yoga to help people improve their physical well-being and deepen their spiritual awareness.

[TBC: The latest Gallup survey shows that only 35 percent of Americans approve of the way Congress is handling its job. Officially recognizing the above guru, who teaches tantric (sexual enlightenment) yoga and kundalini (serpent power) yoga, certainly explains its low rating. As Congress moves through the Y’s, don’t be surprised if Yogi Bear should also be praised for his life and work.]

Endnotes

- 1 Cited in Bridges for Peace website, May 21, 2004.
- 2 J. Randall Price, paper delivered at the Pre-Trib Study Group Conference, December 6, 2004.
- 3 David A. Rausch, *The Middle East Maze: Israel and Her Neighbors* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1991), 57.

Dave & T.A.'s Itinerary

June 4 Dave	Calvary Port Orchard Port Orchard WA (360) 876-7288
June 5 Dave	Calvary Chapel South Kent WA (253)852-7030
June 9-11 Dave	Berean Calvary Chapel Kirkville NY Conference with Jacob Prasch Of Moriel Ministries
June 12 Dave	Berean Calvary Chapel Kirkville NY (315) 656-7107
July 10 TA	Calvary Chapel Columbia Gorge Mosier OR (541) 478-3458
July 12-14 Dave & TA	Intern'l Christian Retail Show (CBA) Denver, CO • Convention Center
July 30- Aug 6 Dave	Word of Life Schroon Lake NY (Call for schedule) (518) 494-6222
Aug 27 Dave	Compass International Steeling the Mind Bible Conf Colorado Community Church Englewood CO (800) 977-2177 • (208) 762-7777

Letters

Dear TBC,

Thank you for the articles in February and March on "Consumer Christianity." Today's popular idea about a church in America is like Burger King: "Have it your way." The Bible tells us in Matthew 16 that the church is Christ's, not ours. Christ said we should be: preaching the gospel, witnessing to the lost, baptizing the new converts, making disciples, starting other churches, and strengthening the families. Today we have in churches: a talk that mentions one verse from any version [of the Bible], giving the lost what they want to see in a church, praise and worship with the band, Sunday clubs for every age group, and showing "Christian movies." MC (TN)

TBC:

[T.A. McMahon's book] *Showtime for the Sheep?* has opened our eyes to [the fact that] entertainment for spiritual growth can be very deceptive.... Your explanation of what Christ did on the cross for the world was exact. My heart was lifted! You were very explicit. In fact, I have started to ask those that profess to be saved, myself included, what Christ did for them on the cross. So far, my husband was the only one who [understood] that God put the sins of the world on Christ on the cross.... WC (OK)

Dear Sirs:

Please remove me immediately from your mailing list. Your newsletter, while it may be full of "correct theology," demonstrates such a complete lack of love that I simply cannot regard it as Christian.

Your constant attacks of other Christian leaders is heartbreaking. Have you completely forgotten James 4:11-12? How about Ephesians 4:1-6? But most of all, 1 Corinthians 13:1-3? If you believe that these other pastors/evangelists are truly in error, you should approach them *privately, in love*, and share your concerns—trusting God Himself to correct the wrongs. The many people who think they are blessed by you are simply thankful that they've been given permission by you to hate others. JS (CA)

Dear T.A.,

You wrote us about stewardship in TBC Notes "Spring Cleaning" (4/05). I keep thinking about the lady that lined her bird cage with TBC—if she had just read it, it could have released her like a bird from the snare of the fowler, but instead she fouled a precious gift that was *true* and lifesaving information from God. BO (NM)

TBC,

It is so sad for us to see the direction so many of our local churches are taking. Some we have visited are so heavily influenced by psychology that salvation is "not enough" to transform a life! The church we visited this past Sunday wanted to be a warm and friendly place for nonbelievers. But during the 20-minute sermon there was no explanation of the gospel or invitation to become a Christian. One church I passed by had a sign out front advertising a \$500 drawing! They all want the people in the community to come to their church, but they don't give them what they really need when they get them there. JM (MO)

My dear friends,

Today was a miracle. Five men came visit my husband. They from Panamvillage. First this month they beaten my husband. Prayer hall they burned. They beaten believers. But last week one man's daughter shocked from lightning thunder. She in hospital. Now also unconscious. Another man's house burned from same lightning thunder. Saw this another man's wife became mad. So a hindu astrologer told go asked God's man forgiveness. From 130 miles away they came. First they afraid see my husband. They stood outside gate. See them I and children afraid. Because we not knew why they came. Our doubt again they came disturb us. But my husband went to gate said enter home. They all cried. They said sorry. They repent. About Jesus my husband told. Why Jesus crucified my husband told. How Jesus risen he said. Full Gospel he taught. Five hours they with us. They kneel down. They accepted Jesus their Saviour. They said by mouth Jesus only their Saviour. They all saved. To their

head my husband put hands prayed. We together prayed. We ate lunch with them. Then they went. Praise God. We happy. God open doors. Glory His name. MC (India)

TBC:

I just finished reading [Dave's book] *Beyond Seduction*. Thank you so much! It knocked my socks off! How awesome that there are still some people that will stand up and proclaim the Truth! Hallelujah—I felt like Elijah—that I was the only defender of the faith left. Not really. I knew there were others, but they are few and far between. God always does keep a remnant. JS (PA)

Gentlemen,

Thank you for sending me *The Berean Call*. I do believe a Christian friend must have given you my name, and I thank whoever it was. I have been a Christian warrior for years, being now 81 years of age. I thank you for the [article on] the Purpose Driven Church re Rick Warren. I am trying to enlighten others but having a difficult time. I am older now but still wanting to fight the good fight and with your help I can help some who are so caught up in this satanic attack. BF (MD)

TBC Notes

"The Churches, They Are a-Changin'..."

One subject that comes up continually in our mail is a request for help in finding a church. That presents a couple of problems for us. First of all, we know there are some solid, biblical churches across this country. Unfortunately, they seem to be few and far between. Also, churches are changing at such a fast rate these days that it is impossible for us to know whether or not they are staying true to the Scriptures. Therefore, we can make no specific recommendations.

We advise, however, that everyone should make a sincere effort to find a good church in his or her area, and that needs to begin with a visit to a service followed by an interview with the pastor.

If you aren't successful in finding a good church, do what you can to get together often with likeminded believers for prayer and Bible study.

T.A. McMahon
Executive Director

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Holy Cow! We Now Have Holy Ants?!

The New Age movement has transformed itself into a Universal Spirituality that has coiled its anti-biblical beliefs of polytheism and pantheism around the common sense of many professing Christians. Many immature believers have difficulty discerning truth from error because the “all life is sacred” mantra is not only politically and environmentally “correct,” but because existential philosophy is increasingly embraced by professors and pastors who claim to be followers of Christ. Terminology can no longer be trusted; the terms “God” and “Creator” are defined by dozens of “alternative religions” (as pagan beliefs are commonly now called) in ways quite contrary to Scripture. Sometimes the shift is subtle, but any deviation from a biblical worldview is critically significant. The following essay was written by a TBC staff member in response to such an error appearing in Christianity Today magazine.

“As I watched the spider dance, I felt another little creature flitter, testing his boundaries—my second child, prodding the edges of his world, my womb. The baby and the spider were linked with a thread of the cosmos, moving together to a tune I rarely stop to listen for.”

YOU MIGHT THINK that the above quotation came from an account taken from Al Gore’s pantheistic book, *Earth in the Balance*, or from Carl Sagan’s poetic, pro-evolution programming, or from one of the many pagan publications proliferating today. But no, this is a quotation from an article in *Christianity Today* titled “From Ewww ... to Wow! What a big difference a small spider made” by Bethany Torode (posted 11/29/2004).

The author is describing her emotions upon discovering a spider in her car during a period when she is pregnant. While Torode marvels at the “engineering of this delicate creature” (the spider), she expresses remorse that “millions of similar creatures come into being every season, and I destroy them without a second thought whenever they happen to seek shelter in the unused corners of my home.” As “hope” for both human and animal kind, the author cites a local billboard message, cleverly co-sponsored by a Crisis Pregnancy Center and a Humane Society chapter, which reads: “All life is precious in his sight.” But is a household pet of equal value to a child in the womb? Does the Creator God of the Bible really equate the life of insects (or in this case, arachnids) with human life? Certainly God is concerned that our pets and farm animals are cared for in “humane” ways, for that is simply proper stewardship; but is the “life” of a spider truly “precious in his sight”? (I don’t recall singing that line in the popular Sunday School song, “Jesus Loves the Little Children.”)

Torode goes on to say, “I recently learned that Orthodox Christianity, of which I am a practitioner, forbids the harm of any creature—even insects—within the church. I pondered this one Sunday as I sang ‘Holy, Holy, Holy’ while watching an ant scurry about my feet. The grace of sanctuary is extended even to life that cannot understand the One who provides it.”

In this context, the “One” described by Torode sounds a great deal like a nebulous, pantheistic, universal “god” that has more in common with eastern mysticism than with Christianity. The author quotes Job 12:7-10 as support for the “sanctity” of all life forms on earth. But she fails to distinguish that the life given to humans is quite different from the life given to creeping things. Spiders, unlike human souls, do not have a spiritual existence or an eternal destiny. Although it is true that a close inspection of God’s creation should cause us to marvel with increasing wonder at the limitless beauty and perfection of the works of His hand, we should be exceedingly careful that we do not fall into the sin of worshipping creation more than the Creator: “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things” (Romans 1:22-23). The penalty for this error (read the rest of the chapter) is clearly manifested in our culture today.

The author expresses a personal longing for “tolerance” of all insect life: “Perhaps someday, like my church, I will learn to share my home with little creatures, as I am learning to share it with little people.”

Would Torode (or her church) truly seek to be as “tolerant” toward rats and mice, or wasps and hornets, should they choose to “seek shelter” in an attic or entry, porch or pantry? And if virulent and dangerous creatures alike are “precious in his sight,” then would the web of a black widow be a welcome “cosmic connection” between the rungs of her baby’s crib? The author poetically concludes, “I hope to grow increasingly sensitive to the fullness of Glory manifested in the minute. It is not easily captured with words. It can only be experienced in flashes, in the form of a garden spider’s waltz, or a floating baby’s kick, or a holy ant.”

Holy cow! We now have holy ants?!

Although it could be reasoned that God’s creation does give us a glimpse or “flash” of His glory (Scripture says the heavens “declare” it), this is certainly not the “fullness” thereof! Regarding the ant, Scripture does urge us to “consider her ways, and be wise” (Proverbs 6:6). However, although we may observe the activities of a colony in wonder, an anthill is not a shrine at which we are intended to experience a “flash” of spiritual awakening. Scripture is clear that we will only know and see “the fullness of Glory” when we enter heaven: “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known” (1 Corinthians 13:12). “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18).

It is true that our omniscient God certainly knows the location and habits of every sparrow (Matthew 10:29)—and by extension, every spider, and yes, even every ant—but to declare that the “life” of an insect (or any nonhuman creature) is “sacred” is not supported by Scripture; such a belief is, in fact, a tenet of pantheism. Though they are marvelous testimonies to Intelligent Design, the existence of amazing “creeping things” is not the same miraculous existence given to humans, created in the image of God, whose souls are uniquely designed for eternal life and for an intimate relationship with their Creator through the Lord Jesus Christ.

The boys in our household are now age 7, 13, and 15—and while they on occasion perform sub-human “feats” (generally to the amusement of their parents; sometimes to their chagrin), there is one certainty my wife and I can guarantee: whether in the womb or out, they have never been “linked with a thread of the cosmos” to any spider! To use their vernacular in response to the editors of *Christianity Today*—“Yeah, right (not)!” (Interpretation: “What a bunch of mystical nonsense!”)

So editors, please take note: The earth is not our mother; the cosmos is not our Creator; pantheistic evolution (however poetic it may sound) is the antithesis of truth—and of biblical Christianity. We are created in the image of an almighty, triune God—whom we know through His Son, Jesus Christ—and His image is not that of any “creeping thing.” —Mark Dinsmore

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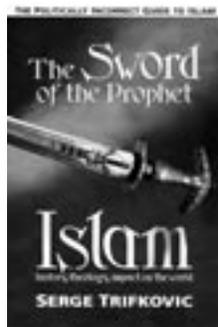
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Dave Hunt is internationally known as an author and lecturer on many topics, including prophecy, cults and the occult. His books have been translated into at least 50 languages. Dave co-hosts his own weekly radio broadcast heard on 350 stations nationwide.

T.A. McMahon is the executive producer and co-host of two weekly radio programs, *Search the Scriptures Daily* and *According to God's Word*. He is also co-author of *The Seduction of Christianity*, *The New Spirituality*, *Understand the Times*, and the author of *Showtime for the Sheep? The Church and the Passion of the Christ*.



"[The Bereans]...searched the scriptures daily, [to see] whether those things were so." —Acts 17:11