

“[The Bereans] . . . searched the scriptures daily,

[to see] whether those things were so.” —Acts 17:11

## Dumpster-Diving Christianity

T. A. McMahon

MY BEST friend-in-the Lord, Dave Hunt, who is now in heaven delighting in the presence of the Lord, loved to repeat this poem, which I quote in part:

“Who would leave the noonday bright to grope ’mid shadows dim?

And who would leave the fountainhead to drink the muddy stream

Where men have mixed what God has said with every dreamer’s dream?”

In today’s lingo, this would be akin to dumpster diving. Many of the poor and homeless are driven to dumpster diving, i.e., scrounging through trash bins next to grocery stores hoping to find salvageable discarded food in order to help them survive. Amazingly, that *method* is the same for many Christians, although the circumstances, spiritually speaking, are as far apart as heaven is from earth.

First of all, true followers of Jesus Christ are not spiritually impoverished. As born-again believers, they have been given all they need to live their lives to the glory of God. Jesus declared, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). The “life” Jesus referred to is a believer’s life in Him, and He has supplied—as in “made available”—all that we need in abundance! “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3).

That supply began for us when we first believed the gospel, acknowledging that we were sinners separated from God, doomed to spend eternity apart from Him. Our confession also acknowledged that there was nothing we could do to save ourselves. The debt for our sins is infinite and beyond finite man’s ability to pay off. Only Jesus, who is both infinite God and perfect sinless Man, could and did pay the eternal penalty for our sins. Putting our faith in Jesus is our recognition of His immeasurable sacrifice and involves believing and receiving what He accomplished for us. It requires a full commitment of the heart to Him. When that takes place, we are reborn spiritually, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and have immediate access to all that God has provided for our “abundant life” in Christ!

Why, then, are many Christians today acting like spiritual paupers—even to the point of spiritual dumpster-diving (examples to come)? These are certainly the days prophesied by the Apostle Paul, when those who call themselves Christians “will not endure sound doctrine” (2 Timothy 4:3). The primary cause is that they do not truly believe in the *sufficiency of God’s Word*. Some give nodding agreement to it, but much of what they actually *do* amounts to mere lip service.

Regarding God’s Word being sufficient, let us be Bereans (Acts 17:10-11)! Does the Bible claim to be sufficient? Absolutely! God “has given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who has called us to glory and virtue” (2 Peter 1:3). Although there are many others, that one verse is loaded with information confirming the sufficiency of God’s Word. It says “all

things”! It says He has “given us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him. . . .” The context is all those things that pertain to *life and godliness* and that ultimately have eternal value, as well as blessing us in our temporal lives. However, that doesn’t include one’s ordinary earthly attributes, such as mechanical skills, medical proficiency, intelligence, athletic abilities, artistic talent, and so forth—all of which have temporal value and none of which are gained “through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord” (1:2). Nevertheless, our knowledge of Him instructs us as to how to apply our attributes through godliness.

Second Timothy 3:16-17 is also foundational for confirming the sufficiency of Scripture: “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect [that is, complete], thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” Let’s begin with “All scripture is given by inspiration of God.” What does that tell us? Simply that the Bible is God’s communication to mankind. Other than God using men, His prophets, who transcribed what He communicated to them, no additional contributions were added to it. Paul explains, “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught *it*, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ” (Galatians 1:11-12). We’re told that, “It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God” (Luke 4:4).

Let’s go over that again. “Man shall . . . live by . . . every word of God.” But what if God left some things out for us as *pertaining to life and godliness*—things necessary for us to have a life filled with the fruit of the Spirit and pleasing to Him? What about having human beings fill in the blanks? That would mean looking to finite, sin-infected, self-serving mankind to complete the task that our infinite, omniscient, and perfectly good and holy God overlooked! Seriously? Of course not. Yet, we’re seeing Christians seeking out “experts on how life should be lived,” looking to those who supposedly have the solutions to all of humanity’s problems of living. We’re told that these “counselors” have supplied what God didn’t address at the time the Scriptures were given. You know, “People were different back then. It’s a cultural-difference thing. Besides, humanity’s wisdom has increased throughout the millennia, right?” Problems abound for those who promote and believe that, not the least of which is that the “new wisdom” is contrary to all that God had written.

Additionally, there’s more than a slight problem with those who are the source of this latter-day wisdom. They would be the founders of psychological counseling, a.k.a. psychotherapy: Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Abraham Maslow, Carl Rogers, and a host of their disciples right up to our present time. They are all antichrist in the sense that the founders’ lives and their teachings have diametrically opposed God’s Word. Turning to them is in direct disregard of Psalm 1:1: “Blessed is the man that *walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly*, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” The entire field of psychotherapy is reflected in that one verse.

If that’s news to anyone reading this article, I recommend searching the archives of The Berean Call, where you will find articles, books, sermons, videos, and radio programs on the subject. We believe the extensive information we present in critiquing the pseudo-science of psychological counseling is valuable, but it’s not critical. Why? Because simply knowing the fundamentals of what

the Bible teaches and comparing that with the concepts of psychotherapy should be enough to turn away every believer from one of Satan's foremost deceptions. Consider just a few of its antichrist characteristics: psychological counseling is basically atheistic. It neither recognizes God nor does it recognize sin. No sin means no need for a Savior. No God, no Savior, leaves man by himself to fix his own mess, which is what psychological counseling is all about. "Self" becomes one's savior. It's a "God replacement."

Psychotherapy's cornerstone principle is that humanity is inherently good, and when personal problems arise, they can be resolved through therapy under the guidance of a psychologist or psychiatrist. The umpteen therapies are subjective, contradictory, ineffectual, and often greatly destructive. They have no scientific basis. Psychotherapy, with its bizarre therapeutic practices notwithstanding, is simply talk, which is meaningless at the very least. Even when it's not directly antichrist talk, it's still a dumpster. You would think that Bible-believing Christians should be able to recognize the anti-biblical concepts and steer clear of them. They should be...but that's clearly not happening.

A major reason for this is there is a more devious and highly seductive dumpster that has waylaid Christians. Although there is *no field of psychotherapy recognized as Christian*, that hasn't slowed down the acceptance of the myth of "Christian psychology," which has grown exponentially since the 1970s, and its "muddy stream," mentioned earlier, has turned into a torrential landslide. Christian psychologists have flooded the church with unbiblical self-love and self-esteem teachings, which one of its leading practitioners revealed as the source of the new "self doctrines." He wrote, "It was humanistic psychologists Carl Rogers and Abraham Maslow who first made us aware of the need of self-love, self-esteem."

It's a rare church that does not refer its members to professional counselors, whether secular or "Christian," for mental, emotional, and behavioral problems. That may seem reasonable to some, but the question should be asked, "Which of those psychotherapeutic issues would not be sin-related?" Tragically, many church leaders who claim to believe in the sufficiency of Scripture are among the chief advocates in such referrals.

As the days draw ever nearer to the return of Jesus, the End-Times apostasy increases. As that takes place, Christianity is being refashioned, subtly for the most part, to conform to the false religion of the Antichrist. Remember, he is called "Antichrist," as in "anti-Christian," meaning a false *Christian leader* (not Hindu, Islamic, or Buddhist!). Therefore, discernment in regard to our recognizing what is true to the Scriptures—and what isn't—is critical. We need to take to heart the words of Jesus, who characterized the deception that would take place just prior to His return: "Take heed that no man deceive you" (Matthew 24:24). Jesus again indicates a lack of discernment among Christians in Luke 18:8: "...when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" There's little doubt that the prophesied abandonment of "sound doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:3) and Paul's warning to the Ephesian elders, is happening right before our eyes. "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears" (Acts 20:29-31).

Jude exhorts us to earnestly contend for "*the faith* which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3). "Contending" for the faith, however, can't take place for those who are ignorant of the teachings of Scripture. Being *somewhat familiar* with what the Bible teaches doesn't cut it! If they can't recognize what is truly biblical in contrast to what *seems* to be, but is not, they are ripe for deception.

I've chosen to focus on psychological counseling because it appeals to those Christians who want help for themselves or for others, which makes them highly susceptible to being misled. And as the apostasy creates more problems for Christians, increasing

numbers of churches and their leaders are turning away from the sufficiency of God's Word and looking elsewhere for solutions. Recent examples include such high-profile pastors as Greg Laurie and Rick Warren, both of whom have had to deal with tragic suicides—the former, a counseling pastor at his church, and the latter, a family member. That is heartbreaking. Yet the response by both was an exhortation to the church to cease its *abandonment* of guidance from the mental health community! Abandonment?! As I mentioned, since the 1970s the leaven of so-called mental health teachings and practices began to work its way throughout the church, with only a handful raising biblical red flags.

An alarming example of the rejection of the sufficiency of God's Word is a well-known counseling program called Celebrate Recovery. It was birthed at Rick Warren's Saddleback Church in 1991 and has grown ever since, with participants numbering 7 million and involving 35,000 churches. One such church that has turned to Celebrate Recovery recently is Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa, CA, under the leadership of Brian Brodersen. This is a classic case of dumpster-diving. How so? Although Celebrate Recovery (CR) claims to have a biblical base in the Beatitudes, the program is infused with teachings and practices derived from Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and its 12 Steps methodology. The creator of CR, the late John Baker, drew upon his personal experiences of rehabilitation through AA and attempted to mix the teachings of AA founders Bill Wilson and Bob Smith with the Bible. The entire program is based upon an amalgam of erroneous science, e.g., that alcoholism is a disease, that Bill Wilson's spiritism, through which he was given the 12 Steps, through the belief that a participant is always "recovering," never fully recovered, with AA's model of compulsory meetings, and much more (See "A Way Which Seemeth Right...", TBC October 1, 2005 for details regarding Celebrate Recovery.)

Counseling programs are not the only examples of Christian dumpster-diving—they are merely the most obvious. Many Christians, whether professing or even true believers, follow after popular yet clearly heretical preachers or ministries all the while isolating certain aspects that appeal to them, such as with Joel Osteen ("Yeah, I know...but he's so *positive!*") or Benny Hinn ("God *must* be healing through him"). Many women are drawn to Joyce Meyer ("She's so biblically knowledgeable!") or Beth Moore ("I want continual conversations with Jesus like she has"). Christian media, such as TBN or God TV, among others, attracts thousands worldwide to a melting pot of doctrinal errors mingled with bits of truth. Christian music often leads to such thinking as, "I know Bethel Church has serious doctrinal problems, but I just love the music of Jesus Culture!" What then of the spiritual dumpster of Roman Catholicism? "Sure, we don't have the same gospel, but we need to close ranks with them to fight against abortion!" We're told to take the same circle-the-wagons-approach regarding political conservatism: "How else are we going to restore 'Christian America?'" Regrettably, the chief rationale for all forms of Christian dumpster-diving is "The end justifies the means."

Twice in the Book of Proverbs we are warned: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25). Death always involves separation—physical death, when the soul and spirit separates from the body, or spiritual death, when a person separates himself from the truth of God's Word. Spiritual dumpster diving, as I've pointed out, seems reasonable to many. But it is ultimately a rejection of the sufficiency of what God has communicated to mankind. It is based upon the false belief that God's truth can be generated by finite and sinful humanity, e.g., "All truth is God's truth." Scripture makes it clear that this cannot happen: "O, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable *are* His judgments, and His ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been His counsellor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen" (Romans 11:33-36).

TBC



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708

or e-mail: [editorial@thebereanall.org](mailto:editorial@thebereanall.org)

**QUESTION:** I am a concerned Christian from the “Open Brethren.” In your gospel message, you emphasize that salvation is based on the fact that Christ “paid the penalty for our sins.” *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance* has no entry for “penalty,” nor did Jesus or the apostles ever mention that a penalty for our sins was paid. If I ask fellow Christians where to find this view in the Bible, they are either perplexed (because they don’t know the answer) or they imply that I am not saved. Since you use that statement so often in your gospel presentations, I pose that question to you.

**RESPONSE:** Nor is the word “trinity” in either the Bible or in *Strong’s*, yet it is a basic teaching of Scripture. Was not the casting of Adam and Eve out of the Garden a penalty for their sin? Isn’t the death that came upon Adam and Eve and upon all of their descendants to this day also a penalty for sin—a penalty that would continue in eternal separation from God without His pardon? In declaring “the soul that sinneth, it shall die (Ezekiel 18:13, 20)...sin bringeth forth death (James 1:15)...the strength of sin is the law” (1 Corinthians 15:56), is the scripture not saying that death is the penalty for sin?

Does not a penalty have to be paid? Granted, the Bible nowhere uses the exact terminology we would today about Christ paying the penalty for sin. But isn’t that what is implied when it says, “He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him: and with his stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5), or “Christ died for our sins” (1 Corinthians 15:3), or “that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man” (Hebrews 2:9), as well as in many similar verses? If death is the penalty for sin and Christ died for all, then surely He paid the penalty in full for all of us, or we would have to pay that penalty ourselves. Our salvation is a matter of God’s justice, “that he [God] might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus” (Romans 3:26).

I don’t understand your objection to saying that the penalty was paid. Is not that the force of Christ’s triumphant cry from the cross, “It is finished! (*Tetelestai*)” meaning “paid in full?” I am grateful that Christ paid in full the penalty for my sins so that God can be just in pardoning me, the sinner! There is no other means of salvation.

**QUESTION:** We are told that “one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8); and that “a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night” (Psalm 90:4). What does this mean? Is there any special prophetic significance that might tell us how close we are to the Lord’s return?

**Response:** There is no prophetic significance. The phrases “with the Lord” and “in thy sight” are the key to understanding this rather simple and straightforward declaration: God is outside of time, and therefore, in His sight, time is meaningless.

Thus Paul can say that we are already seated “together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:6).

As we have previously noted, God, being independent of time, sees not only what to us is past, but also our present and future as already having happened. Thus His foreknowledge of what in our experience hasn’t yet occurred would have no effect upon its happening and would leave us free to make genuine choices.

Here is what John Wesley said in a sermon more than 200 years ago: “There is no such thing as either foreknowledge or after-knowledge in God. All time—or, rather, all eternity (for

time is only that small fragment of eternity that is allotted to the children of men), being present to God at once, He does not know one thing before another, or one thing after another; but He sees all things in one point of view, from everlasting to everlasting. As all time, with everything that exists therein, is present with Him at once, so He sees at once whatever was, is, or will be, to the end of time!” (John Wesley, *Sermons on Several Occasions*, 1831, p. 39).

**QUESTION:** Are some people born gay and others straight? The new Catechism of the Catholic Church says that some people are born gay and must be accepted as such. How would you respond?

**RESPONSE:** The “new” *Catechism* (paragraphs 2357-58) condemns homosexuality as “grave depravity...contrary to the natural law... [and] Sacred Scripture.” Unfortunately, it also says that its “psychological genesis remains largely unexplained”—thereby implying that homosexuality is not a psychological problem requiring a psychological solution. Denying moral accountability, the *Catechism* says that homosexuals “do not choose their homosexual condition...[and] must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity.” Thus the implication that “people are born gay.”

That no one is born a homosexual can be easily proved. If that were the case, then God made them that way. Therefore (as many homosexuals insist) homosexuality would not be sin but perfectly natural. This must be false, for (as the *Catechism* itself admits) the Bible condemns homosexuality as an abominable sin: “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with woman: it is abomination. If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them...shall surely be put to death” (Leviticus 18:22, 20:13). How could God be so opposed to homosexuality if He created the genes that caused it?

Nor is the condemnation of homosexuality only for Jews under the Old Covenant. It is restated to Christians in the New Testament. Romans 1:24-32 says that homosexuals/lesbians “dishonor their own bodies between themselves” (v. 24), engage in “vile affections” that are “against nature” (v. 26) and “unseemly” (v. 27) and do so of their own volition. Even those who reject the Bible and believe in evolution must come to the same conclusion. If evolution were true, being “born homosexual” might possibly occur, but it would require a specific foul-up in the DNA mechanism and would be *extremely rare*. That DNA abnormalities of the precise nature to cause homosexuality could repeatedly occur by chance in millions of people of every generation all over the world is preposterous! Evolution would quickly eliminate homosexuality since it works against survival of the race (homosexuals/lesbians don’t reproduce).

Thus, in the secular world homosexuality has always [until recently] been called “a crime against nature.” Those who engage in homosexuality do so out of choice *against both* their genes and conscience, and they can stop by choice as well. That homosexuals now have favored status, wield great power, and have politicians catering to them to get their votes can only destroy society.

Homosexuality is a choice and not in the genes; this can be seen in the fact that its prevalence among Catholic clergy is at least ten times greater than in the general populace. Obviously chance cosmic rays didn’t zero in on Catholic priests and nuns to make them homosexuals! A contributing factor is the unnatural and unbiblical rule of celibacy, forbidding normal sexual relations provided by marriage, combined with being cloistered together with those of the same sex.

# LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708  
or e-mail: [editorial@thebereancall.org](mailto:editorial@thebereancall.org)

## **Dear Berean Call,**

I was drawn to a man in the US who asked that I visit his website, which he recommended as one that is truly the Word of God, but what I saw there was contrary! There are many things taught in the churches in the United States that are completely wrong. The best thing for all of us to do is to have a close intimate relationship with the Lord where there is no doubt as to what we should be doing. Those that are led by the Spirit of the Lord are the “mature” sons of God. Rarely do I watch Christian Television here. There is too much false doctrine being preached. DE (Nigeria)

## **Dear T. A. and Staff**

You’re right on top of what is going on in the church today. The enemy has come in like a flood, but we who know the Lord take a stand against the evil. We need to warn and wake up those asleep—the Lord’s wrath is coming and so is our removal in the Rapture. I believe we are not only in the last days but close to the last hour. His righteousness will prevail and He will rule on earth so very soon. MT (NY)

## **Dear TBC,**

Thanks for the study “Can a Religious Pluralistic Society Please God?” I have often felt like the lonely voice, warning some of Jonathan Cahn and his false teachings. It is a serious problem, with his lies drifting into even good churches. Thank you. AE (email)

## **Dear People at the Berean Call,**

Thank you for the truth of God’s Word. I have known the Lord and His truth ever since I was a child. But as I grow older, I see and hear so much untruth I can’t believe it. I can’t believe that

people would believe such false claims! We belonged to a plain church and my parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents always believed the truth of God’s Word. In fact, I didn’t know anything about false doctrine back then! I was brought up in a protected church. JR (PA)

## **Dear Berean Call,**

Thank you for your unique, essential, biblical ministry—standing in the gap for truth where few others are bold enough to stand. We prize your monthly newsletter, which encourages us and challenges us to contend earnestly for the faith. PS (KS)

## **Dear TBC,**

Thank you for your excellent programme, “Is the Church Being Set Up for the Antichrist?” On Premier this morning, Mr. Biden said, “We are all God’s children,” plus various other things which we didn’t want to hear but best to sound it out. It is happening all over. The Church is becoming a “wet wimp walkover” to the world (being) set up for the Antichrist. AW (location unknown)

## **Dear TBC staff,**

As a young Christian, I was taught (the) Dispensational view of the last days. Sadly, I drifted into Reformed Theology—Calvin, Hodge, Pink, and Boettner—(by) a personal friend who led me into a post-mil view of last things. I went further into a post-mil theonomy through the teachings of R.J. Rushdoony. I suppose I became very proud.

Looking back, I took one step away from Bible truth and wound up 10,000 miles away. I drifted into New Age teachings, mindfulness, meditation, and, even worse, the power of new teachings by Eckhart Tolle, Buddhism, and Sara Young’s *Jesus Calling*.

I began praying to truly know Jesus and the Truth. A couple of days later, one of your subscribers placed a copy of *The Berean Call* on the desk of my cell. He left. I picked it up and began reading. Wow! The power of the Holy Spirit opened my eyes to years of deception that I had fallen into. I am desiring to continue in the Truth. Please place me on your mailing list. WW (AR)

## **Dear Berean Call Staff,**

Once again, thank you for another inspiring Newsletter. Praise God Almighty for your wonderful ministry—upholding the truth of His precious Word—who, in fact, as the divine one-and-only Son of God, became flesh and dwelt among us. Please continue in the standard you have been declaring! Every blessing! JM (Australia)

## **QUOTABLE.....**

God’s mercy goes way beyond what we may expect. The “Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works” (Psalm 145:9). Jesus said, “He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust” (Matthew 5:45). Abraham fought with the challenge of those two very different issues. On the one hand, he (like us) had been promised an eternal blessing, but he (like us) saw the apparent success of the wicked and attempted to solve the problem himself.

Perhaps the simplest lesson that we can learn from the biblical narrative as given to us thus far is “let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart” (Galatians 6:9).

—HENRY M. MORRIS III

## TBC NOTES

### **What Does the Bible Recommend?**

Nothing! It’s neither a book of recommendations nor does it offer suggestions. Yet, too often we treat it as if it were. No. The Bible is a book of God’s truth: “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17). As someone said, “God didn’t give Moses a book of suggestions on Mount Sinai.” What Moses received for the Israelites was not for their consideration! It was for their temporal welfare and their eternal life.

The Word of God is the same for believers today. To regard it as helpful suggestions is to disregard it and worse. In truth, that way will lead to missing the mark (sin), and will pave the way to compromise, i.e., “the way that seems right” (Proverbs 14:12) but actually leads to a separation from God’s truth.

Jesus, the living Word, declared, “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31-32). That is certainly not a suggestion!

T. A. McMAHON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# NEWSWATCH

News stories are selected for reader awareness and as an exercise  
in discerning the times from a biblical perspective.

## ADMINISTRATION REJOINING ANTI-ISRAEL AGENCY

**ONENEWSNOW.COM, 2/8/21, "BIDEN ADMINISTRATION REJOINS ANTI-ISRAEL U.N. AGENCY [EXCERPTS]:** The United States announced plans [February 8] to reengage with the U.N. Human Rights Council that former President Donald Trump withdrew from almost three years ago...mainly because of its long history of anti-Israel votes.

In making the announcement for the Biden administration, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said "we recognize that the Human Rights Council is a flawed body, in need of reform to its agenda, membership, and focus, including its disproportionate focus on Israel."

Trump pulled out of the council due to its disproportionate focus on Israel, which has received by far the largest number of critical council resolutions against any country, and because it failed to meet an extensive list of reforms demanded by then-U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley.

Besides the council's persistent focus on Israel, the Trump administration took issue with the body's membership, which currently includes China, Cuba, Eritrea, Russia and Venezuela, all of which have been accused of human rights abuses.

(<https://bit.ly/3ruk1Ai>)

## PETA: INSULTS LIKE "PIG," "SLOTH" HURT ANIMALS

**ANSWERSINGENESIS.ORG, 2/8/21, "PETA: INSULTS LIKE "PIG," "SLOTH" HURT ANIMALS" [EXCERPTS]:** Is insulting someone by calling them a "pig," "sloth," or "chicken" actually insulting animals? Well, PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) seems to think so! In a recent tweet, they shared an infographic with alternative words to common animal-based insults such as snake (try "jerk" instead), rat ("snitch"), or pig ("repulsive"). They ask that people use these alternatives because "using animals as insults perpetuates speciesism."

In the explanation that accompanied the infographic, PETA explains: "Words can create a more inclusive world, or perpetuate oppression. Calling someone an animal as an insult reinforces the myth that humans are superior to other animals & justified in violating them. Stand up for justice by rejecting supremacist language."

This isn't the first time they've suggested this—in 2018 they encouraged

people to "bring home the bagels," instead of "the bacon," to stop "anti-animal" language.

(<http://bit.ly/3t559Jc>)

## SEEKING ANOTHER GRAND INQUISITOR

**STRATEGYPAGE.COM, 2/4/21, "IRAN: DESPERATELY SEEKING ANOTHER GRAND INTIMIDATOR" [EXCERPTS]:** With a new government in the United States, Iran sees a chance to get sanctions lifted and a return to the 2015 deal that halted Iranian nuclear weapons research in return for lifting of sanctions. The U.S. caught Iran cheating, which Iran is still doing, and invoked the "cheating clause" of the 2015 agreement to revive sanctions. That made foreign aggression more difficult for Iran and played a role in continuing public protests against the government that for decades has declared Israel must be destroyed and allies of Israel, like the United States, punished. Iran is now at war with most of the Arab Gulf states because Iran wants to take charge of the Moslem shrines at Mecca and the annual pilgrimage as well as leadership of the Moslem world.

A growing number of Arab states are making peace with Israel, and those countries want the new American government to recognize this new alliance and its goals of containing Iranian aggression. Israel threatens to attack Iran before Iran can attack Israel with nuclear weapons. Iran says it will respond to Israeli threats by firing ballistic missiles at Israel with conventional (high-explosives) warheads if nuclear warheads were not available. It is implied that Iran would also fire missiles at Israel's new Arab allies....

The reality is that Iranian leaders don't want a war with Israel or the Gulf Arabs. Such a conflict would do enormous damage to Iran and Iranian chances of victory are slim to none. Iran prefers undeclared war, which it has waging more and more since the 1980s. This includes supporting a lot of terror attacks against enemy states as well as assassination of Iranian exiles who know, and say, too much. China and Russia don't care about this because Iran does not harm them. The Europeans are willing to do business with Iran if they receive the same immunity. The rest of the world has no such immunity and is not seeking any. Iran only backs off when it has to or, in places like Israel, has not been able to get into.

(<http://bit.ly/3qz3pWI>)

## THE BEREAN CALL

Founder: Dave Hunt  
Executive Director: T. A. McMahon

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### CONTACTING US

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## NEW DESIGNS! FOR DAVE HUNT'S SEEKING AND FINDING GOD



1

NEW!



2

NEW!

*It's the same thought-provoking book from Dave Hunt but now with two new cover design options!*

**BEREANS** now have the option of choosing between two cover designs when purchasing *Seeking and Finding God*. The first cover, [Intercession] features a warm and rich brown color palette—with hands “in prayer” over God’s Word. The second design [Blue Marble] showcases a striking view of planet earth and features bold blue colors. Choose the design that best fits your purpose for evangelism and discipleship! Order below.

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**Hunt**—Readers of Dave’s book, *An Urgent Call to a Serious Faith*, will recognize and appreciate that this handy volume includes revised versions of the first eight chapters of that powerful work, plus an entirely new chapter, which together serve to make this a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship. It is astonishing how many millions of otherwise seemingly intelligent people are willing to risk their eternal destiny upon less evidence than they would require for buying a car or even a low-carb food item—yet the belief of so many, particularly in the area of religion, has no rational or factual foundation. With well-researched arguments and compelling proof, this book demonstrates that the issue of where one will spend eternity is not a matter of preference. In fact, there is overwhelming evidence that we are eternal beings who will spend eternity somewhere. But where will it be? There is no more important question to be faced—and answered. The Berean Call, 156 pp.

- |   |        |                             |       |         |
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### An Urgent Call to a Serious Faith

**Hunt**—This beautiful hard-back edition includes the revised and expanded content of *Seeking and Finding God* (Dave’s favorite evangelistic book), which was originally derived from

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B00339 wt 1.1 ~~\$17.50~~ SALE \$14.50



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**TBC**—Presenting the powerful message of the gospel, Dave shows how understanding the biblical view of

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## NEW! “ABANDONING GOD’S TRUTH” BOOKLETS FROM LIGHT HOUSE TRAILS



NEW!

### Critical Race Theory

**Lighthouse Trails Editors**—In June 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) passed Resolution 9: “On Critical Race Theory and Intersectionality.” Critical Race Theory is a political/philosophical-driven ideology that claims to be a solution to ending racism but according to critics actually presents a “solution” that will install Marxism into our society while creating a sentiment leading to escalated conflict and diminished freedom for all. Lighthouse Trails, 18 pp.

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**Danielsen**—Many Christian believers are expressing concern today, and rightly so, over something called “social justice” or the “social-justice gospel.” Jim Wallis is one of the top “change agents” in the social-justice movement within the evangelical/Protestant church. Mary Danielsen has done a thorough investigation into the writings of Wallis and brings numerous problems with the Social Justice movement to light. Lighthouse Trails, 18 pp.

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NEW!

### S is for Social Justice

**Danielsen**—This booklet takes a look at the “social justice” terms being touted today. The contrast between the social-justice “narrative” and what is written in God’s Word is very apparent. In God’s economy, the terms “justice” and “gospel” are clearly defined in biblical texts. Lighthouse Trails, 18 pp.

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**Teichrib**—Just as in olden days, the earth has become the focal point for worship. In Grecian times, the supreme Earth deity was Gaia, also known as the Universal Mother. Sacred oaths were given in her name, and worshippers performed rituals in her honor. In our contemporary era, Earth Day has become the modern celebration of Gaia. Partakers of this event, whether aware of it or not, play off the ancient pagan beliefs of a Universal Mother. Like the sacred oaths taken in her name, today’s Earth Day celebrants sign environmental petitions, make pledges, and announce resolutions in support of Mother Earth. Lighthouse Trails, 14 pp.

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NEW!

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**Seegert**—Dinosaurs are both extremely fascinating and also the source of much confusion when it comes to trying to comprehend their place in God's creation and the Bible. The media often paint a picture that is difficult to reconcile with our understanding of the Bible, so many have concluded that the Bible doesn't mention dinosaurs or have even gone as far as to say that they never really existed! This booklet takes a look at the true history of dinosaurs, expels the myths and shows that the Bible explains the actual scientific evidence much better than any secular evolutionary stories. The Starting Point Project, 23 pp.

B69036

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**Seegert**—The claim is often made that Carbon-14 dating disproves the Bible. Most Christians, not knowing much if anything about this dating method, not only don't know how to respond, but are often very intimidated by this topic. This booklet explains, in layman's terms, how this method works and shows that far from disproving the Bible, when used properly actually confirms the biblical timeframe. The Starting Point Project, 16 pp.

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NEW!

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**Seegert**—There is a lot of debate and confusion over the length of the "days" in the Genesis creation account. The most straight-forward interpretation seems to indicate they are normal solar days, but this would be in conflict with the view common amongst most astronomers and other scientists that the universe is almost 15 billion years old. In this booklet, both Scripture and science are examined and reasons for why we can confidently trust the straight-forward reading are presented in a very gracious and encouraging manner. The Starting Point Project, 22 pp.

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### The Age of the Earth

**Seegert**—This booklet discusses what the Bible and science actually have to say concerning the age of the Earth and why it really does matter what we believe. It also explains where we are today concerning commonly held views on the age of the Earth, as well as giving a brief history of how views on this controversial topic have changed over time. After reading this booklet, we are confident that you will have a much better understanding for how real science always matches-up with the Word of God, especially as it relates to this topic. The Starting Point Project, 23 pp.

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B00885

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### Children's Stories by Ryle

**Ryle**—Looked up to and loved by children in his congregation, J. C. Ryle took their spiritual lives very seriously. Here is a collection of stories for children by this great communicator including "The Two Bears." J. C. Ryle encourages us to teach the whole Scripture to children and not just parts of it. This is also an interesting book for any who are involved with children at home or church. CF4Kids, 141 pp.

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**Walton**—Christie has no family. He knows what it is like to be homeless and on the streets—that's why he is overjoyed to be given a roof over his head by Old Treffy, the Organ Grinder. But Treffy is old and sick and Christie is worried about him. All that Treffy wants is to have peace in his heart and a home of his own. That is what Christie wants too. One day a girl called Mabel hears Christie's Old Organ playing just outside her window. She becomes Christie's friend and tells him about another home you can go to if you love the Lord Jesus. Will Christie find this home? CF4Kids, 168 pp.

B10234

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B49263

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B97353

Ages 9+

wt .6 \$9.00

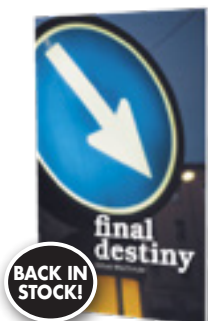


**NEW! "Creation" booklets from Jay Seegert**  
—see page 7

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