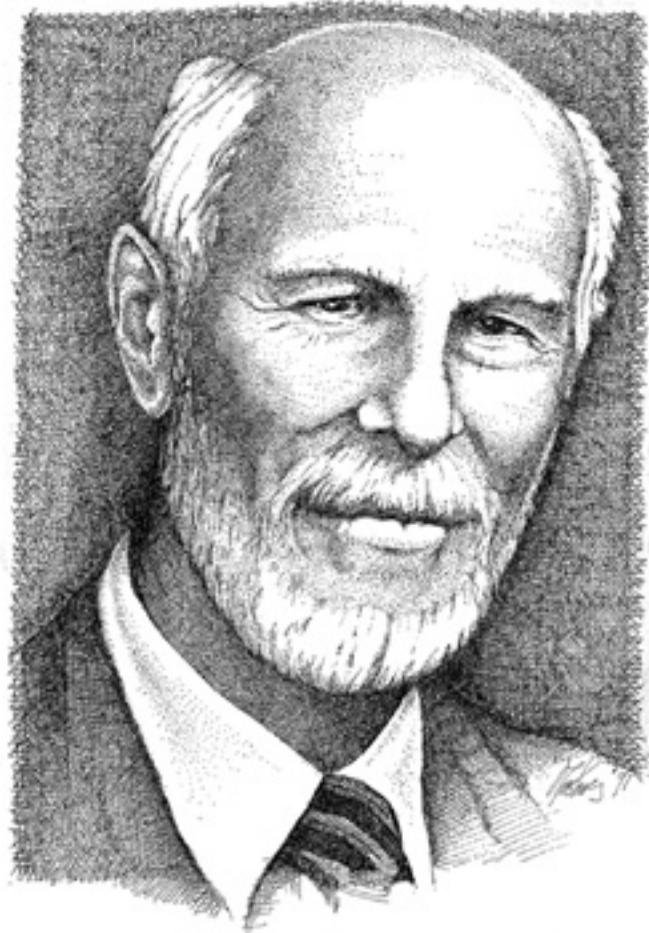


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Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.
— PSALM 116:15

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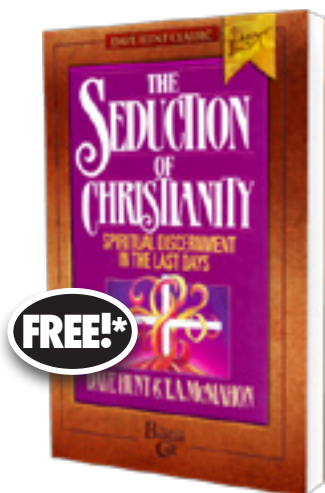
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THE LORD'S WATCHMAN

by T. A. McMahon

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

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The Lord's Watchman

T. A. McMahon

Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

—EZEKIEL 3:17

I have had the tremendous blessing of working with Dave Hunt for 35 years. Only those who have known Dave personally can really understand how wonderfully privileged I have been. It began the day I was taken to his house by a Christian filmmaker. Only a few months earlier I had been on location in Iran as the screenwriter for the production of the James Michener novel *Caravans*. Upon my return to the US, however, something temporally and eternally more significant occurred: I became a born-again Christian.

I was praying about what I should do with my new life in Christ when the Lord directed me to meet Dave. The catalyst was a screenplay that Dave wanted to see written based upon a fictional story that he had been developing. I read his story idea and told him—regretfully—that although I knew how to write screenplays, my knowledge of biblical Christianity was almost nonexistent, and I was sure that it would greatly hinder my ability to translate his story to the screen. To my unending thankfulness, he said that if I wouldn't object to our working on it together, he could supply the biblical input as needed. I was too new a believer to shout "Praise the Lord!" but I know that something equivalent raced through my mind. At that time, I had no idea as to what a "calling" was, or the biblical gift of helps, but I somehow knew in my heart that I was to help Dave do what God had put on his heart to do. That was the beginning of three and a half decades of learning about and living out the Scriptures through my association with the most godly man I have ever known. And I got to know him quite well.

The first 30 years of my life before being exposed to the biblical gospel and believing it for salvation had been spent as a Roman Catholic. Through the witness of young evangelicals, I was shown from the Bible that Christ paid the full penalty for my sins and that I could receive the gift of eternal life by simply acknowledging

my own sin and receiving His forgiveness by faith alone. So I did this, even though I was still pretty clueless about most of the other teachings in the Bible. When I began to work with Dave, my schooling in the Scriptures also began. "Schooling" may not be the best choice of words because there was never an academic approach to my biblical education through Dave. In the beginning, it was primarily by my asking questions about something he had said or written. His response then was to consistently direct me to the Bible: "Here's the passage, Tom. Read it for yourself!" Later, that was reduced to simply, "Be a Berean! Check it out."

Although Dave respected scholarship, he was a firm believer in and proponent of familiarity with the Word of God. I've never met anyone with a more intimate knowledge of the Scriptures. That may not seem like a big deal to some, but it's huge when one realizes that Scripture itself is the best interpreter of Scripture. To say that the Bible explains itself would not be an overstatement. Knowing the full counsel of God is critical to our understanding of it. Jesus often chided the religious leaders and even His own disciples for not being aware of what the Scriptures taught. Dave's most valuable lessons for me, which came steadily by example over the years, were seeing his love of God's Word, his diligence in reading it, and then watching him actually live it.

The other thing that most impressed me about Dave was the humility and graciousness with which he handled religious controversy. Such controversy was something that was foreign to me growing up Catholic—not that it didn't exist within the Church of Rome, but other than recognizing that some Catholics were more liberal than others and that not everyone agreed on contraception and certain other dogmas of the Church, the issues were rarely if ever discussed. I learned very quickly that this was definitely not the case among evangelicals, especially in my association with "the man of controversy," Dave Hunt! I think one reason why controversy is more pronounced among evangelicals is because they traditionally have held to the Scriptures as the authority for their beliefs and practices. When teachings arise that are contrary to God's Word, it creates divisions among

those who profess to be Bible-believing Christians—often rather hostile divisions.

Early in my relationship with him, I was surprised that when I mentioned to some evangelical acquaintances that I was working with Dave Hunt, they had serious reservations about my association with him. When I asked them to give me some reasons why Dave was so controversial, they couldn't really say. Most of the concerned people didn't know Dave personally nor had they read his books or heard him speak. That was a mystery to me, which came into better focus when I had the privilege of helping him with *The Seduction of Christianity* (although he was hardly in need of my contributions). Nevertheless, the controversy aspect was hardly complex. A teaching is either true to the Scriptures or it is not. If it is not, division rears its ugly head (Acts 16:17).

The Seduction of Christianity came about primarily because of responses to two prior books by Dave, *The Cult Explosion* and *The God Makers* (written with Ed Decker). Although those books addressed the unbiblical doctrines and practices of numerous *cults*, as did the film documentaries with the same titles, which I worked on, there were unexpected and even shocking responses from believers who had read those books and watched those films. These conservative evangelicals and Charismatics had begun to recognize that some of the occult teachings that we had exposed were being taught in their own churches! This was easily proven yet what was even more disturbing, Christian bookstores were loaded with numerous titles promoting such occult methodologies. Many of them were promoted by the "faith healing" ministries popular among experientially driven Charismatics and Pentecostals and included the belief that Christians were "little gods under God." Furthermore, even conservative evangelicals were being introduced to techniques such as occult visualization under the guise of psychotherapy. We discovered that those examples were not only the tip of the false-doctrine iceberg, but they were also afloat in the backwaters of the church. We felt that we had no choice but to bring the issues before the church at large.

Seduction became a best seller, but sadly for the wrong reason—controversy. It may have been the first book by an established

Christian publisher to name names and document the false teachings of highly visible Christian leaders. Dave made it clear in the introduction that the book was not an indictment of individuals, but rather, it was written to alert them and those who read their works of the unbiblical nature of some of their teachings, in many cases promoted unwittingly and in ignorance. Nevertheless, that made *Seduction* quite controversial.

Many pastors added to the controversy by condemning the book from their pulpits, warning their fellowships against reading it. Although by this time, I had been working with Dave for a half-dozen years, I wasn't prepared for what took place. The number of people who confronted me personally for my involvement was intimidating, to say the least. Dave told me to respond by telling them that we were more than willing to correct anything in the book that was in error or not true to the Scriptures. As I began communicating that, I was shocked by the overwhelming numbers of my confronters who boldly declared that they hadn't read the book, nor would they.

On the other hand, *The Seduction of Christianity* impacted the lives of hundreds of thousands of believers. We still receive correspondence from countless individuals, even decades later, whose lives were turned around and revived in the Scriptures because of the influence of that book. The most memorable was from a prisoner on death row. He had committed his life to intercessory prayer until he started reading a Word/Faith positive-confession book. He bought into the lie that his faith was the key for him to be delivered from his situation. He began confessing his release from prison continually. He wrote to us that he had destroyed his once-fruitful intercessory prayer ministry by turning to the mind-science corruption of true biblical prayer. It wasn't until the prison book cart came by with a used copy of *Seduction* that his eyes were opened. He said that the Lord used our book to "set him free" from the self-serving bondage of the false faith teaching and then restored his ministry of praying for others.

Although multitudes were blessed, some of the religious leaders mentioned in *Seduction* were not. At their invitation, Dave and I met with a few of them to discuss why they were included and what our concerns were. Not all of the meetings were cordial. Some called him divisive and accused him of harming "God's anointed." Another complained that he was "a murderer" for turning Christians away from psychological counseling. Others gave lip service agreement to Dave's explanations, but only one leader actually corrected what he had

written. Through it all, Dave was courteous yet firm in his steadfastness for what the Bible taught. I was merely a fly-on-the-wall at these meetings, but I learned how a godly man corrects someone. This was the closest thing to Paul's admonition to Timothy about the way to minister to a brother in error that I had experienced up to that point (2 Timothy 2:24-26).

Those who had read some of Dave's books but didn't know him personally and had never heard him speak were only exposed to the written words of his fervent commitment to the truth of the Scriptures and his zeal for sound doctrine. Too often, many people miss the compassion and the heart of the man whose works they are reading. We at TBC realized that problem when listeners told us that they really felt that they came to know Dave better through our years of doing radio together. Although the program was pre-recorded, it had a live "feel" to it because Dave was not given our subject matter ahead of time, so his reactions were always spontaneous and lively, especially regarding the latest outrageous item infecting Christianity that I would present. Some things would cause him to "bounce off the walls" of our recording booth, much to the delight of our listeners.

Without any doubt, all of God's children are wonderfully unique; there seem to be no two alike. Therefore, I can say with confidence that there will never be another Dave Hunt. His gentleness and humility were obvious to all who met him. He was mentally brilliant. His memory was unsurpassed by any that I've witnessed. He could quote entire books of the Bible, poems that seemed to go on for days (many of which he wrote), and little-known stanzas, which few knew were even part of an otherwise familiar hymn. When dining with Dave, if someone told a joke, he would follow up with a non-stop litany of jokes that seemed to go on endlessly. His sense of humor wonderfully countered those who characterized him as a "mean-spirited heresy hunter." Although he was not given to promoting humor from the pulpit, from time-to-time he would start off with stories making himself the butt of his own jokes. That was always greatly effective because few congregations expected it. He was not only humorous, but he was the most positive, upbeat guy I knew. Certainly, he could be overwhelmed by grief, yet I never saw him depressed.

Everyone who knows me personally knows that I love to fish. That, too, can be attributed to Dave. Our hikes beyond the timberline in the high Sierras in search of the elusive golden trout were mind-boggling and absolutely mind-refreshing. Dave was

an expert fly fisherman. The mountain adventures I had with him, along with many other stories, could fill volumes. If there was any rivalry between us, it was only over who was the best camp cook; my wife's birthday cake, baked by myself over a campfire, settled that issue for me. Dave was impressed—but not necessarily convinced!

However, the favorite "Dave stories" among the TBC staff were the accounts that he would share upon his return from speaking engagements. He would tell us matter-of-factly that he could prove the existence of God by the very people that the Lord placed next to him on his various flights—people who seemed to be prepared and ready for Dave's witnessing. If someone was skeptical regarding "divine appointments," it only took a couple of examples from Dave to convince them otherwise. I was never skeptical, but my confidence in his reports got huge boosts from several personal experiences. As one example, we had just boarded a plane and noticed that one of our two assigned seats (with extended leg room) was occupied by a Marine corporal. Since someone my size doesn't require extra legroom for comfort, we didn't ask the Marine to move, and Dave sat down beside him. In their lengthy conversation, Dave learned that the Marine was on his way to a Pagan conference and ceremonial festival. The young man listened eagerly while he received an education in the theology and fallacies of Paganism. What's the probability of that situation occurring by chance? Divine appointments not only happened to Dave, but they seemed to happen regularly.

Again, there will never be another Lord's watchman quite like Dave Hunt. So, the question now on the minds of many is "what's next for TBC and the watchman's sidekick" (who will sorely miss his best friend in the Lord)? As stated earlier, I believe that my calling for more than three decades has been simply to help Dave do what God has called him to do. Now that Dave is with the Lord, I believe my calling has shifted to preserving the integrity of what Dave has produced and, by the grace of God, getting his books, articles, sermons, videos, and audio materials to the next generation of believers. Certainly, in keeping with the legacy that Dave has left us, a legacy centered upon the Word of God, we will cover new issues as they come up that are adversely affecting the body of Christ. Therefore, we truly covet your prayers that God will enable us to maintain the course on which He directed Dave. We are blessed and privileged to continue that work.

TBC

Love ^{II} THE LORD

THIS IS A TRANSCRIPTION OF DAVE HUNT'S FINAL TALK AT OUR TBC CONFERENCE IN 2008.
IT HAS BEEN EDITED FOR SPACE AND READABILITY.

WE ARE IN A COSMIC BATTLE. This is a mystery. How could there be a battle between God and Satan? Isn't God much stronger than Satan? It depends on what you mean by "strong."

God draws His people to Himself with love; Satan, with deception. There are so many mysteries that it's beyond our comprehension. In Revelation 5:1-6: "I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof? No man in heaven, nor on earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals. And I [turned around to see this Lion] and I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne and the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain."

In Revelation 22:1: "He showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." I think you know that is not H₂O. The Bible does use metaphors. When you take the bread and the cup in remembrance of Christ, that is not His body and blood. It's a symbol, and we do this in *remembrance* of Him.

"In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life..." (v.2). Adam and Eve got thrown out of the Garden lest they should eat of the tree of life and live forever. And now, here it is! I don't know whether it's the same one—I rather think it is. "...The tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits..." I don't understand this. We're in glorified, resurrected bodies. This is in eternity. So, we're talking in mystery language here, but it's something that God wants to reveal to us. "...Bare twelve manner of fruits and yielded her fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

Why do they need healing? I don't understand it, but our focus is on the Lord. "There shall be no more curse, but *the throne of God and of the Lamb* shall be in it, and his servant shall serve him" (v.3). So the throne of God to the very end is the throne of God and of the Lamb. And the Lion of the tribe of Judah is the Lamb, and He is there as though He had just been slain.

We were talking about the cosmic battle being fought. It's for control of the universe! Why does God still have to fight with Satan for control of the universe? This is not a Star Wars battle with weapons of mass destruction. It's something deeper than that. Revelation 12:7: "There was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and the dragon fought with his angels."

The Bible says so much in a few words. Why would you find dragons everywhere—all over the East, on the temples, and so

forth? Why do you find serpents? Satan loves to be called a dragon. He's not ashamed to be called a serpent. He loves to be the serpent!

"The great dragon fought, and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven" (Revelation 12:7-8).

Praise God! "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world..." (v.9). He is the deceiver. He deceives the whole world! "...He was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation and strength and the kingdom of our God and the power of his Christ, for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before God day and night" (vv.9-10).

We see that "accuser" in the book of Job. The sons of God appear before God, and Scripture says, "And Satan came with them." Satan still has access to God, and he has authority.

Then it turns the focus onto us, because we have a very important part to play in this battle. This is a battle for the soul, for the heart, and for the mind of man. And what was our part? "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death." Satan still doesn't understand. Look at what he offers to mankind: "Follow me, and you'll have all the free sex you want, all the drugs—everything! How could they resist it?" I think of that poem "On the King's Highway":

'Twas on the King's highway near a century ago
That a preacher stood, though of noble birth,
Telling the fallen and low
Of a Savior's love and a home above
And a peace and a joy they all might know,
While slow through the crowd a lady proud
Her gilded chariot drove.
"Make way!" cried the haughty outrider.
"You're blocking the king's highway.
Our lady is late, and her majesties wait.
Give way there, good people, I pray."
But the preacher heard, and his soul was stirred,
And he cried to the driver, "Nay!
This is the king's highway, but I hold it today,
In the name of the King of kings."

And then he says that there is an auction for this woman's soul and for all that she has, and he continues (loosely quoted):

I see three bidders, the world steps up at the first, and Satan,

and so forth, and they tell what they're offering, and then the third bidder speaks:

And what hast thou to offer, thou man of sorrows unknown?

He gently said, "My blood was shed to purchase her for my own.

To conquer the grave and her soul to save, I trod the winepress alone."

And then she's converted. She takes off her jewels and her coronet, and lays them, as it were, at the Savior's feet.

Satan thinks he's going to win. Look at what he offers! But what does Jesus offer? "You're not of the world. I've chosen you out of the world. Because you're not of the world, the world will hate you. If you want to follow me, take up the cross, follow me. That's where we're going" (John 15:29; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23; Mark 8:34; 10:21).

So, we come to the climax throughout the Bible. In Job 13:15, Job says, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him." Job was an overcomer through the blood of the Lamb!

In 1 John 4:19, we read: "We love him because he first loved us." I love the Lord! Why do I love Him? There must be a reason why we love Him. In fact, there are many reasons! Have you told Him today, "I love you, Lord"? You should tell Him over and over.

I tell my wife every day, "Ruth, I love you more today than before! You are beautiful, and I love you so much!" You ought to tell your wife, your spouse, but we need especially to tell the Lord.

In fact, it is a command. When He was asked, "What's the first and great command?", Jesus replied, "The first commandment is Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all of thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy might, and the second is like unto it. . . thy neighbor as thyself" (Matthew 22:37).

How can it be love if it's commanded? We've mentioned some of these atheists, Christopher Hitchens, very brilliant, Jewish, raised as a Christian, who really speaks in fond terms of his Sunday school teacher way back then. But he hates the Lord. And this is one of the things he would say: He calls God "that heavenly dictator up there." He says, "We've got to love him, but at the same time, we're supposed to fear him. Now, how are you going to work that out?"

Well, he doesn't understand.

How can love be commanded? "If a man love me, he will keep my commandments." I love Psalm 27, a psalm of David. David writes, "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that I might dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord..."

What do I know of the beauty of the Lord? I think about that a lot. "...To behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple."

Why do I love Him? He's beautiful! Remember Paul's prayer in Ephesians 1? It's very powerful. Paul tells us in verse 15: "I cease not to pray for you..." In verse 16, he prays "that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him."

And the psalmists, the apostles, cry out "O that I might know him!" And you know what keeps us from knowing Him? And being like Him? John gives that to us in 1 John 3: "When we see him, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is." Now we see through a glass darkly.... I sometimes cry, "Lord, I don't even know You! I wish I knew you better!" It's beyond our ability, but one day when the veil is removed, the blindness of our hearts and eyes will be gone. We will see it suddenly! *This is Jesus as He really is!* And that is going to transform us.

So Paul says "...that the eyes of their understanding being enlightened..." We need understanding. In Matthew 13, the sower goes forth to sow. The first seed falls by the wayside, remember? And the birds of the air come and pluck it. The disciples don't understand the parable at all. They say, "Lord, tell us, what does this mean? And what about these birds plucking up the seed?"

And Jesus says, "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and *understandeth* it not..." We're not trying to just talk people into something. They've got to *understand* what they're getting into. That's what Jesus said: "Take up the cross, and follow Me." He's telling us that this is not a beautiful trip that you're going on. It's going to be an arduous journey, a strait gate, a narrow way."

He wants us to *understand*, so He says, "When they hear the word and they don't understand, then comes the wicked one and takes out of the heart the seed that was sown." We've got to get people to understand!

This is Paul's prayer: "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of his calling, and what is the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints..." We have an inheritance. We have an inheritance in Him. It's going to be glorious for all eternity.

But in Ephesians 1:19-20, Paul writes: "... what is the exceeding greatness of his power, to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power..."

What would you think would be the greatest expression, the greatest demonstration of God's power? "When I consider thy heavens, and the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars that you've made"? Or when we sing, "How great Thou art"? No. What is it then? "...According to the working of his mighty power, *which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand* in the heavenly places..."

I don't fathom that, but I do get some inkling of it. This is the greatest demonstration of God's power—that He could save sinners, those who hate Him; that Christ would die for them, and that somehow He would pay the penalty. That is something that I've discussed with philosophers. It is not just! The innocent man is punished for the guilty! And that brings forgiveness? How can the innocent pay for the sins of the guilty? It's not just. How is that going to do anything for God—or for anybody?

Paul tells us, Galatians 2:20: "I am crucified with Christ." It wasn't just that Christ died. *We died in Him*. I don't know how God works that out, but haven't we experienced it? I know that something happened to me.

He did something that transformed us that Satan doesn't understand. We were born again through faith in Christ when we accepted Him as our Savior and we recognized that He died for us—in our place! That does something.

"The exceeding greatness of his power...that he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead and set him at his own right hand...far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all" (Ephesians 1:19-23). That's what God accomplished. Satan doesn't understand it to this day, and he probably never will—but he will face the consequences of it.

I need to say a few words about Islam, because it is growing everywhere. Let me just give you one contrast: "*La Ilaha Illa Allah, Muhammad rasulu Allah*"—"There is no god but Allah and



Muhammad is his prophet.” You either repeat that, or it is off with your head, wherever they can do it. And they don’t care— you don’t even have to believe it! That’s one of the things that Islam glories in: “Just repeat the words, that’s all Allah wants.”

In contrast, what does the Bible say? “Love the Lord your God with all your *heart*” (Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37), and “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus. . . . (Romans 10:9).”

According to Islam, “If thou shalt confess Allah and Muhammad with your mouth—that’s okay.”

But the Bible tells us, “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and *believe in thine heart* that God has raised him from the dead. . . .” You remember what Jesus said? He quoted from the Old Testament—God speaking to Israel: “You honor me with your lips, you draw nigh to me with your mouth, but your heart is far from me. In vain you worship me.”

Islam is spread by the sword. I sometimes quote them facetiously, “Islam is peace. And if you deny it, we’ll kill you to prove it!” I wish that I could reason with Muslims. Are they convinced?

People used to talk about “shotgun” weddings, but we don’t even bother with that anymore. You don’t drag your bride to the altar by her hair with a gun in one hand and say, “You will marry me, and you will promise to love me!” That’s not the way it works. You haven’t won her heart, and God is not going to get us to heaven by threats, but by love.

This battle is going to be won by love. I remember the hymn, “O the deep, deep love of Jesus. . . .” It’s a mystery. “I am crucified with Christ.” Something happened when I met Jesus. I was born again by the Spirit.

And He’s promised us something. We read it in Ephesians 1—Paul is praying that these people will know *the hope of His calling*. First Peter 5:10 tells us what is the hope of His calling: “But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory, by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. . . .” So the God of all grace has called us to His eternal glory!

By contrast, atheism is materialism. There is nothing but matter. Francis Crick, atheist, co-discoverer of the DNA alphabet, said: “You, your joys, your sorrows, your memories, your ambitions, your sense of personal identity and free will are in fact no more than the behavior of a vast assembly of nerve cells and their associated molecules.” Isn’t that wonderful to know! It is meaningless! It is hopeless! What is the hope that the atheist offers? According to them, a quiet grave at the worst.

Listen to Bertrand Russell: “All the labor of the ages, all the devotion, all the inspiration, all the noonday brightness of human genius, are destined to extinction in the death of the solar system.” It couldn’t be said more clearly. One day all of the dreams, one day all of the corporate ambition and all of the monuments man has built, the skyscrapers and all the libraries will be burned up. They’re gone, like sandcastles washed into a cosmic ocean of nothingness. What did it all matter?

So you have to ask the atheist: “Richard Dawkins, why do you work so hard? Why do you write so many books? They’re all going to be burned up. Why do you struggle to stay alive a little longer so that you can pen a few more words to the glory of the molecules?”

And when “Sagan the Pagan” got in the presence of the cosmos, he exulted, “Oh! The *cosmos*! Do you want to know who you are? Why you’ve got nitrogen, you’ve got hydrogen cells in your body that once were part of a distant star system, and they’re in your

body! And one day, some of the molecules in your body will be out there in another star system. . . .” I think that’s insanity cloaked in pride, and they’ve all got a good dose of it.

By contrast, look at Werner von Braun, the German space scientist, founder and former director of NASA’s space flight center. He was always eager to testify. Listen to what he said: “Manned spaceflight has opened a tiny door for viewing the awesome reaches of space. An outlook through this peephole at the vast mysteries of the universe should only confirm our belief in the certainty of its Creator. I cannot understand a scientist who does not acknowledge the presence of a superior rationality behind the existence of the universe.”

The first Apollo astronauts to circle the moon sent a message back to planet Earth: “We’ve got a message for you.” And they read the first 10 verses of Genesis: “In the beginning, God created. . . .”

Do you remember the first food and drink that was consumed on the moon? It was the bread and wine of communion!

Atheists say, “No scientists believe in God.” Yet these men were scientists.

God is being glorified, and the poor atheist doesn’t understand that He has something wonderful for those who love Him: “Eye has not seen nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man the things that God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Listen to the hopelessness of atheist Sam Harris: “Tens of billions of viewers passed in the growing darkness of a universe condemned to become a galactic graveyard.” That’s what they have to look forward to. That epitaph is pronounced in advance upon everything that Bertrand Russell wrote, everything that Dawkins ever did or wrote, so why do they insist, “I want to convert you to atheism! I want you to hate God. And I want you to have this beautiful future lying ahead of you. What a hope we give you!” Expending such a great effort to extend their life, merely to stave off death a short while longer in order to leave some meaningless record of one’s having been there. But there’s no record. Nothing will be left of all the proud structures that man has built.

Richard Dawkins writes: “We are staggeringly lucky. However brief our time in the sun, if we waste a second of it, or complain, couldn’t this be seen as a callous insult to those unborn trillions who will never be offered life in the first place?” He is speaking of those who apparently didn’t get into the right space in the gene pool, and they were sloughed off. To the living he says, in effect, “But you made it in the lottery! And here you are. Your genes brought you here.” He also says, “The knowledge that we have only one life should make it all the more precious. The atheist view is life-affirming and life-enhancing.”

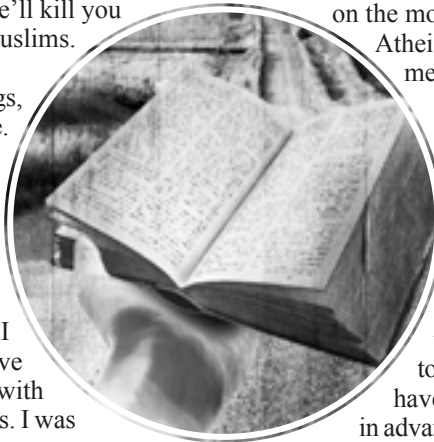
But we say it a little bit differently:

Only one life; ’twill soon be past.

Only what’s done for Christ will last.

Because we have something that’s going to last, but they have nothing like this: Daniel tells us, “We will shine as the stars of the firmament.”

“I love the Lord, because He’s heard my cry, as long as I live” (Psalm 116:1-2). And in eternity, we’ll praise Him. In 1 John 4:4-8 we read: “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you that he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby we know the spirit of truth,



and the spirit of error. Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for *God is love*.”

God is love. This says more than just that “God loves.” It’s saying that the very essence of God’s being is love. *God is love*. We don’t understand it. But then you get to verse 19: “We love him because he first loved us.”

I love you, Lord! Why? Spend a little time in His presence beholding the beauty of the Lord. Get to know Him.

The testimony of Rabi Maharaj, the ex-guru, is written in his book *Death of a Guru*. At that time, Rabi, a young guru, was being worshiped as “god” by his followers. His cousin Krister, a believer in Christ, took Rabi to this little meeting. Rabi had come to the conclusion that the gods he worshiped were out to kill him! Krister had brought him to this old building with the paint peeling off and Rabi thought that he heard an orchestra in there—a huge crowd of people. They went in, and I think he said there were about 15 people, and the orchestra was a little girl with a tambourine! But he had never heard people sing “Sunlight, sunlight, in my soul today.”

“No,” he said, “my heart was filled with darkness.” You don’t sing about how you love Krishna. You don’t sing about how you love Shiva, the Destroyer. You don’t sing about your love for Muhammad, or Allah. But these people—who were they? What had happened to them? And what a love they had for this God whom they serve and worship, and for this Jesus who had died for them.

Eventually, Rabi was on his knees before the preacher, who happened to be a former Muslim, a schoolteacher. And he didn’t need to have an “exorcism.” He said that as soon as he put his faith and trust in Jesus Christ as the one who had died for his sins, “tons” of dark things went out of him.

Something happened to us all. We love the Lord. I love the Lord because He’s heard my cry. I love Him because He first loved me. How could you not love Him? I speak to my own heart.

It’s amazing what God can do in our hearts if we allow Him. It’s the new birth. We’re born from above, born in the Spirit of God, when we believe the gospel message.

Just as the DNA is in words, and there’s no life—no physical life—without words, there is no spiritual life without words. And you know what they are: 1 Peter 1: “Being born again by the word of God that liveth and abideth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

Why do we preach the gospel? People don’t have a transformation if the Word of God doesn’t come into their hearts and they don’t understand who they are in sin, or who Christ is and why He came, and then believe this. We don’t come to God as that proud lady driving in her chariot with all of her jewels. We come as broken sinners, recognizing our guilt and our need of Christ.

The Bible is so clear: “The wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). That’s what Dawkins is reaping. That’s what “Sagan the Pagan” reaped. That’s what the cosmos gave him. Death. The cosmos—finally all dead. “The wages of sin is death...,” but it’s even worse than that. The second death is the Lake of Fire, and it goes on forever and forever and forever. An eternal dying, with regret and remorse: “How could I have been such a fool? I didn’t need to be here. Christ died for me. He paid the penalty for my sins, and here I am because I rejected Him.” No hope....

“...But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23). Let me remind you what a gift is. If you are going to receive forgiveness, if you are going to receive eternal life from God, you must receive it as a gift. A gift? What does that mean? It means you can’t work for it, you can’t earn it, you can’t merit it. A lot of people try to pay for the gift of God with church membership, good deeds, penance—it won’t work. Everybody’s on the same level. We come as hopeless, lost sinners for whom

Christ died, and we must be willing to receive a gift. The gift of God is eternal life. You don’t want a gift? You want to work for it? You want to earn it? You want to show God how good you are? And that you deserve it? Sorry! You must receive this as a gift, and you can’t pay for a gift.

“The gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.” He can’t give it to you any other way, but only because Christ paid the penalty for our sins.

To summarize what’s been going on here, we are in a cosmic battle for the universe, and we’ve read the end of the story: war in heaven, Satan and his demons—his angels—are fighting against Michael and his angels, and Satan does not prevail and he’s thrown out, because the Lion of the tribe of Judah, who defeats them all, is the Lamb! A slain Lamb is on the throne. You think about that. You ponder it.

I love the Lord because He first loved me.

I don’t want to forget the Father, because the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. He knew what was going to happen. He knew that His Son would be mocked and hated, spat upon, crucified, and you see that so beautifully in Genesis 22.

God calls Abraham: “I want you to kill your only son, the son you love.” What a picture of Christ: “The Father sent the Son...” The Father gave His Son to be the Savior of the world. In Genesis, Isaac says, “I’ve got the wood, father!” So he wasn’t a little tiny kid. He was carrying the wood for the fire, as Jesus carried the cross. “Here’s the wood, you’ve got the fire. Where’s the lamb?” Abraham replied, “God will provide himself a lamb.”

I love that verse: “So they went *both of them together*.” Abraham and his son. It was a joint operation. We don’t want to forget God the Father, who gave His Son, and Christ, who suffered for our sins—they went both together.

Prayer: Father, you are so wonderful. Your grace and your love are beyond our comprehension. Lord, we love you because you first loved us, and herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. And you demonstrate your love, Lord, in dying for our sins. Who could doubt it? Who could doubt that you love us? You never sinned, but you were treated as though you were all of the sins of the world, and you were punished in our place. Lord Jesus, we love you.

We love you with all of our hearts. Oh Lord, forgive us for not saying that often enough to you. Lord, we ask for a deeper understanding. Help us to know you. Help us to have an understanding. Lord, we grope. We see through a glass darkly. We understand so little, but we understand enough to know the gospel message that you sent your Son, and He came willingly and took our place. And Lord Jesus, we love you for this. We ask that you would reveal yourself to us more fully. We want to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our life to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in your temple. So draw us closer to you. We want to get to know you better. Like the song, “Down from His Glory”—“Without reluctance, flesh and blood his substance, He took the form of man, revealed the hidden plan. O glorious mystery! Sacrifice at Calvary. Now I know He is the great I AM!”

God and the Son, the Holy Spirit—a joint operation, “I and my Father are one.” We don’t understand it, but, Lord, we want to draw closer to you. We want to please you in our lives, we want to serve you, we want to honor you, and, Lord, we want to take this glorious gospel, without which no man can be born again, wherever we go. So, Lord, give us opportunities and help us. And, Lord, we just love you, and may that be reflected in our lives, we pray. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

T. A.'s Speaking Schedule

May 24-27 **Christian Renewal Center**
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(503) 873-7743

Aug 23-24 **TBC Conference**
Bend, OR
(800) 937-6638

STS 24/7 Broadcast Schedule

May 3 & 10 **Rob Yardley**
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May 17 & 24 **James McCarthy**
Discipleship

May 31 **Martin and Deidre Bobgan**
Psychology

Listen to Search the Scriptures 24/7 at:
www.thebereancall.org/radio
(Schedule is subject to change.)

Remembrance of Dave

Brother Dave,

I had been a missionary to college students in the US for 5 years, then switched to a multi-media ministry (Note: "Multi-media" back then meant the use of 9-12 slide projectors with a visual presentation synchronized to a sound track.). I was asked to spend 4 months in the UK and Ireland doing evangelistic presentations on campuses and to church youth groups. I ended up having a lot more "down time" than I expected and purchased Dave Hunt's *The Seduction of Christianity* to combat some theological excesses I had noticed in the British Church. For example, John Wimber was big "across the pond" at that time, not to mention Paul Yonggi Cho. One month earlier, a colleague had mentioned Dave's book as addressing these influences, along with several other important issues. As I read *Seduction*, I began to see how much I had been influenced by the Evangelical Church's emphasis on "Christian" psychology and by one particular interpretation of the second greatest commandment: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:39). I had been told by a Christian psychologist a few years earlier that I needed to love myself to be able to adequately love my neighbor as myself. That triggered a frenetic attempt to "look out for #1" in the name of loving my neighbor. My "self-love" search ended up cutting people out of my life who didn't allow me to maximize that "love." It also resulted in a ministry

change in order to "love myself" more (i.e., make me look better). However, what I had turned into was a well-disguised egomaniac who refused to do anything that wasn't "self" loving. Ironically, this search for significance took me to the UK and Ireland, where God had prearranged my meeting up with Dave Hunt—through his book. About two months into my 4-month stint "across the pond" I became convinced that I needed to repent of my "self" love and make myself available to be anything, do anything and go anywhere for the Lord. In addition to *Seduction*, I was spending 2-4 hours seeking God's face in His Word and prayer on a daily basis. That "greenhouse" experience resulted in some major changes, including having my eyes opened to the woman I would marry one year later, to the part of the world in which I would serve the Lord as a missionary ('til today—Latin America) and the type of ministry where I would make my greatest contribution for the Kingdom to date—among college students. So Brother Dave Hunt has gone home, but his legacy lives on. I am so thankful that he decided to write that controversial book called *The Seduction of Christianity*, because I was one who had been seduced...and needed to wake up and repent! I am sure tens of thousands of others can say the same! I am where I am today thanks to Dave Hunt's *The Seduction of Christianity*. Thanks for your courageous stand for truth, Dave!

My first meeting of Dave,

I had heard messages from Dave Hunt many times before actually seeing him speak. He spoke with conviction and respect. Then he autographed his books for me. He was kind and glad to talk. I watched how people would debate with him during the breaks at the conference and he dealt with them patiently. He was an admirable and godly man, and we were blessed by him.

Peace to the Hunt Family,

You see, there is this train moving full steam ahead picking up few willing passengers on the way to God's eternal kingdom. Jesus Christ is the engineer and conductor of this train. It almost passed me by because of my own ignorance and foolishness. But Dave Hunt was there leaning on the back railing of the caboose with an outstretched arm yelling "Grab a hold boy, come aboard, this will be the best and most important ride of your life!" I did, and I haven't looked back, nor will I. Peace to the Hunt family.

A memory of Dave,

Dave Hunt and my father, C. Ernest Tatham, were great friends for many years.

My stepmother told me about one incident when he was staying in their home while spending a few days in our area speaking at Palm Bible Chapel in North Palm Beach. She heard a little noise in the middle of the night so crept down the stairs in the darkness to take a peek. There was Dave Hunt standing in the dim light of the kitchen, washing the dishes left over from dinner.

The truth about Catholicism,

Dave's book *A Woman Rides the Beast* was the first Christian book I read and, as I was saved out of Catholicism, a blessing for me to read and learn the truth about the Church that had me in bondage for so long before God's Grace was revealed to me. I learned a lot from the book that I could never have learned while I was in Catholicism, and I have used the information to talk to my Catholic family and friends. As with all of Dave's books, I am always reading it over and over again without getting bored. God has used Dave to help people get closer to God, and although I did not get a chance to meet him, the books, DVDs and radio programs have let me realize what a remarkable man of God Dave was. My prayers are with Tom and that God will guide him in the ministering of The Berean Call, but also to Dave's wife, Ruth, and her family that God's Presence will be strongly felt by all.

All comments taken from our website.
Share your own memories of Dave at:
www.thebereancall.org

TBC Notes

From Ruth Hunt

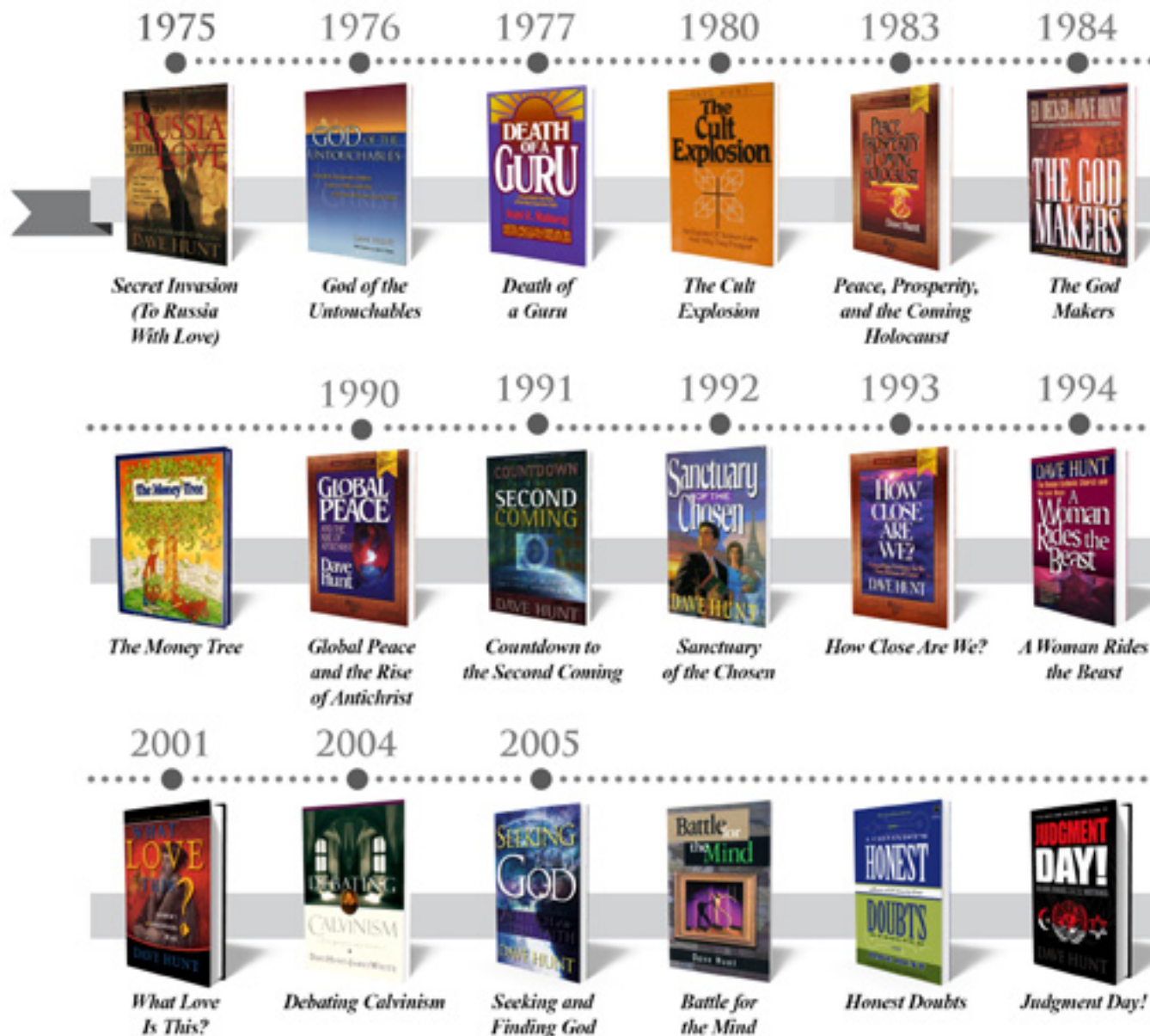
My beloved David went home on Friday, April 5, to be with the One he loved and served so well for so many years. As his wife for 62 God-blessed years, I was privileged to know and appreciate the passion with which he served his Master and the wise and tender role he filled as husband to me and as father to our children.

It was a privilege, as well, to know David in his wider sphere of ministry in many far off places. Many will remember his passion for the Word and his patience in sharing it both from the pulpit and in more intimate settings.

Rejoice with us that David is now experiencing Heaven's promised joys and the Father's "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

AFFECTIONATELY,
RUTH AND THE FAMILY

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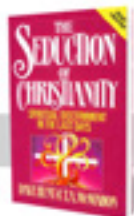
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1998



Occult Invasion

1999



Y2K - A Reasoned Response to Mass Hysteria

2000



An Urgent Call to a Serious Faith

2007



Yoga and the Body of Christ

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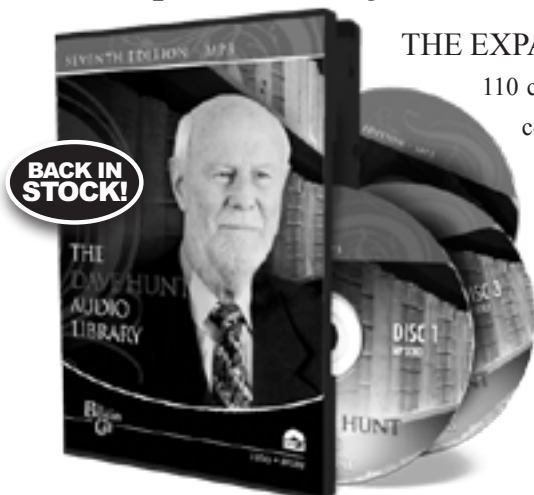
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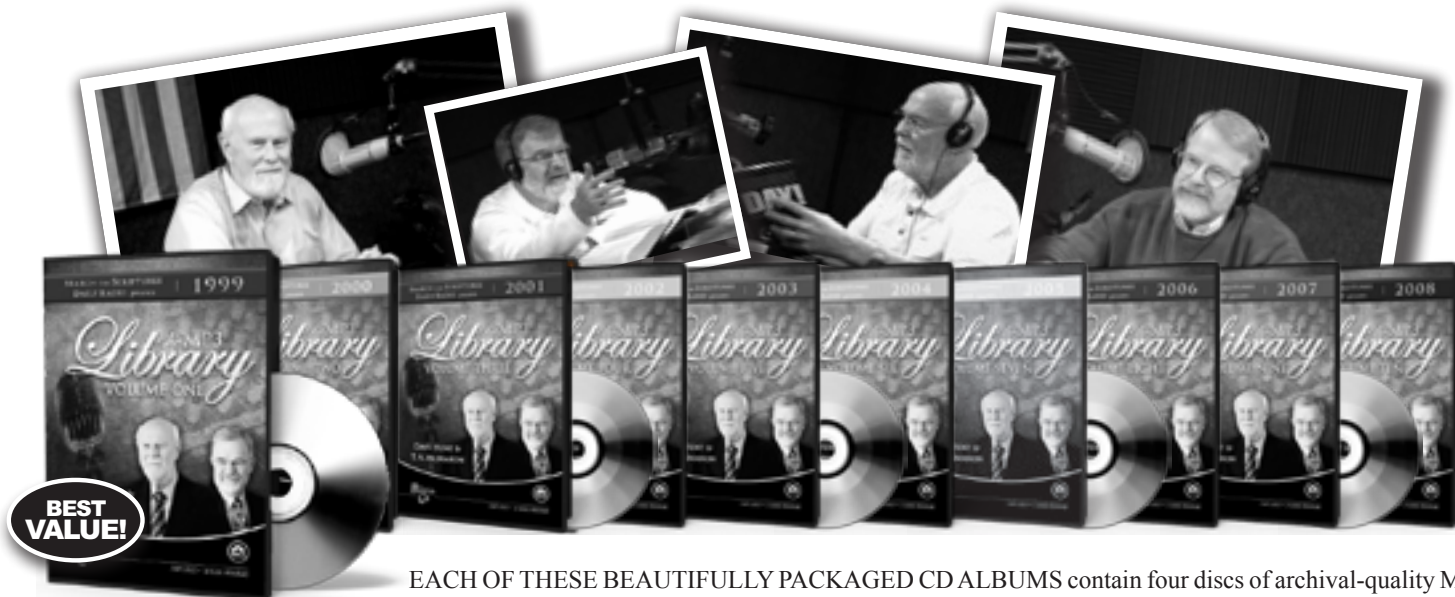
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The Berean Call—Two hours of Dave Hunt and T. A. McMahon, filmed in our radio studio for the video broadcast of *Search the Scriptures Daily* radio. These program segments are the most-

requested of 2007—selected and organized by viewer popularity—making this one power-packed DVD. 2 hrs.

DVD205 1 DVD wt .2 **\$12.50**



Best of STSD Radio 2008

The Berean Call—Nearly four hours of Dave Hunt and T. A. McMahon, filmed in our radio studio for the video broadcast of *Search the Scriptures Daily* radio. These program segments

are the most requested of 2008—selected and organized by viewer popularity—making this one power-packed DVD. 4 hrs.

DVD206 1 DVD wt .2 **\$12.50**



Seeking and Finding God Radio Discussion

The Berean Call—Filmed in the radio studio of *Search the Scriptures Daily*, Dave Hunt and T. A. McMahon review Hunt's popular book *Seeking and Finding God*. Viewers will appreciate the "live" discussion and unique perspectives from Dave's evangelistic book. 7.5 hrs.

DVD176 3 DVDs wt .3 **\$35.00**

DEVOTIONAL TEACHINGS FROM DAVE HUNT

**Get a FREE I Love the Lord DVD — with purchase of this 4-DVD collection! (see set price below)*



I Love the Lord

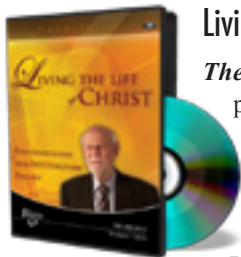
The Berean Call—During his final talk at TBC's 2008 conference, Dave Hunt encouraged the saints with one of his most heartfelt exhortations on record! ...To "love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:30). Dave's love for God and our Lord Jesus Christ was touchingly evident throughout the weekend, but on Sunday, November 16, those in attendance were especially blessed by Dave's heart for the things of heaven, as he emotionally quoted Scripture upon Scripture: "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); "One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple" (Psalm 27:4). Dave's fervent desire has always been that those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose would look for "that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13), and that the Bride of Christ would receive "the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints..."

(Eph 1:17-18). Viewers will be edified with the urgency of Dave's convictions regarding the "cosmic war going on," which he explains is not a Star Wars battle with weapons of mass destruction but a battle for the hearts and minds of mankind. Our prayer is that you and yours will be blessed by this message and that God will use it for His glory in the days ahead. 1 hour. Retail \$14.99

DVD177

Get the *I Love the Lord* DVD FREE with purchase of SET110 (see below to order) — 1 DVD

wt .2 **\$12.50**



Living the Life of Christ

The Berean Call—Dave Hunt delivers four presentations while in Nottingham, England titled: *The Cross in the Life of the Believer*, *Seeing Things the Way They Really Are*, *Love, Justice, and Truth*, and *What Is the Real Spirit-Filled Life?* 4.7 hrs. Retail \$24.99

DVD165

2 DVDs wt .4 **\$20.00**



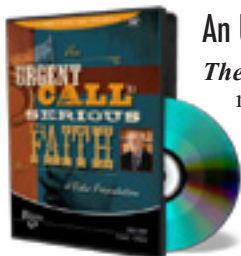
The Deceitful Heart

The Berean Call—"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9. As this verse illustrates, God has an opinion about the condition of the hearts of all mankind; indeed, it is a dire depiction of the horrible truth that is echoed in dozens of verses throughout His holy Word. Faced with the

raw ugliness of our sinful state, man has the choice to rebel or repent. Using a number of different examples from history and Scripture, Dave expounds on this theme, which is key to understanding our past, present, and future as individuals—and for believers, as the Body of Christ. 1.8 hrs. Retail \$14.99

DVD152

1 DVD wt .3 **\$12.50**



An Urgent Call to a Serious Faith

The Berean Call—Presenting the powerful message of the Gospel, Dave shows how understanding the biblical view of God's plan to save the world will affect the way in which true believers live the Christian life. Filmed at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa. 2 hrs. Retail \$14.99

DVD043

1 DVD wt .1 **\$12.50**

SET110

Retail \$69.96 wt 1.0 **SPECIAL \$45.00**

Dave Hunt CLASSIC DVD SERIES



The Berean Call—The *Dave Hunt Classic Video Series* is rare archival video footage from the TBC "vault," filmed at various meetings in the US and abroad over the course of Dave's 30-plus year speaking ministry. Available separately, or purchase the set and save!

DVD301 *Seducing Spirits and Doctrines of Devils* **\$12.50**

DVD302 *Global Peace and the Rise of Antichrist* **\$12.50**

DVD308 *Prophecy and World Events* **\$12.50**

DVD317 *The Berean Call Israel Tour* **\$12.50**

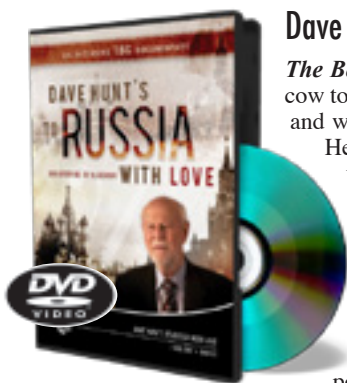
The Dave Hunt Classic Video Series — Complete Collection:

SET84 Retail \$59.96 — SAVE \$19.96 wt 1.2 **\$40.00**

MAY 2013

DAVE HUNT'S "TO RUSSIA WITH LOVE"

Exclusive TBC documentary of Dave's 2006 trip to Russia



Dave Hunt's "To Russia With Love" – Exclusive DVD

The Berean Call—In 2006, Dave traveled 180 kilometers north of Moscow to Vladimir, Russia, to speak to a gathering of pastors and young men and women who desired to minister throughout that area of the country.

He was accompanied on this mission trip and assisted by TBC's executive director, T. A. McMahon, who brought along a video camera to record the event. This video documentary provides glimpses (some of them quite humorous) into what Dave experienced when he ministered around the world. The central message, titled *At What Cost a Bride?*, will touch your heart. Dave underscores the overwhelming love of God, reflected in Christ's payment for the sins of mankind.

T. A. McMahon notes: "I have listened to most of Dave's messages over the last three decades and I can't think of one that is more powerful or more perceptive in revealing God's heart for those whom He has created. It's not just about what redemption cost Jesus but also

what it cost His Father. Dave gives us a wonderful insight into that 'unfathomable love' which the believer will be pondering and enjoying for eternity." A sneak preview of this production at TBC's 2010 conference drew much praise. We're pleased to feature the full-length DVD—it's one you'll want to view and share again and again. 57 min.

DVD195

1 DVD wt .2 \$15.00



To Russia With Love

Hunt—The Berean Call is grateful to Dave Hunt and Hans Kristian for the privilege of preserving this remarkable testimony of God's faithfulness to those who

willingly forsake all and take up the cross daily to fulfill our Lord's great commission. It is our prayer that this valuable historical record will inspire a new generation of Spirit-filled missionaries to "go... and teach all nations" the good news of the Gospel of Christ Jesus. Originally titled *Secret Invasion*. The Berean Call, 223 pp. Retail \$12.99

B60361

wt .7 \$12.50

SET109 Set includes: *To Russia With Love* DVD and book — SAVE \$7.50

Retail \$28.98 wt .9 **SPECIAL \$20.00**

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