What do these three have in common



HUSTICE



Berean

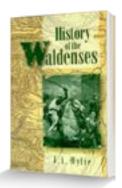
Call JUNE 2007

LOVE, JUSTICE, AND JUDGMENT

by DAVE HUNT

NEW ON OUR SHELVES — HISTORY REFERENCED IN DAVE HUNT'S WRITINGS

The Inquisitions had been underway for centuries before the Reformation, and the massacre of true Christians (known variously as Albigenses, Bogomils, Brethren, Cathari, Hussites, Vaudois, and Waldenses) by the Roman Catholic Church had by then been underway for 1,000 years! The tragic yet inspiring story of those who contended for the faith and remained true to Christ reads like a continuation of Hebrews 11. Not content to exterminate them, Rome has maligned the memory of these faithful martyrs with accusations of heresy, occultism and even human sacrifice. The accounts we have of their "heresy trials," however, reveal a faith like that of the Reformers.... The Waldensians' very biblical "Confession of faith" lists the exact books of today's Protestant Bible, which it declares to be inspired of God not because some Church council said so, but "because of the eternal and undoubted Truth of the Doctrine therein contained...besides the testimony of the Holy Spirit, who...opens the eyes of our understanding...." The Pope's response was to increase his armies [against all alleged heretics] and to offer, to all who would join in the extermination crusades, absolution of all sins and passage to heaven without going to purgatory. Today, Rome no longer has the power to effect such massacres. Yet the dogmas justifying the slaughter of millions are still in force and have never been renounced. Nor has Rome's false gospel changed. [Excerpted from "Longsuffering & Doctrine," by Dave Hunt, TBC, 1994]



History of the Waldenses



Wylie—First published in 1860, Wylie's history furnishes valuable information about Christians who flourished outside the Roman system. Republished as a facsimile edition, the original text is preserved, although the Adventist publisher's bias is reflected in the foreword and back cover copy. Because the Waldenses possessed the Bible in manuscript, they understood the unadulterated truth, which made them objects of hatred and persecution. Declaring the Church of Rome to be the apostate Babylon of the Apocalypse, they stood up to resist her corruption and, for a thousand years, maintained the ancient faith. Teach Services Inc., 208 pp.

B01859 (wt .6)

PELGRIM CHURCH

The Pilgrim Church

Broadbent—This classic work is key to understanding the true historical church, which is not recorded in secular history or even in church history books.

Who were the Waldensians? The Lollards? The Stundists? The Anabaptists? These claimed only the name of Christ and were prepared to suffer for His cause rather than submit to man's traditions. Gospel Folio Press, 422 pp.

B00534 (wt 2.2) \$24.00

UPDATED! — JUDGMENT DAY CONFERENCE

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T.A. MCMAHON



RANDALL PRICE



SHIMON EREM



WALID SHOEBAT

Walid Shoebat added to speak at TBC's Second Conference in beautiful Bend, Oregon!

This year's conference is being held at Bend High School. The school, located at 230 NE 6th St. in the heart of Bend, has a comfortable auditorium with seating for 1,200. Though childcare is not available, children are welcome. There is an ample grassy area where we will set up audio speakers for outdoor listening. Juniper Park and Aquatic Center is just two blocks away. Bend is home to dozens of motels in a wide price range, some within walking distance of the school. Camping at Tumalo State Park is only 20 minutes away.

August 9-11

Conference Schedule

THURSDAY

Open House at TBC (for conference attendees)

FRIDAY

announcements

T.A. McMahon
Dave Hunt
Lunch (optional)
Randall Price
Dave Hunt
Q & A session

Q & A session
Dinner (optional)
Shimon Erem

SATURDAY

announcements

Randall Price Dave Hunt Walid Shoebat

Lunch (optional)

Q & A session

T.A. McMahon
Dave Hunt

SUNDAY

Sunday message (TBA)

Dave Hunt

| Adult Registration | Family Registration | Meals |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | | |
| \$40 (children under 18 FREE) | \$99 (parents & children of one family) | \$6 Lunch — \$15 Dinner |

^{*}Prices are per person and do not include transportation, lodging, or meals (unless meals were ordered). Cancellation policy: The last day to cancel your conference registration for a refund is July 15, 2007.

THE BEREAN EXECUTE CALL

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

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JUNE 2007

Love, Justice, and Judgment

Dave Hunt

Most of the world has little concern for the Nazi Holocaust with its 6 million victims, or for the earlier Muslim holocaust of far more millions from France to China, or the more recent Islamic outrages of 9/11, and the ongoing slaughter in southern Sudan, which almost daily adds to the 2 million already slain there by Muslims practicing *sharia* imposed by Khartoum. Some, however, cannot forget the sacrifice of innocent lives and are tormented by the question, "How could a good God allow such untold suffering?" At a "Candlelight vigil...for a peaceful world" at Harvard Divinity School,

The...words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. were rehearsed [and] those of Mohandas Gandhi. A song about the Rwandan massacre was recited, with the wrenching appeal to a silent God —"Where were you?" 1

God was right where He's been for thousands of years: eager to bless mankind but restrained by His wisdom and integrity from rewarding unrepentant rebellion. The Creator loves mankind too much to surrender the world to proud fools. If He does not fulfill His warnings of judgment, who could believe His promises of blessing?

But is God really silent? Or is the world deaf to His voice? How is it possible to overlook Christ's loving plea from the Cross, "Father, forgive them..." (Lk 23:34)? Yet, how can we bring together that prayer with Christ's solemn declaration that "the Father...hath committed all judgment unto the Son" (Jn 5:22)? Can love, justice, and judgment coexist?

How can we reconcile the idea of Christ willingly suffering for the sins of the world with "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather...them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Mt 13:41,42)? Why would Christ, whom "the Father sent...to be the Saviour of the world" (1 Jn 4:14), send people to hell for whom, with infinite and sacrificial love, He died in payment of the penalty for their sins?

How can we fit "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8,16) into the fact that God "hath appointed a day, in...which he will judge the world in righteousness [by Jesus Christ]..." (Acts

17:31)? Judgment that will sentence perhaps billions to eternal torment doesn't seem to agree with David's grateful praise: "The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works" (Ps 145:9). How could the "tender mercies" of a God who is "good to all" consign *anyone* to eternal doom?

Can we really wrap in one package "For God so loved the world" (Jn 3:16) with "whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rv 20:15)? How about, "not willing that any should perish" (2 Pt 3:9) and the "great white throne" judgment (Rv 20:11,12)? Surely multitudes will perish, being taken directly from that final verdict to the Lake of Fire. Is God contradicting Himself?

If God is really "good to all" and is sincerely "not willing that any should perish," why doesn't He welcome everyone to heaven? Why must so many spend eternity in the Lake of Fire? Couldn't there be another way? Has man's choice brought a just doom upon his head? Shall we blame God—or His creatures—for eternal punishment? Where is God's love?

Unquestionably, the Bible teaches love, justice, and judgment. But must God's justice and judgment trample on His love? How can "the gift of God is eternal life" (Rom 6:23) agree with "he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (Jn 3:36)?

These are vital questions, which we must contemplate prayerfully if we are to understand and know God as He desires: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD" (Jer 9:23,24). What do lovingkindness, judgment, and eternal doom have to do with one another?

The Cross of Christ is the only answer to such questions. Does God really love us? "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8); "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him" (1 Jn 4:9). Christ said, "For God *so loved* the world, that he gave his only begotten Son..." (Jn 3:16). How great God's love for all mankind must be to give His son "into the hands of

sinners" (Mt 26:45) to be rejected, falsely accused, mocked, despised, spat upon, and nailed to a cross—yet to make that cross the means of man's salvation!

Consider the awesome and incomprehensible statement, "Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him [to] make his soul an offering for sin..." (Is 53:10). God the Father was *pleased* to punish Christ for the sins of the world, even for the sins of those who would curse God and mock and reject His Son? Yes! We must ponder such questions if we are to understand God.

No greater proof could be given of the evil that lurks in every human heart than what man did to Christ. And at the same time, the Cross is the greatest possible proof of God's love and desire to bless all mankind. No wonder Paul rejoiced, "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world" (Gal 6:14)! In life's trials, defeats, and losses, those in whom Christ is truly Lord can take refuge in Paul's logic: "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" (Rom 8:32).

Solomon declared, "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting, get understanding" (Prv 4:7). We have the promise, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God...and it shall be given him" (Jas 1:5). God wants us to understand His character and will, to meditate deeply upon the means and the price of our redemption—and in the Cross "to behold the beauty of the LORD" (Ps 27:4) as we otherwise could not.

Is there anything more wonderful in the history of the universe than God's gift of His only begotten Son to the world? How can we be content with only a shallow understanding of the Cross? No wonder we lack the depth of gratitude Christ's sacrifice deserves. And how tragic that we could ever allow an entire day or even more to pass without expressing our deep heartfelt thanks to our God for mercifully and graciously saving our souls!

I think often of the words, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Sometimes it causes me to *tremble*, *tremble*, *tremble*...!" Yes, we were there—it was our sins he "bare...in his own body on the tree" (1 Pt 2:24). The earth shook, rocks were ripped asunder by God's hand, and angels must have trembled with rage to see such despicable creatures treating their

Lord with hatred and contempt! Time and eternity were split in two. Heaven and earth would never be the same. The universe and course of history were forever drenched in the shed blood of Christ!

And today, the world could not care less about that all-defining event. How grievous it is that mankind in general never thinks of, never honors, and never acknowledges the God who gives life to all. Governments imagine they can do whatever they please. Political and religious leaders, thinking they are in charge of this world, meet in their international conclaves to make peace on earth—and God is left out of the entire process. All man wants is a religious "blessing" upon his plans, and any god will do.

Incredibly, many who claim to believe on Christ are foremost in mocking Him. He promised to send the "Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive" (Jn 14:17), to lead us "into all truth" (Jn 16:13). In flagrant contempt and unbelief, declaring that the world has another source outside God's Word of "the truth [that] shall make you free" (Jn 8:32), the evangelical church has turned aside to psychology, the "wisdom of this world," which God "hath...made foolish" (1 Cor 1:20). And those who preach this foolishness are looked up to by evangelicals worldwide as the most insightful authors and conference speakers.

Christ said, "because I live, ye shall live also" (Jn 14:19). What did He mean? This was Christ's thrilling assurance that He would live His resurrection life in those who put their trust in Him. Paul rejoiced, "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..." (Gal 2:20). He referred to "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col 1:27), declaring that "when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory" (Col 3:4).

Imagine, then, the contemptuous insult and brazen slap in the face to Christ when those in whom He dwells as their very life complain that the life He desires to live in them doesn't suit them. Adding unbelief to insult, they claim that His Word is not true, that His promises don't work for them! Who can fathom the unthinkable tragedy that those purchased by His blood. to whom Christ wants to impart "life...more abundantly" (Jn 10:10), turn to Freud, Jung, Rogers, Maslow, Adler, et al. (atheistic anti-Christians to a man), for help in living the Christian life! Could there be a more hurtful rejection of our Lord by His own, whom He has redeemed with His blood?

That arch heretic, Norman Vincent Peale (who said on national TV that there are many other ways to God besides Jesus Christ) was praised by Billy Graham and other church leaders. It was Peale who brought psychology/psychiatry into the church some 70 years ago. For decades, the

entire evangelical community rejected this enemy intrusion as heresy destructive of the faith before succumbing to its siren song. Today, secular psychology and psychiatry, the most atheistic of all professions, are the darlings of the evangelical church.

How could this happen? It happened through baptizing psychology by attaching the word "Christian" to it. That deceit convinced Christians of the outrageous fiction that God's Word does not provide sufficient guidance for today's living but that we need additional help from rank unbelievers and Christ haters in order to live for Christ. As *Newsweek* reported long ago:

Christians are realizing that being born again is no vaccine against mental and emotional illness. One result: Christian psychotherapy, a for-profit movement aimed at mining new markets by offering evangelicals a Bible-based approach to problems from anxiety and depression to sexual abuse and schizophrenia.

"We use the same teachings and principles as other psychiatrists," says psychiatrist Steven Schultz, medical director at LifeCare's Ft. Worth center. "But we do it in the context that we're Christians."

What a damning confession; and what delusion! There is no "Christian context" for psychotherapy, which didn't exist until 1,800 years after Christ paid the penalty for our sins and the gospel began to be preached (Mk 1:1; Phil 4:15). Schultz could not have said more clearly that, for Christian psychotherapists, Paul's "Christ in you, the hope of glory" is an empty slogan without meaning for today's Christians! Besides, if everyone believed on Christ, found "peace through the blood of his cross" (Col 1:20), and obeyed His Word, the truth would make them free (Jn 8:31,32)—and psychiatrists and psychologists, "Christian" or not, would be unable to earn a living for lack of clients. That "for-profit" growth industry is jealously protected and promoted by its adherents at the eternal cost of souls!

Under the leadership of some "crept in unawares" (Jude 4), the steady decline in respect for and defense of "the faith once delivered to the saints," though foretold, is utterly staggering! Hundreds of examples could be given. The YMCA and YWCA, begun as Christian organizations, are now strongholds of yoga and godlessness and as far from the gospel of Jesus Christ as possible this side of hell. The Reformation's gospel of salvation by grace through faith in Christ alone has been betrayed and wed to Roman Catholic works and rituals by Lutherans, Calvinists, and others who practice infant baptism for salvation and boast of the "real presence" of Christ in the bread and wine of remembrance. "Protestant evangelical biblical scholars" quoted in the *Renovaré Spiritual Formation Bible* openly reject the inspiration, authorship, and prophecies of Scripture—yet are highly praised by evangelical leaders. (See *TBC*, Aug. 2005.)

All of America's first Universities (Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Brown, Dartmouth, et al.) were founded by Christians as centers for spreading the gospel of Christ to the glory of God. Instead, these schools today proclaim atheism and false religions. As only one example, Harvard was founded in 1636 to train evangelical ministers. Today, its Divinity School prides itself on being open to any religion. Recently headed by a Roman Catholic priest, its current dean is a scholar of Islamic history highly regarded by Muslims. The director of its Center for the Study of World Religions, a scholar of Buddhism, has rewritten the Sunday school chorus to say, "Buddha loves me! This I know, for the Dharma tells me so." With its multi-billion dollar income and endowments and backing by Christians, Harvard and its Divinity School are bastions of liberalism, ecumenism, pro-abortionism, radical feminism, relativism, and anti-Christian rhetoric. And this is progress toward a greater truth?

Man thinks he is in charge of the universe. He believes that the God who made it is supposed to honor the serpent's promise of Godhood to Adam and Eve, step back, and let man run the show. God has been letting man do just that for 6,000 years, except for answering righteous prayer, intervening appropriately on behalf of His own, and executing judgment when absolutely necessary, as in the case of Israel, to maintain His integrity.

How can we wrap love, justice, and judgment in the same package? Jesus said, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Rv 3:19). If God were not absolutely faithful in fulfilling His warnings of judgment, who could believe His promises of forgiveness and blessing? Love, justice, and judgment do go together. There is no justice without judgment and no love without justice.

It would no more be love for God not to punish evil than to fail to rescue those caught in Satan's net. But salvation can come only on the righteous basis of the penalty being fully paid—and then only for those who accept that payment by Christ on their behalf. And that saving faith in Christ can only come in the confession that He was justly punished in our place.

May the love of Christ constrain us to weep for the lost and present the gospel to all who will hear. And in accepting the life He gives, let us live no longer unto ourselves but "unto him which died for [us], and rose again" (2 Cor 5:15).

Quotable

We have oversimplified the gospel. The first fatal flaw is the missing emphasis on *repentance*. There can be *no* true conversion without *conviction of sin...*. We sugar-coat the gospel when we de-emphasize man's lost condition....It is useless to tell unconvicted sinners to believe on Jesus—that message is only for those who *know* they are lost. We have forgotten that the message is *repentance toward God* as well as *faith in our Lord Jesus Christ*.

A second serious omission is a missing emphasis on the Lordship of Christ....

A third defect in our message is our tendency to keep the terms of discipleship hidden until a decision has been made for Jesus. Our Lord never did this. The message He preached included the cross as well as the crown....We popularize the message and promise fun.

The result of all this is that we have people believing without knowing what they believe [with] no doctrinal basis for their decision. They do not know the implications of commitment to Christ. They have never experienced the mysterious, miraculous work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration. (Author's emphasis.)

William MacDonald, "Evangelical Dilemma," Milk & Honey, 4/07, p.4

The flesh, smiling and confident, preaches and sings about the cross; before that cross it bows and toward that cross it points with carefully staged histrionics—but upon that cross it will not die, and the reproach of that cross it stubbornly refuses to bear.

A.W. Tozer, The Divine Conquest, p.60

O&A

QUESTION: I have read your articles on replacement theology and Israel. You stated that Gentiles observing the festivals and other Torah laws were frauds. Could you please explain?

RESPONSE: That is not what I actually said, nor would I accuse those who sincerely think they are doing God's will of being "frauds." I would reserve that term for those to whom it properly applies. What I did say, in October 2005, was that "for a Gentile to keep those [Jewish] feasts today would be a fraud"—and I stand by that.

The Passover, for example, was clearly to be kept by Jews as a "memorial" of the deliverance of their ancestors from slavery in Egypt and as proof that they were the chosen people of "the God of Israel" to whom that land belongs today. It would, therefore, be improper for Gentiles to

celebrate the Passover—and the same is true of the other Jewish feasts. Though all relate to the gospel symbolically, they are specifically for Jews to keep as part of their heritage in relation to the land God gave to them alone.

And yes, I have made it clear that I reject categorically the very word "Messianic." It is confusing and is not found in the Bible. To speak of a "Messianic Movement," or "Messianic Christians," or "Messianic Jews," etc., is not biblical. Such expressions were never used by Christ, the apostles, or the early church. Yet one gets the impression from "Messianic" believers that they are being *more biblical* by using that term.

The Hebrew word *Messiah* (*mashiah*) appears only twice in the Old Testament, both in the same passage (Dn 9:25,26). The Greek form of it, *Messias*, appears only twice in the New Testament (Jn 1:41; 4:25). In Israel, prophet, priest, and king had to be anointed with a special oil symbolic of the Holy Spirit. The words "Messiah" and "Christ" signified *the Anointed One*, in whom all three offices would be fulfilled.

In contrast to only four appearances of "Messiah/Messias" in the entire Bible, the word "Christ" (Gr. Christos) occurs hundreds of times in the New Testament. So it would seem more biblical to refer to "Christ Movement," or "Christ Christians," or "Christ Jews" than to "Messianic." That word purports to call us back to the Jewish roots of our faith. Unfortunately, "Messianic-whatever" implies that observing Jewish practices ensures that one will be closer to God-and it often becomes an excuse for imposing the law and Jewish observances upon Gentile Christians. This is unbiblical and something Paul combated in his epistle to the Galatians.

The gospel is all about Christ, who died for the sins of the world. Everyone, Jew or Gentile, must believe on Christ in order to be saved. All who believe on our Lord Jesus Christ in response to the gospel have embraced the Messiah—but not in the exclusively Jewish sense of the Anointed One who will rescue Israel at Armageddon and reign on the throne of David forever.

The term "Messianic Christian" makes an unbiblical distinction between two classes of Christians: "Messianic" and "Non-Messianic." Yet Jews and Gentiles who believe the gospel have been made one in Christ. If one is a Christian, whether Jew or Gentile, he has believed on Christ the Messiah as Lord and Savior. There is no other basis of salvation. What more could the "Messianic Movement" offer? Obviously, nothing.

The gospel that the apostles preached and that we are to preach doesn't even have the word "Messiah" in it. The gospel is that "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (1 Cor 15:1-8). It would not be more biblical to preach, "Believe on the Messiah, who died for our sins." The early church was all Jews, but it is never called "Messianic."

Scripture refers to "Jews...Gentiles...the church of God" (1 Cor 10:32). "Messianic" describes none of these three. Both Jews and Gentiles who believe on Jesus before He comes visibly at Armageddon are in the church; Jews and Gentiles who do not receive Christ as Savior and Lord until He appears at the Second Coming will inhabit the earth for eternity—Jews in the special relationship to their Messiah promised to Israel, Gentiles as part of the nations that remain on earth (Rv 21:24; 22:2) along with Israel but distinct from her.

Again, it is presently impossible for anyone to be "Messianic" because all who believe on Christ (Jew or Gentile) are in the church, with Christ ruling as Lord in their hearts. They are part of the bride that will rule and reign with Him eternally. They will not be among the Jewish subjects in the Kingdom over whom the Messiah will reign on the throne of David. To call some Christians "Messianic" is not biblical but confusing.

QUESTION: I am a regular listener to your "Barian Call" radio program. Recently... Dave said that for someone to practice speaking in tongues would be as foolish as to practice raising the dead. This argument is so puerile...I am kind of disappointed in you.

Surely, just as we might give different kinds of gifts to one another, so in the Spirit realm, gifts are not the same. We receive the gift of speaking in tongues by faith and unless we hold on to our faith and practice...in no time the gift is gone.... Your comments that day actually went to attack the roots of my faith. I thank God my faith in Him can never be shaken.... You should always consider very carefully what you are dishing out to your hearers. Some of them are babes in the Kingdom, and comments like that can destroy them and their faith.

RESPONSE: Just so you'll know, we are not "the *Barian* Call" but the *Berean* Call. We call ourselves and others to be like "the Bereans" living in the town of Berea (now known as Verria) in Macedonia who "searched the scriptures daily" to make sure that Paul's teaching was biblical (Acts 17:10-12). We encourage readers, listeners, and viewers to *Search the Scriptures Daily* (the name of our radio program) to see

whether our teachings and those of others are according to God's Word. In the remarks on the radio to which you objected, I was following the Bible, not someone's interpretation of it. First Corinthians 12:4-31 makes clear:

- 1) While there are "diversities of gifts," it is the "same Spirit...same Lord...[and] the same God which worketh all in all" (vv. 4-6). To "practice" any gift God imparts is neither taught nor is it reasonable. From Genesis to Revelation, no man of God ever "practiced" what God empowered him to do nor was ever instructed to do so.
- 2) The words "practice," "practices," and "practiced" are found only seven times in the Bible, *always associated with evil*. You were taught to "practice" speaking in tongues by men, not by God in His Word. Now that you know that the idea of "practicing" a gift of God (including tongues) is unbiblical, will you follow men or God?
- 3) "Tongues" is one of nine "gifts" described by Paul as "manifestations of the Spirit" (v. 7). Quite clearly, none of these gifts is for every believer: "Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret (vv. 29, 30)?" Each of these questions demands a negative response. Tongues is no more a gift that all are expected to manifest than is the gift of prophecy, healing, or miracles. Yet many teach that tongues is the one gift that is for all. Some say that one is not filled with the Holy Spirit without speaking in tongues; others believe that only those who speak in tongues are saved. The Bible never says so. Again, you must decide whether to believe God or men.
- 4) It is equally clear that each of these gifts, being "the manifestation of the Spirit...given to every man...severally as He will" (vv. 7, 11) is not under any man's control but under the control of the Holy Spirit. This clearly taught biblical fact means that the individual can no more speak in tongues any time he desires than he could heal the sick or raise the dead any time he desired. That fact also prohibits "practicing."

QUESTION [Representative of several]: Recently, in answering a question about the gifts of the Holy Spirit you said that speaking in tongues has led many, including charismatic pastors and evangelists, into immorality. I take exception to that harsh statement. Why did you say it?

RESPONSE: You are misquoting me. This is from the March 2007 Q&A:

One might as well practice walking on water or raising the dead as "practice speaking in tongues." We do not get any gift from God by practicing. That false teaching has led multitudes astray and is a large part of the reason why "tongues speakers" so often

fall into immorality, whether televangelists, pastors, healers, or ordinary Christians.

I did not say that "speaking in tongues" is the problem (which it could not be if genuinely from God) but that the false teaching that one can do it any time one pleases and that it is gotten by "practicing" it leads many astray and into immorality. This has to be true because the refusal to obey the clear teaching of Scripture is rebellion against God and His Word. In that attitude one is almost guaranteed to yield to temptation.

Biblically, those who imagine that they can "speak in tongues" any time they please are in a state of self-delusion. They are either imagining they are speaking in tongues or are faking it to their own self-deception or are demonically inspired. Such a state of self-delusion is the perfect set-up for Satan to work further wiles.

If what I state here is not biblical, then show me from the Bible itself.

QUESTION: During the year and months before "Y2K," many Christian leaders wrote books warning believers to "prepare" for the disasters that were to come on January 1, 2000. In your book, Y2K: A Reasoned Response to Mass Hysteria, you were one of the very few that were correct. Why were so many mistaken?

RESPONSE: The facts were clear that the gloom and doom prophecies were wrong. Nor did that scenario fit Bible prophecy. Some may have been tempted to be on "the cutting edge," and that hope blinded them to the facts. Others may have been deceived by the cries of alarm that were being sounded by business and computer experts worldwide. Some were tempted by the money they could make out of this disaster—and they made a lot!

The Ministerial Association in our small town of Bend, Oregon was convinced by the "experts" that their stockpiled provisions and generators shared with unsaved neighbors would help to lead them to Christ. I can't explain why so many leaders in the church were deceived and deceived others. That experience should be a warning to us all.

It took little research to know that nothing was going to happen. Many IT managers went along with the propaganda in order to get their Board of Directors to update computer equipment.

Nor did it take any expertise to recognize that Y2K didn't fit biblical prophecy. Prophecy teachers promoting Y2K hinted that a computer crash would usher in the Antichrist and a cashless society. But Antichrist would need computers to control the world—and a cashless society would surely require computers. Why so many Christian

leaders promoted this delusion is a question that even they may not be able to answer and that God alone knows.

News Alert

Christian Post, 4/24/07: BIBLE DISTRIBUTORS FILE LAWSUIT AFTER ARRESTS, POLICE BULLYING [EXCERPTS]— Gideons International, an evangelical Christian organization dedicated to distributing copies of the Bible, filed a lawsuit on Friday after members of the organization were arrested for their activities in Florida.

Defending the group is the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF)—a legal alliance that defends the right to speak the "Truth"—which is arguing against the unlawful arrests. The Gideon members had been taken into custody because they were within 500 feet of a public school.

"Free speech in America exists even within 500 feet of public school property," explained ADF senior legal counsel David Cortman in a statement. "Under the First Amendment, the Gideons have every right to distribute Bibles on a public sidewalk to those who wish to accept them. There is no legal justification for the continued harassment of peaceful members of the community who wish to hand out Christian literature."

The incident took place...[as] members of the Gideons Key Largo Camp were handing out Bibles outside Key Largo School, located on the southern tip of Florida. The group was on a public sidewalk when two of the Gideons, Mirto and Ernest Simpson, were approached and taken into custody by Monroe County sheriff's officers.

[An arresting officer] added that the Gideons had "no right" to be within 500 feet of school property as well as telling his two detainees that they "can pray to Jesus all the way to jail," according to ADF.

According to the Gideons Key Largo Camp, they did not step on to school grounds, and they had contacted the Monroe Country Sheriff's Office beforehand. They also notified school officials on the day of distribution.

According to the group, both parties had said the activity was allowed.

[TBC: As with last month's news alert, there is an irony here that "peace" officers would shut down men who are sharing the only true hope mankind has for peace, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.]

Endnotes

- 1. Alec Solomita, *Harvard University Gazette*, November 7, 2002, from its archives.
- 2. Kenneth L. Woodward with Susan Miller, "These Souls Were Made for Shrinking: 'Christian therapy' is winning more converts," *Newsweek*, September 14, 1992, 60.

Speaking Schedule

 Jun 2-3
 A Church of Jesus

 (Dave)
 Port Neches TX

 (409) 722-6959

Jul 6-7

Berean Calvary Chapel Kirkville NY

(Dave) Kirkville NY (315) 656-7021

 Jul 8-14 (Dave)
 Word of Life Schroon Lake NY (518) 532-7114

Aug 3-4 (Dave) Hope for Today Conference Chino Hills CA (800) 752-4253

Aug 10-12 (Dave/TA) TBC Conference Bend OR (800) 937-6638

 Aug 22-26
 Hong Kong

 (Dave/TA)
 (852) 2336-7602

Sep 7-9 Great Lakes Prophecy Conf (Dave/TA) Appleton WI (920) 735-1242

Sep 12-15 Winnipeg Prophecy Conf

(Dave) Winnipeg MB (204) 853-7786

Sep 16 Schoenfelder Mennonite Church (Dave) Pigeon Lake MB

(204) 864-2740 Oct 17-25 Brazil

(Dave) www.chamada.com.br

Nov 11-13 Midnight Call Prophecy Conf (Dave) Myrtle Beach SC (800) 845-2420

Letters

To Dave Hunt,

Your *Berean Call* of Dec. 2006 was so impressive and so great it led me to read it 3 times in a space of 2 weeks. It is so wonderful to grasp and absorb the truth of God's Word that it makes you stand amazed and fills you with the joy of the Lord. We live in an age of confusion and rebellion, and then in spite of that the wonder of the truth of God's Word breaks through all that with clarity and great power. What a great blessing that is for God's people. Thank you for being so clear in your writing....May God bless you in this age of falling away from the true Word of God. HP (Canada)

Dear Mr. Hunt and T.A. McMahon,

I absolutely love your newsletter. I borrow [it] from a friend to read. Soon I'll be released and would love to receive your newsletter at home....I've been in prison for 16 years now and I look forward to serving God in a Bible based church....I've had the opportunity to preach the gospel in prison but those doors are now shut down to me.... Thank you for inspiring me to stay the right path. I really appreciate it and many others do too. KN (prisoner, MA)

Dear Dave and T.A.,

I am an evangelical pastor...and...have

received your newsletters for several years. However, as I have continued to read [them] it is becoming increasingly obvious that in many ways you are becoming reactionary and redundant in your words. Are there only four or five issues on which to write?...One almost gets the impression that your only message is "the world is bad, the church is corrupt, your pastor is probably a Warrenite, or worse yet a Calvinist, so run to the hills with your Bible and your Berean Call and wait till the end." The lack of the fruit of the Spirit in your newsletter is telling. I was glad to see that McMahon listed the fruit of the Spirit in his February article as the real measure of spiritual maturity. My question is: have you used that standard to measure your own newsletter?...I guess my main point is that being a pastor today is hard work....In the midst of this battlefield, it is not time to go around shooting our fellow soldiers. SF (NJ)

Dear Dave and Tom,

I don't always get to hear you on KWVE on Sunday evenings, but I'm glad I caught you today. Your comments on Carl Jung were very informative. And to think I thought of him as almost a believer! Now I know better. As a Social Science grad student who's stuck re-learning this drivel, I appreciate insight like yours and your timely reminders to be truly discerning and in the Word as never before! Thank you! GG (CA)

Dave, TA, and Crew,

Not another minute should pass that I do not express my utmost gratitude for the work that you do. Many may say that you are abrupt and mean-spirited. I thank Godalmighty that you have the light of truth in you. Please, continue to include me in your newsletter mailings and may our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ continue to bless you! PJ (CO)

Dear Dave and Staff,

As a pastor for quite a number of years my wife and I are saddened by the direction of the Church in America. And the biggest problem is that so few people see the real need: to get back to the Bible as it is for men as they are. It is only then that the Lord Jesus will be welcomed back into the Church of the 21st century. Oh how we need Him in His rightful place again! JO (TX)

Dear Mr. Hunt & Friends,

I received your February letter and I must say that is the most on-the-mark explanation of the church I have ever seen....All Christians should read this message! I gave mine to my pastor. I am waiting his reaction. He is a very good pastor and I know he will agree perfectly. The church in general does not

know their doctrine and in most churches you would have a hard time finding good doctrine....I have been saying for the last 30 years people do not read their Bibles and would not know good doctrine if they fell over it. They do not know if a pastor is good or bad because they do not know the Word. I have read the Holy Word of God 65 times. It is our only way, truth, and life. We need it daily to survive. Keep preaching the infallible Word of God. HS (PA)

TBC Notes

Concern for Our Next Generation

Should the Lord tarry, we have some serious concerns about what will certainly affect our next generation of believers. One of the main problems is that many of them will be trained in a field and become practitioners of a profession that is unparalleled in its undermining of the Word of God: psychological counseling.

How can we be so sure? For two reasons:

1) Hardly anyone is instructing our youth about how anti-biblical the concepts and techniques of psychotherapy are, and how psychological counseling has destroyed the belief in the sufficiency of the Scriptures among most evangelicals. 2) The numbertwo career choice today for college students (Christian or otherwise) is psychology.

These two reasons alone add up to unprecedented numbers joining the new priesthood of "Christian" psychotherapists. So, what can be done?

Perhaps not too much regarding the church in general, yet there may be some of you who work with high school and/or college students and want to make sure they are informed. If that's the case, we want to help you. Our DVD *Psychology and the Church: Critical Questions... Crucial Answers* covers all the basic issues regarding psychological counseling and the Bible, from the problems with psychotherapy to the biblical way of ministering to one another.

For anyone who works with young people and who will agree to show them the DVD, we will send you a copy at half our retail price. In addition, if you have a group of 20 or more, I'm willing to do a phone interview after the DVD has been screened to answer any questions you or your students may have.

If you share our concerns and want to participate, call 1-800-937-6638 and ask for the Youth & Psychology Event.

T.A. McMahon Executive Director

The Berean Call is a nonprofit 501 [c] [3], tax-exempt corporation registered in the State of Oregon. It is overseen by an independent board which has full and final authority over all corporate assets, personnel, and affairs. (6/07)

8 June 2007

THE OLD Pross & THE NEW

A LL UNANNOUNCED AND MOSTLY UNDETECTED there has come in modern times a new cross into popular evangelical circles. It is like the old cross, but different: the likenesses are superficial; the differences, fundamental.

From this new cross has sprung a new philosophy of the Christian life, and from that new philosophy has come a new evangelical technique—a new type of meeting and a new kind of preaching. This new evangelism employs the same language as the old, but its content is not the same and its emphasis not as before.

The old cross would have no truck with the world. For Adam's proud flesh it meant the end of the journey. It carried into effect the sentence imposed by the law of Sinai. The new cross is not opposed to the human race; rather, it is a friendly pal and, if understood aright, it is the source of oceans of good clean fun and innocent enjoyment. It lets Adam live without interference. His life motivation is unchanged; he still lives for his own pleasure, only now he takes delight in singing choruses and watching religious movies instead of singing bawdy songs and drinking hard liquor. The accent is still on enjoyment, though the fun is now on a higher plane morally if not intellectually.

The new cross encourages a new and entirely different evangelistic approach. The evangelist does not demand abnegation of the old life before a new life can be received. He preaches not contrasts but similarities. He seeks to key into public interest by showing that Christianity makes no unpleasant demands; rather, it offers the same thing the world does, only on a higher level. Whatever the sin-mad world happens to be clamoring after at the moment is cleverly shown to be the very thing the gospel offers, only the religious product is better.

The new cross does not slay the sinner, it redirects him. It gears him into a cleaner and jollier way of living and saves his self-respect. To the self-assertive it says, "Come and assert yourself for Christ." To the egotist it says, "Come and do your boasting in the Lord." To the thrill seeker it says, "Come and enjoy the thrill of Christian fellowship." The Christian message is slanted in the direction of the current vogue in order to make it acceptable to the public.

The philosophy back of this kind of thing may be sincere but its sincerity does not save it from being false. It is false because it is blind. It misses completely the whole meaning of the cross.

The old cross is a symbol of death. It stands for the abrupt, violent end of a human being. The man in Roman times who took up his cross and started down the road had already said good-bye to his friends. He was not coming back. He was going out to have his life ended. The cross made no compromise, modified nothing, spared nothing; it slew all of the man, completely and for good. It did not try to keep on good terms with its victim. It struck cruel and hard, and when it had finished its work, the man was no more.

The race of Adam is under death sentence. There is no commutation and no escape. God cannot approve any of the fruits of sin, however innocent they may appear or beautiful to the eyes

of men. God salvages the individual by liquidating him and then raising him again to newness of life.

That evangelism which draws friendly parallels between the ways of God and the ways of men is false to the Bible and cruel to the souls of its hearers. The faith of Christ does not parallel the world, it intersects it. In coming to Christ we do not bring our old life up onto a higher plane; we leave it at the cross. The corn of wheat must fall into the ground and die.

We who preach the gospel must not think of ourselves as public relations agents sent to establish good will between Christ and the world. We must not imagine ourselves commissioned to make Christ acceptable to big business, the press, the world of sports or modern education. We are not diplomats but prophets, and our message is not a compromise but an ultimatum.

The heart that learns to die with Christ soon knows the blessed experience of rising with Him, and all the world's persecutions cannot still the high note of holy joy that springs up in the soul that has become the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. — A.W. TOZER

God offers life, but not an improved old life. The life He offers is life out of death. It stands always on the far side of the cross. Whoever would possess it must pass under the rod. He must repudiate himself and concur in God's just sentence against him.

What does this mean to the individual, the condemned man who would find life in Christ Jesus? How can this theology be translated into life? Simply, he must repent and believe. He must forsake his sins and then go on to forsake himself. Let him cover nothing, defend nothing, excuse nothing. Let him not seek to make terms with God, but let him bow his head before the stroke of God's stern displeasure and acknowledge himself worthy to die.

Having done this let him gaze with simple trust upon the risen Saviour, and from Him will come life and rebirth and cleansing and power. The cross that ended the earthly life of Jesus now puts an end to the sinner; and the power that raised Christ from the dead now raises him to a new life along with Christ.

To any who may object to this or count it merely a narrow and private view of truth, let me say God has set His hallmark of approval upon this message from Paul's day to the present. Whether stated in these exact words or not, this has been the content of all preaching that has brought life and power to the world through the centuries. The reformers, the revivalists have put their emphasis here, and signs and wonders and mighty operations of the Holy Ghost gave witness to God's approval.

Dare we, the heirs of such a legacy of power, tamper with the truth? Dare we with our stubby pencils erase the lines of the blueprint or alter the pattern shown us in the Mount? May God forbid. Let us preach the old cross and we will know the old power.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR JUNE

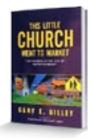


This Little Church Stayed Home

Gilley—Many churches, riding the faddish waves of our times, have gone "to market," but not all. Some churches are trying to "stay home," that is, remain firmly grounded in the Scriptures. Still, the pressures mount, the temptations are repackaged, and the schemes of the world become more and more persuasive. Dr. Gilley explores the manifold temptations of conservative churches to sell out to mod-

ern trends and innovations. Churches toying with "new measures" will be challenged to remain true to the historic doctrines of the Christian faith and to remain faithful to God's chosen means of converting sinners: the good news of Jesus Christ. Evangelical Press, 190 pp.

B97433 wt .6 **\$14.00**



This Little Church Went to Market

Gilley—In an effort to draw sellout crowds, is the modern church in danger of selling out? This is the question author and pastor Gary E. Gilley addresses in *This Little Church Went to Market*. He believes that under pressure from secular philosophies and fads, many evangelical churches have subscribed to pragmatic rather than scriptural patterns for ministry. Marketing tactics,

demographic analyses, and entertainment-oriented worship have taken the new-paradigm church by storm. The result is a Christian community that is rapidly losing its focus and forfeiting its biblical mandate. Xulon Press, 144 pp.

B10499 wt .4 **\$11.00**



When New Wine Makes a Man Divine

Oakland—There are many different voices proclaiming contradicting messages in the name of Christ. Some say the whole world is experiencing a great Christian revival. Others say that

the church is in the final stages of apostasy, and the counterfeit bride is being prepared for a counterfeit Christ. Roger Oakland examines both of these views in the light of God's Word, showing how trends currently taking place in the ecumenical church and the secular world line up with the various events that Scripture warned us would happen in the last days. Understand The Times, 135 pp.

B00053

wt .3 **\$6.00**



New Wine and the Babylonian Vine

Oakland—Concerned about the furious pace of ecumenism? You need this book! Jesus that global spiritual deception would be a sign of His soon return—a coun-

terfeit bride masquerading in the name of Christ would become the religion of the Antichrist. This book examines the current global ecumenical movement in light of Bible prophecy. Understand The Times, 335 pp.

B69047 wt 1.0 **\$12.00**



New Wine or Old Deception?

Oakland—Many people today claim that an experience called "The Toronto Blessing" is God's way of pouring out His Holy Spirit upon the world. This new wine,

they say, is the first phase of a great revival. Others believe that extrabiblical experiences are seducing Christians into one of the greatest delusions of all time, moving them away from the authority of the Word of God. The Word for Today, 118 pp.

B28629 wt .3 **\$6.00**

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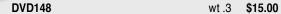
Another Jesus?

Oakland—Rome teaches that Jesus is literally and bodily present wherever a consecrated Host is found. By chronicling the growing cult of eucharistic adoration and the increasing trend of eucharistic evangelization, Roger Oakland points viewers back to a "more sure word of prophecy" and the true Jesus of the Bible. About 60 min.



New Wine and The Babylonian Vine

Oakland—Jesus warned that global spiritual deception would be a sign of His soon return—a counterfeit bride masquerading in the name of Christ. New Wine examines the current global ecumenical movement in light of Bible prophecy, and documents the direction experience-based Christianity is heading. About 60 min.





The Emerging Church

Oakland—This dangerous trend endeavors to attract unbelievers to Christ by weaving together elements from different religious traditions. "Emergent" leaders say that in order to go ahead, we must go back in time and reintroduce mystical techniques that include candles, incense, icons, statues, prayer stations, and sacraments. Be armed with Truth from this DVD. About 60 min.

DVD149 wt .3 \$15.00

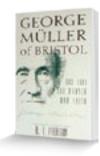


Wiles of the Devil

Oakland—The major battle mankind faces is not "flesh and blood" but instead is against "beings" from an unseen spirtual dimension. *Wiles* unmasks Satan's most effective plans in operation today and shows how even Christians have been influenced by Satan's clever schemes. About 60 min.

DVD150 wt .3 **\$15.00**

MAN OF FAITH & PRAYER, GEORGE MÜLLER

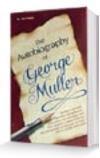


George Müller of Bristol

Pierson—George Müller (1805-1898) is chiefly remembered for the orphanages he founded. These are the stories and life sketches of a man who

lived as a witness to a prayer-hearing God. The Great Provider showed Himself willing and able to supply every need. First published in 1901. Kregel Publications, 375 pp.

B97555 (wt 1.0) **\$15.00**



The Autobiography of George Müller

Müller— The se excerpts from his diary allow Müller to tell his own story. Join him on his journey from a life of sin and rebellion to his glori-

ous conversion. Share his struggles and triumphs as he establishes orphan homes to care for thousands of English children. Whitaker House, 235 pp.

B81595

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Murray—In Humility, you will learn to model your life after Jesus' life, find joy in service, and add power to your witnessing. Bring your focus back to God and

walk in His will as never before! Now in large print! Whitaker House, 126 pp.

B01102

(wt .5) **\$8.00**

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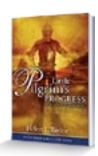


Pilgrim's Progress

Bunyan—John Bunyan could be said to have authored the most influential book in the English language (other than the King James Bible) but The Pilgrim's Progress is

so much more than a historical novel. Bunyan's plan for his readers is for them to travel through this book as an adventure through the Christian life—retold on paper and in pictures. The story of Christian and his companions has been a favorite for generations. Christian Focus Publications, 192 pp.

B26100 (wt 1.4) **\$13.00**



Little Pilgrim's Progress

(wt .3)

\$5.00

Bunyan—To most children, the record of Christian's pilgrimage is attractive simply as a story of adventure. But now, Helen L. Taylor has simplified the vocabulary and con-

cepts for younger readers while keeping the story line intact. The result is a classic for youth and a delightful book with a message they can understand. Ages 6-12. Moody Publishers, 256 pp.

B49263 (wt .5) **\$8.00**



A Peep Behind the Scenes

Walton—Behind many smiling faces there are hurting hearts, and behind things that are attractive and alluring, there is usually a high price to pay. An excellent book to teach dis-

cernment and reinforce the biblical truth that there is no real, no true, no lasting joy in anything of this world. But to the believer, there is the certainty that in the Lord Jesus Christ there is safety and the only way to true happiness. You will understand why 2.5 million copies were printed in 1850! Ages 9 and up. D L Moody's Colportage Library, 256 pp.

B05954 (wt .6) **\$5.00**

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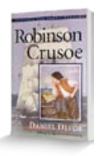


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over 50 voice actors plus music and sound effects. Excellent for personal entertainment, family listening and the memory-building discussions that are sure to follow! Answers in Genesis, 5 CDs.

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Robinson Crusoe

Defoe—Robinson Crusoe's adventure takes place on an island near the Orinoco River of Venezuela. Adjusting to the primitive conditions, he learns to survive. More important, he becomes a Chris-

tian. Modern editions often leave out Crusoe's long struggle with God and his slow transformation as he studies and applies God's Word. For young readers ages 9 and up. P+R Publishing, 185 pp.

B97353 (wt .7) **\$8.00**

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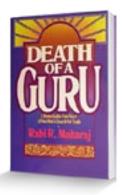
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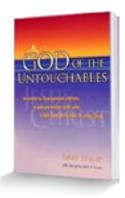


Death of a Guru

Maharaj—Rabi R. Maharaj was descended from a long line of Brahmin priests and gurus and trained as a Yogi. He describes vividly and honestly Hindu life and cus-

toms, tracing his difficult search for meaning and his struggle to choose between Hinduism and Christ. At a time when eastern mysticism, religion, and philosophy fascinate many in the West, Maharaj offers fresh and important insights. Harvest House Publishers, 208 pp.

B04341 (wt .7) \$8.00



God of the Untouchables

Hunt—Dave Hunt tells the poignantly human, true story of Paul Gupta, a young Hindu, raised in the heart of India, who found salvation that all men seek! Everyone who has

been tempted to turn to the East for enlightenment, who has been intrigued by Eastern mysticism, who is thinking of trying Eastern meditation, should read *God of the Untouchables*—proof that Jesus Christ is still the only answer to the world's problems. Straight Street Publishing, 140 pp.

B01279 (wt .7) \$9.00



A Time of Departing

Yungen—A revealing account of a universal spirituality that has infiltrated much of the church today. This book exposes subtle strategies to compromise the gospel message

with Eastern mystical concepts cloaked under the wrappings of contemplative prayer and "the silence." The author's calm presentation is honest and forthright, fair and balanced—and his conclusions are inescapably founded in truth. Lighthouse Trails Publishing, 240 pp.

B01206 (wt .6) \$11.00