

Putting Things in Perspective . . .



ETERNITY

**The**  
**Berean**  
**Call**

SEPTEMBER 2010

*THE TEMPORAL DELUSION—PART 1*

*by T. A. MCMAHON*

# NEW! 2010 TBC CONFERENCE COMPLETE AUDIO SET



Although it will take our video department a few more weeks to edit and produce the entire conference on DVD, our 2010 conference is available now on audio CD or MP3!

**The Berean Call**—Our 2010 Bible Conference in Bend, Oregon, was our best-attended “hometown” event to date, held in the beautiful new Riverhouse Conference Center facilities. If you were not able to join us, you won’t want to miss these exclusive audio recordings available now on CD or MP3 format. The 2010 Conference series features 10 sessions by five speakers: Bil Galatin speaks on *DOEST THOU WELL TO BE ANGRY?*, and *THE MERCY SEAT*; Carl Kerby: *HOW TO KEEP TEENS FROM LEAVING THE CHURCH*, and *GOD SAID*; Jim McCarthy: *THE LEGACY OF DAVE HUNT AND WHAT LOVE IS THIS?*; Steve Herzig: *ISRAEL: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE*, and *ISRAEL: A GOOD COUNTRY IN A BAD NEIGHBORHOOD*; T. A. McMahon: *THE FIRST AND FINAL LIE: SELF-DEIFICATION, AND APOSTASY UPDATE*. Also included: never-released “Dave Hunt’s classics,” *SEDUCING SPIRITS AND DOCTRINES OF DEVILS*, and *GLOBAL PEACE AND THE RISE OF ANTICHRIST*.

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## LEARN ABOUT THE CONFERENCE SPEAKERS:



**BIL GALLATIN**—Over 30 years ago, Bil was led of the Lord, with his late wife, Rosemary, to leave Costa Mesa and go to Farmington, NY, where he began teaching home Bible studies. In time, Calvary Chapel of the Finger Lakes was birthed under Bil’s leadership and his line-upon-line teaching. His heart has always been to accurately convey the message of the entire Bible, with emphasis on walking in the Spirit in light of the soon return of Jesus Christ.

**CARL KERBY**—is one of the founding board members of Answers in Genesis and now one of its speakers and writers on the topic of

Genesis. Carl says that the Answers in Genesis ministry “is not just about creation/evolution. It is all about being able to trust God and His Word without reservation.”

**JIM MCCARTHY**—was educated in the Catholic parochial school system as a youth. Jim came to Christ in his mid-twenties through a home Bible study in 1975. In 1981, he founded the ministry of Good News for Catholics to help distribute the new literature. More recently, Jim has begun writing on other subjects. His latest book is *John Calvin Goes to Berkeley* (City Christian Press, 2010), a novel

about five students who try to solve the mystery of predestination.

**STEVE HERZIG**—is a Hebrew-Christian who was raised in Orthodox Judaism. Steve was appointed Director of North American Ministries in 1996. He contributes to *Israel My Glory*, has produced a video, *Christ in the Passover*, and teaches the “How-to’s of Jewish Evangelism” at churches and conferences.

**DAVE HUNT**—is a best-selling author and an internationally esteemed researcher, lecturer, and scholar. His numerous works

have been translated into more than 40 languages, with over four million copies sold in the U.S. alone.

**T. A. McMAHON**—is President and Executive Director of The Berean Call ministry, Editor-in-Chief and contributing writer for *The Berean Call* newsletter, co-author of *The Seduction of Christianity*, *Understand the Times*, and author of *Showtime for the Sheep?* His writing/producing for Christian videos includes *The Evolution Conspiracy*; *A Woman Rides the Beast*; *Israel, Islam & Armageddon*; and *Psychology and the Church*.

# NEW! A CLASSIC DAVE HUNT DVD NEVER RELEASED VIDEO FOOTAGE



**Classic Dave Hunt DVD (Featured at the TBC 2010 Conference)**

- 1.) *Seducing Spirits and Doctrines of Devils*
- 2.) *Global Peace and the Rise of Antichrist*

**The Berean Call**—In preparation for the this year’s conference, our production staff uncovered rare archival video footage in the TBC “vault,” filmed at various meetings from around the country over the course of Dave’s 30-plus year speaking ministry. To the enjoyment and edification of all those present in the Riverhouse Convention Center, two of these talks were re-mastered for video presentation at this year’s conference: 1) *SEDUCING SPIRITS AND DOCTRINES OF DEVILS* 2) *GLOBAL PEACE AND THE RISE OF ANTICHRIST*. Future installments in this series of “Dave Hunt Video Classics” will be announced

as they become available. Total run time for these two programs is about 2 hours and 45 minutes. This two-disc DVD set (a \$25.99 value) is offered for just \$20.

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## WHERE IS THE REST OF THE TBC 2010 CONFERENCE VIDEO?

Although it will take our video department a few more weeks to edit and produce the entire conference on DVD, we felt that our readers (and all those who love Dave) would appreciate receiving and viewing this video footage and message from Dave just as soon as we could put it out. Next month, we hope to release the entire conference video set, so stay tuned!



# THE BEREAN CALL

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

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## **The Temporal Delusion Part 1**

T. A. McMahon

*If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. (Colossians 3:1-4)*

I'm fascinated by timelines. They give me an idea of what events took place in history, how they relate timewise to other historical events, and whether or not former events may have influenced later ones. I especially like biblical timelines. They often begin with the event of creation and end with the future Millennial reign of Jesus Christ from Jerusalem, supplying a host of details in between. Due to their temporal nature, however, they can only hint at eternity, which is infinite, and for which our life on earth is only a preparation.

The "timeline" presented on the cover of this newsletter is a simple attempt to symbolically remind believers that spending eternity with Jesus is our *raison d'être*, i.e., it is the reason for our existence.

Why am I making an issue of this? Because the world and, sadly, much of the church are caught up in a *temporal* delusion: clinging to this earth rather than hoping for heaven. It's part of Satan's strategy to deceive the world into building his kingdom. For thousands of years, he has seduced both professing and true Christians into joining his labor force, with the goal of establishing his own religion, which will be headed by his puppet ruler, the Antichrist. As the intensity of his program increases in these last days, particularly in Christendom, the leaven of this apostasy has been deposited in all theological camps: charismatics, Calvinists, conservatives, liberals, Pentecostals, Baptists, left-leaning Christians, supporters of the Emerging Church Movement, promoters of the "social gospel," et al.

In its simplest form, it is an attitude of disdaining what Paul admonishes us to do in Colossians 3:2: "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Although even those who truly know and love Jesus may struggle sometimes with keeping their affections on Him, there are others who profess Christ and claim to follow His Word yet who continue in their attempts to set up His kingdom here on earth

prior to His return. That unbiblical objective, sometimes referred to as Dominion Theology and Kingdom-Dominionism, has taken many forms throughout church history.

One early example was the Holy Roman Empire. The idea was that "godly" (i.e., in support of the papacy) emperors would bring the world into the fold of Christ. When that wasn't successful, the papacy took control, ruling over most of the world at that time. As one historian describes it: "[The Church of Rome governed the medieval world and] had all the apparatus of the state: laws and law courts, taxes and tax-collectors, a great administrative machine, power of life and death over the citizens of Christendom and their enemies within and without. . . . Popes claimed the sole right of initiating and directing wars against unbelievers. They raised armies, conducted campaigns, and made treaties of peace in defense of their territorial interests."<sup>1</sup> Like most of the dogmas and practices of the Roman Catholic Church, this was contrary to what Jesus taught: "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight. . . but now is my kingdom not from hence."

*Amillennialism* was the theological belief of the age, which posited that the Millennial, or 1,000-year, reign of Christ was already taking place, albeit spiritually. The worldly successes of the Roman Catholic Church seemed to support this view, but before long it succumbed to its own excesses and corruption. Although the Reformation was a reaction against the abuses of Catholicism, the Reformers kept the Catholic amillennial eschatology, along with many of its teachings and practices such as infant baptism and replacement theology (the belief that the church has replaced Israel). Verses from Scripture that spoke of blessings for Israel were spiritualized to denote the church; verses regarding Israel's punishment were ignored.

John Calvin attempted to make the city of Geneva a model of the kingdom of God, and, for his controlling effort, earned the title "the Protestant Pope." Although his goal was admirable, the results of his implementation were little different from what he had objected to in the Roman Catholic Church. Historian Will Durant writes, "The new clergy. . . became under Calvin more powerful than any priesthood since Israel. The real law of a Christian state, said Calvin, must be the Bible, the clergy are the interpreters of that law, civil governments

are subject to that law, and must enforce it as so interpreted."<sup>2</sup>

Another historian writes, "In a class by themselves stood crimes against Calvin. It was a crime to laugh at Calvin's sermons, it was a crime to argue with Calvin on the street. But to enter into a theological controversy with Calvin might turn out to be a very grave crime."<sup>3</sup> Geneva was hardly heaven on earth, though that was the intent. For example, "an overabundance of dishes at the table, a too-elevated headdress, an excessive display of lace, a proscribed color in dress—all were fair subjects of debate and punishment,"<sup>4</sup> and one never knew when the consistory (the church police) would make a house call. One year saw 400 citizens indicted for moral offenses, and, in 60 years, 150 people accused of heresy were burned at the stake.

Calvin's Christianized society was simply not biblical, substituting law for grace. Not only that, it was inconsistent with Calvinist theology. How was one to "Christianize" those in Geneva who were not among God's elect? Characterized as "totally depraved" and not able to respond righteously because they were not extended "irresistible grace," the "non-elect" could never be the Christian citizens that Calvin demanded.

Kingdom-Dominionism took on a new form in the 1940s in Saskatchewan, Canada. An alleged spiritual revival broke out that spawned the "Manifest Sons of God," or, more commonly, the Latter Rain Movement. The eschatology of this movement shifted from the dispensational view, which is the Rapture of the church followed by seven years of tribulation and ending with Armageddon. The movement promoted a more "positive," even triumphant, scenario, looking for God to pour out His Spirit in a great worldwide revival, which would produce "Manifest Sons of God," a.k.a. Joel's Army. These would be believers, continually filled with the Spirit, who would manifest the same signs and wonders that Jesus did and would judge and conquer the world as they ushered in the 1,000-year reign of Christ.

One of the leaders of the movement has said: "God's people are going to start to exercise rule, and they're going to take dominion over the Power of Satan. . . . As the rod of [God's] strength goes out of Zion, He'll change legislation. He'll chase the devil off the face of God's earth, and God's people. . . will bring about God's purposes and God's reign."<sup>5</sup> This movement, however, ran into the same problems that

plagued Calvin in Geneva. The so-called Manifest Sons of God couldn't live up to godly moral standards in practice, even though strict (read "abusive") measures, known as "shepherding," were applied.

The dominionism of the Latter Rain Movement spread far and wide among Pentecostals and Charismatics. Here are some quotes from men whose names you may recognize:

Yes, sin, sickness and disease, spiritual death, poverty, and everything else that's of the devil once ruled us. But now, bless God, we rule them—for this is the Day of Dominion! (the late Kenneth Hagin)

Those in [Joel's] army will have the kind of anointing...[Christ's] kind of power... anyone who wants to harm them must die. (the late John Wimber)

The manifestation of the Sons of God [are] the "overcomers" who will become perfected and step into immortality in order to establish the Kingdom of God on earth. (George Warnock)

The movement was further promoted by the late Bishop Earl Paulk, who taught that Christ was "held in heaven" until His Body, the church, purified itself and the world. Paulk, however, had problems purifying himself, having had a long history of sexual immoralities and was later convicted of perjury. In the 1980s, under Paulk's leadership, charismatic Kingdom Theology joined forces with Calvinistic Dominionist Theology, also known as Christian Reconstructionism, or Theonomy.

Christian Reconstructionism was popularized by Rousas Rushdoony and his son-in-law, Gary North. Reconstructionists believe that by applying the laws of the Old Testament and the principles of the New Testament, the world will be morally transformed by Christians. This, they claimed, would draw people to Christ. Their eschatology is postmillennial, which means that they expect Christ to return after 1,000 years (viewed by some as a symbolic number, meaning that it could be much longer) of successfully reaping the fruit produced by applying the law.

From the 1980s through the turn of the century, a Reconstructionist group called the Coalition On Revival, or COR, greatly influenced conservative evangelicals to seek to transform the U.S. into a Christian-run nation by using the political process. Although the Reconstructionists and the charismatic Kingdom-Now proponents were far apart theologically, the dominionist beliefs that are basic to both camps drew them together. Gary North noted that this surprising liaison made sense in another way: "...bringing together the postmillennial Christian reconstructionists and the 'positive confession' charismatics, with the former providing the footnotes,

theology, and political action skills, and the latter providing the money, the audience, and the satellite technology [e.g., TBN and Christian Broadcasting Network]."<sup>6</sup>

A number of years ago, a friend of mine sat in on a meeting of Reconstructionists and asked if they truly intended to apply the biblical laws such as stoning and other capital punishments, to which a national leader of the movement replied, "Absolutely!" It seems that the Calvinist Reconstructionists learned little from the failure of Calvin's totalitarian experiment in Geneva.

The Kingdom-Dominionist movement continues, especially among charismatics, to our present day. Jack Hayford, George Otis Jr., and C. Peter Wagner promoted a form of Kingdom Theology that involved taking back the dominion that Adam and Eve lost in the Garden of Eden. One of the movement's leaders explains, "Jesus gave us His authority and...we are supposed to reclaim, restore, organize, and rule over the earth—not only in a spiritual sense, but through economical, political, educational, and social reform as well." Here is why, this same person tells us, Christians must put to use their God-ordained authority: "Jesus is held in the heavenlies until all things are restored under His feet. He will not and cannot physically return to earth until the church [has brought] a measure of God's ruling authority back to this earth."<sup>7</sup>

This form of Kingdom-Dominionism is rife with methods, rituals, and techniques to be followed in order to seize control. C. Peter Wagner's books *Breaking Strongholds In Your City* and *Confronting the Powers* contain what he calls "state-of-the-art spiritual methodologies" for taking dominion: identifying territorial spirits, prayer journeys, spiritual mapping, strategic level spiritual warfare, identificational repentance, reconciliation walking, city transformation, praise marches, redeeming the culture, taking our cities, workplaces, and schools for Christ, etc.

I personally experienced the implementation of these techniques during the heyday of Wagner's "strategic level spiritual warfare" influence when some students attempted to "take our local high school for Christ." They buried crosses on the football field and anointed the school windows with oil. Not only did they *not* take their school for Christ, but they almost caused every Christian student organization to be thrown off campus.

C. Peter Wagner is the chief of operations behind this, and the methods that he says God has given to him are seemingly endless. He is the one who brought John Wimber to Fuller Theological Seminary (FTS) to teach "Signs, Wonders, and Church Growth," later renamed "The Miraculous and Church Growth," which Wagner co-authored with him. Wagner was also the academic mentor

who supervised Rick Warren's doctorate dissertation at FTS.

Jack Hayford spent years meeting with Lloyd Ogilvie and other local pastors at Hollywood Presbyterian Church as they applied various spiritual techniques to "transform Los Angeles for Christ." Hayford candidly admitted the failure years later: "My city's [still] being torn on the inside by gang violence and murder, polluted by homosexuality and pornography on the dark side, and suffocated with pride, self-centered snobishness and sensuality on the 'show' side... [it's] enough to self-destruct us."<sup>8</sup>

All of these movements from church history hold this in common: they are *earth-bound*. Focused on setting up the kingdom of God here on earth prior to or in order to expedite our Lord's return, all have a very serious problem. According to the Scriptures, the next kingdom to come on this earth is the kingdom of the Antichrist, which will last for seven years. True believers in Christ will have no part in that kingdom. They will have been removed from this planet by the Lord Jesus and taken to heaven. This event is called the Rapture (John 14:1-3; Philippians 3:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11; 4:16-18; Hebrews 9:28; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; Colossians 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 John 3:2-3; Titus 2:13; 1 Timothy 6:14; Revelation 3:10; 2 Timothy 4:8; Luke 12:35,37,40), which will happen prior to the Great Tribulation period, during which time those who have followed the Antichrist will suffer God's wrath.

As Dave Hunt has noted in *Whatever Happened to Heaven?*: "The great seduction is to turn us from heaven to earth, from the true God to ourselves, from the denial of self to the acceptance, love, and esteem of oneself, from God's truth to Satan's lie. At the heart of this seduction are beliefs that have a deceptively spiritual appeal, but which actually turn us from loving Christ and His appearing to the earthly ambition of taking over society and remaking this world into the paradise that Adam and Eve lost" (p. 308).

Much of what has been presented here are some of the historic seeds of an earthbound dominionism that have been sown in Christianity throughout the last 1,000 years. They have taken root and are thriving in the church in this fledgling twenty-first century. In part 2 of this series, the Lord willing, we will address what is being promoted in Christendom today in an attempt to draw the Bride (true believers in Christ) away from eagerly looking for the coming of the Groom to take her to their wedding in heaven. We will question whether or not efforts within the church (the ecological movement, the ecumenical movement, social gospel endeavors, political activism, "redeeming the culture" techniques, solving the world's problems through a global P.E.A.C.E. plan, etc.) can be supported by the Word of God. **TBC**



## Quotable .....

*"Thy throne is established from of old: thou art from everlasting."—Psalm 93:2*

We often hear of ancient dynasties, but what are they when compared with the Lord? Are they not as the bubble on the breaking wave, born an instant ago and gone as soon as seen?...The ungodly are all foam and fury, noise and bluster during their little hour, and then the tide turns or the storm is hushed, and we hear no more of them; while the kingdom of the Eternal abides in the grandeur of its power.

*Charles Spurgeon*

## Q&A .....

[TBC: The following timely questions and responses are taken from past issues of The Berean Call.]

**QUESTION [MAY 1988]:** Could you please explain briefly some of the teachings of Kingdom/Dominion, or Dominion Theology? What is the problem with it, if any?

**RESPONSE:** The attempt to fit Scripture into the false mold of "dominion theology" has created strange theories and contradictions. We are accused of "defeatist eschatology" and gross "pessimism" for believing that Christ will soon rapture His bride home, marry her in heaven, then return with her and the armies of heaven to rescue Israel, conquer His enemies and rule this earth in righteousness and peace for 1,000 years.

Yet their teaching that it will require a minimum of 36,600 years (and perhaps hundreds of thousands of years) of continuing ungodliness, and billions dying without Christ, as Christians gradually take over the world before our Lord can return is called "an eschatology of victory." They will not allow Christ to be present to rule over the Millennial kingdom. Although He was personally humiliated, rejected, and crucified upon earth, they will not allow Him to be exalted, honored, and triumphant upon earth by personally reigning during the Millennium....

In fact, they say, Christ has already come. His promise to "come quickly" was the comforting assurance to the Christians in AD 65 that He would return in the person of the Roman armies to destroy Jerusalem! Nor is the marriage supper of the Lamb in Revelation 19 a future event for Christ's bride to eagerly anticipate, but a symbolic expression of the new meaning in the Eucharist since Israel's excommunication by God when "Christ" destroyed Jerusalem in AD 70.

Israel has allegedly been replaced by the church. Gary North would have [had] us become excited about the prospect that by

the year 2000 "Christians and [non-Christian] conservatives will be swept into most elective U.S. offices by ridiculous margins." There is such enthusiasm about...the hope of taking over this world that the church has lost its vision of heaven. I think it is high time that the bride of Christ became excited about that heavenly marriage and the prospect of seeing and being with her Bridegroom forever. Oh, that a great cry would arise from the church: "We love you, Lord Jesus! Please come and take us home! The Spirit and the Bride say, Come! Come, Lord Jesus, come!"

**QUESTION [OCT 2008]:** Today much is made of "prayer walking"...etc. Yet the Bible says "enter your closet to pray." Please comment.

**RESPONSE:** Prayer drives...like the National Day of Prayer, call unsaved to join believers on Christ in prayer, which is like Paul asking fellow Roman citizens to join with the church in prayer—the worst kind of ecumenism.

As for private prayer, Christ said, "Thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men....They have their reward [the praise of men]. But...enter into thy closet... shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly" (Mt 6:5,6). Christ does not say that this is the *only* way to pray but one way to curb our pride.

Never does the Bible suggest that certain techniques are to be adopted.... "Prayer walking" is part of the "Spiritual Warfare Movement," which began at the 1989 Lausanne II evangelism conference in Manila attended by 4,000 evangelical leaders from around the world. C. Peter Wagner says, "...[T]he Lord [told] me... 'to take leadership in the area of territorial spirits....'" This involved "Spiritual Mapping," (to "identify" the demon controlling an area of a city or country in order to "bind" it in the name of Jesus) and a host of other "techniques" that God "revealed" to leaders of this unbiblical movement. C. Peter Wagner...became the coordinator of the International Spiritual Warfare Network. To defeat the powers of darkness through strategic "spiritual warfare," special prayer teams were sent to the northern-most, southern-most, eastern-most, and western-most points of every continent.

In 1989, YWAM's John Dawson wrote *Taking Our Cities for God: How to Break Spiritual Strongholds*, giving a "fivefold approach to bringing down our cities' [demonic] strongholds...." In the foreword, Jack Hayford called it "a book of Holy Spirit insight...." Similar books kept coming off the press. Typical was one edited by Wagner titled *Breaking Strongholds in Your City:*

*How to Use Spiritual Mapping to Make Your Prayers More Strategic, Effective, and Targeted.* Yet in the 20 years since this movement began, not one city has been "taken for God." Instead, some of the leaders have lost the spiritual battle in their own lives to sexual sins. Yet the books continue to sell and seminars and conferences continue to arouse excitement and anticipation.

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

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

I'm no expert on Poland, having only been there once for a series of meetings in a number of cities—but I do know the Bible and the gospel. At one meeting in Warsaw, the Campus Crusade Director for Poland stood up and defended the Roman Catholic Church. I met with the leader of the Catholic Charismatic Movement in

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

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

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

as the most gratifying experience of his then 25-year ministry."

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

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

The facts I presented in my article prove that the late pope was not a true Christian trusting in Christ alone for his salvation. Posing as the friend of evangelicals in the U.S., he vigorously opposed them in Mexico. He was an ecumenist uncertain of his own salvation and willing to embrace followers of any religion who would submit to Rome. Indeed, he was the guiding hand behind Chuck Colson and Catholic priest John Neuhaus in their composition of *ECT*....You might ask the opinion of former Catholics who received Christ and had to leave that church (there are millions), and let them explain the facts.

**QUESTION [MAR 2002]: I am deeply concerned about the increasing frequency of articles and comments in *TBC* that are harshly critical of Calvinism....To disagree with us on theological issues is understandable. But to verbally attack "us" because of our theological understanding is quite another. ...[W]e are your brethren in Christ, not a bunch of Moonies....In the December 2001 issue of *TBC*, an unidentified person made a blatantly inaccurate and defamatory editorial comment following the Associated Press item of 11/14/01...that said, "Whether it's the Catholic Inquisition or Calvin's Geneva or one of today's Islamic states, 'a man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still!'" The inescapable conclusion is that Calvinism is equally oppressive and erroneous as Roman Catholicism and the Taliban demonic Islamic "faith."**

**RESPONSE:** I appreciate your concern. However, you seem to have misunderstood what was said. For example, the editorial comment to which you object refers specifically and very pointedly to "Calvin's Geneva," not to Calvinism in general or to Calvinists. Yet you have made that connection. I think, also, that if you would read again the editorial remark (made by T. A. McMahon) you would see that he is not equating even Calvin's Geneva with the

Taliban and the Inquisition—although Calvin was widely known as the "Protestant Pope of Geneva." The only connection he has made between them is the common attempt to force people to change their belief....

If you are familiar with "Calvin's Geneva"—the scores who were burned at the stake, the floggings and torture and banishment of those who disagreed with John Calvin—then you would understand what was said and that Calvinism in general and Calvinists of today were not the subject. If you are not familiar with what occurred in Geneva under John Calvin, then please consult some accurate and unbiased historical accounts for yourself.

## News Alert.....

*Christian Newswire*, 6/29/2010: The Lord is doing amazing things through the Orality Movement. In fact, "orality" is the fastest growing movement in evangelism, and it is changing the face of missions around the world. The rapidly reproducing church planting movements are among oral cultures in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Increasing numbers of churches and ministries in North America are also recognizing the need for and value of "storying" and other orality methods in reaching and making disciples among secondary and oral preference learners.

[*TBC*: Wouldn't the "success" of the Orality Movement and "storying" prevent believers from being Bereans, keeping them from searching the written Word of God in order to know if what they were hearing was true?]

## Endnotes.....

1. R. W. Southern, *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages* (Penguin Books, Vol. 2 of *Pelican History of the Church Series*, 1970), 18-19, cited in Dave Hunt, *Whatever Happened to Heaven?* (Harvest House, 1988), 150-51.
2. Will Durant, *The Reformation: A History of European Civilizations from Wyclif to Calvin: 1300-1564* (Simon & Schuster, 1957), 472-73, cited in Hunt, *Heaven*, 175-76.
3. Edwin Muir, *John Knox: Portrait of a Calvinist* (The Viking Press, 1929), 106-8, cited in Hunt, *Heaven*, 174-75.
4. Hunt, *Heaven*, 174.
5. Ern Baxter (associate of William Branham), cited in Sandy Simpson, "Dominionism Exposed," <http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/dominionismexposed.html>.
6. Gary North, *Christian Reconstructionism: The Attack on the "New" Pentecostal*, January/February 1988, Vol. X, No. 1.
7. Dr. Kluane Spake, "Dominion Theology and Kingdom NOW," <http://hubpages.com/hub/Dominion-Theology-by-Dr-Kluane-Spake>.
8. Jack Hayford, cited in Dr. Peter Wagner, "Let's Take Dominion Now," <http://www.intheworkplace.com/apps/articles/default.asp?articleid=22902&columnid=1935>.



## Speaking Schedule

Sep 8-11 Great Lakes Prophecy Conference  
(TA) Appleton, WI  
(920) 735-1242

## Letters .....

### Dear Berean Call,

I want to thank you with all my heart for your monthly newsletter, which brings the truth of God's Word to so many. There are not enough words of praise for the whole staff there that does an outstanding job. I love you all and thank you again for embracing the truth and helping us keep our eyes open in these last days. RR (CA)

### Dear Dave,

Of all the people out there, you have influenced me more than anyone. I thank you for your ministry and want to say to you "well done, good and faithful servant!" Thank you so much, and be encouraged. JB (VA)

### Brother Hunt and TBC Family,

I thank God for your ministry, which keeps the focus on the Scriptures and puts the spotlight on the things that are contrary to the Word of God. I first came across this ministry by reading *A Woman Rides the Beast*. That book opened my eyes to a lot of error....I just wanted to write to let you all know that this ministry is having an impact on people's lives, even in prison. CW (NC, prisoner)

### Hello,

Thank you for the book *Cosmos*! I just started it, and I love the way it is written and the way it explains itself as it goes. Even I can get what is being said and the way it all ties together. I won't go on, but thank you! JJ (email)

### My Brother in Christ, Dave Hunt,

Your books reach out and take our hands and lead us to stand upon God's Solid Rock, Jesus Christ. Thank you....When I was so confused, lost...couldn't find my way out—didn't know what hit me—a dear friend gave me the first book I'd read in years, *The Cult Explosion*. I had to read and re-read and then again read because for the first time in my whole life I was reading something that I could grab on to—a real life-line...to help me out of darkness....The junk I had swallowed had truly devastated my life, I had no root, just a bunch of false teachings...but as I read your book, I wept and cried out for gratefulness to God....You have a wonderful gift, an anointing from

God...you teach us to roll up our sleeves and plunge in and study. Your books are meat, and even though I could only take applesauce, your books taught me to go deeper....Studying and reading God's Word [has] given me a strength I cannot believe I could ever own....Thank you and may God keep you writing...! KL (OR)

### Dear Mr. Hunt and Mr. McMahon,

Thank you for your radio show. I have learned so much since I started listening to it about a year ago, and I look forward to it every week on iTunes. I realize that you have been re-broadcasting shows from earlier years, and I appreciate that since I am a relatively new listener....Thank you for your continued service to Christ and to the church. BH (OH)

### Dave,

Just finished your book *Judgment Day!*, and it was overwhelming. I am sharing it with as many friends as I can so they can have the opportunity to decide for themselves about Islam. Thank you! HR (email)

### Dear Dave,

I want to take a moment to encourage all of you in your stance of earnestly contending for the faith. I know it is very difficult to be on the front line taking the assault of the enemy. Know that you are prayed for by many who are also contending for the faith in their daily lives. The Lord will fill you with the grace and strength to do the things He has placed before you. God bless you all. NS (email)

### Respected sirs,

I thank God for directing me to your site. [A number of years ago] I stumbled upon your book *Peace, Prosperity, and the Coming Holocaust* in no other way than by Divine Providence. Being a Christian bookworm, I often spend hours in old bookstores looking for the rare piece. On that 1997 day, I was about to depart without a find, having looked in vain on every shelf, but an impulse made me lift from the floor a pile of Vietnamese technical books. And sure enough, there it was at the bottom....The title, as well as the author, was absolutely unknown to me, but not the subject—so it was that I felt as the scrap metal dealer who found a gold bar in the lot! About the subject you're discussing, I can say from personal experience that there are no "prayer techniques/tactics" when it comes to Praying To God. There are no "praying skills" that can make your "dreams come true." God looks at you from the inside of your heart. There is only the Proverbs Author's recommendation to acknowledge Him in every way so

that He will direct our paths, and bring it to pass (His will for us, that is.)

The sorry state of many in the church today comes from [the fact] that they are swayed by every whiff of "doctrine" that passes their way, provided it is sugar coated by promises of material gain. It reminds me of the teaching of the Baha'ist incantation repeated *ad nauseum* until an "extraordinary peace" descends upon you, as mentioned by Pastor J. K. van Baalen in his 1967 *The Chaos of Cults*. That such practices, of which our Lord warns against, find their way into the church today is nothing short of the paganization of Christianity....God bless you, sirs, and your staff, in every one of His ways. NL (email)

## TBC Notes

### Mini War Briefing

I hope that everyone who reads this realizes that we are in a war—a spiritual war, which has both spiritual and physical consequences. If you are not aware we're in that kind of war, it's very likely that you've already been taken captive. *Neutrality is capitulation* in this war. If you are a pacifist in this battle, you have been effectively neutralized. Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me" (Matthew 12:30).

With that in mind, I present this mini war briefing. Second Corinthians 2:11 says, "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." The Adversary's most successful device in keeping mankind from being reconciled to God, or, for those who have been reconciled, keeping them unfruitful, is the same strategy used in war: disrupt and jam the opponent's communication.

Satan's first attempt at that was extraordinarily successful yet amazingly simple. He got Eve into the position of re-evaluating God's absolute command by raising doubts in her mind: "Yea, hath God said...?" That was the disruption, which was then followed by the denial of the consequences of disobeying God's command: "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:1,4).

Let us take to heart the prayer of Jesus to the Father for us: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17).

T. A. McMAHON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## CONFUSION IN THE WORLD OF NATURAL SELECTION — *by Dave Hunt*

Natural selection is the only workable explanation for the beautiful and compelling illusion of “design” that pervades every living body and every organ. Knowledge of evolution may not be strictly useful in everyday commerce. You can live some sort of life and die without ever hearing the name of Darwin. But if, before you die, you want to understand why you lived in the first place, Darwinism is the one subject that you must study.

This statement in a book by the late theoretical evolutionary biologist and geneticist John Maynard Smith is nothing less than astonishing. Richard Dawkins, who wrote the above Foreword, claims that natural selection has created a “compelling illusion of ‘design’ that pervades” the universe. As we have previously asked, if natural selection were true, why would it create an “illusion” that undermines the whole theory of evolution? And, on top of that, why would natural selection, at the same time, design the human brain to reject this illusion? We know that John Maynard Smith, Richard Dawkins, and many of their fellow evolutionists are confused, but this is an intriguing idea—that the process of natural selection is itself confused in overseeing the alleged evolution of man.

What would be an appropriate epitaph on Richard Dawkins’s tombstone? Several possibilities come to mind: “Here lies a man who dedicated his life to the purpose of proving that life has no purpose because there is no God.” Will the final line add, “Unfortunately, he failed to produce an ironclad proof of his thesis”? Or will it say, “He died a hero to all mankind, having become the first to accomplish the worthy goal of proving to everyone’s satisfaction that life has no goal”? Which will it be?

Will it even matter? As we have seen, this is the necessary conclusion to which materialism leads. Clearly, atoms and molecules have no concept of purpose and meaning—and if that is all we are, then we have no purpose or meaning either. It is worth quoting Francis Crick again to see the hopelessness and worthlessness of this philosophy:

“You,” your joys and your sorrows, your memories and 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.

Dawkins claims to have lived a very happy and fulfilling life. He often says that he feels very lucky to be alive, to have been one of the few gene containers whose genes won the natural selection lottery, since most of them die along the way. We have also quoted him saying that there is no significant difference between a man and a garden slug.

In describing the wonders of nature, atheists find themselves unable to avoid using terms that imply an all-knowing and all-powerful Creator. Dawkins claims to have a great admiration and appreciation for the marvels of life. As we have quoted earlier, he declared: “When you were first conceived you were just a single cell, endowed with one master copy of the architect’s plans.” He would surely have avoided using such a word were there any better way to say it! Obviously, he knew of no other appropriate word.

Yet Dawkins denies the existence of the only “architect” who possibly could conceive these detailed instructions for building every nano-chemical machine in every cell, and supervise from start to finish (as architects do) this incredible construction project, the end of which is about 100 trillion living cells, all perfectly fitted together to become one unique human body. To conceive these plans and to supervise them from the very beginning until a complete body is formed in the womb is infinitely beyond the capabilities of the most brilliant team of scientists and computers that could be assembled today.

Remember, Dawkins admits that it could take *centuries* for scientists to understand the process:

Proteins not only constitute much of the physical fabric of the body; they also exert sensitive control over all the chemical processes inside

the cell, selectively turning them on and off at precise times and in precise places. *Exactly how this eventually leads to the development of a baby is a story which it will take decades, perhaps centuries, for embryologists to work out.*

Only the infinite Creator would be capable of this feat, yet atheists deny His existence. Clinging to materialism as their only hope of denying the Creator, atheists search year after year for some key to human behavior in the anatomy of the brain. They are beating a dead horse. There is no location in the brain where the most important parts of what makes a man can be found: the hopes, ambitions, determination, goals, artistic ability, aesthetics, scientific genius, etc.

A major problem that the materialist tries to sweep under the carpet is the fact that in spite of the herculean effort in the lab to explain human behavior by the brain alone, in the real world of daily human experience, common sense will not allow the ordinary person to countenance the theory that he doesn’t have his own opinions and doesn’t by his own initiative make real decisions. And still the atheist slogs on through life with the single-minded purpose of proving that life *has* no purpose.

Why would proving that God does not exist, if it could be proven, make the atheist happy? The only one who could impart meaning to life would be a personal Creator. To prove there was no meaning in life would be tantamount to proving that God, who alone could impart such meaning, either does not exist or does not care.

Is there evidence justifying rejection of God as the supreme Architect? No, there is none. No one has been able to produce proof that God does not exist. Is there evidence for His existence? Indeed there is. As we have proved throughout this book, such evidence is overwhelming. The evidence from DNA alone is irrefutable. It is self-evident, as Einstein declared, that matter cannot arrange itself into information. Whatever the form in which it appears, information can come only from an intelligent source. Period!

Clearly, the intelligence behind DNA could only be described as infinite. Then why the irrational rejection of the God to whom all the evidence so clearly points? It is not for scientific reasons but because atheists would both lose credibility if they admitted the obvious and would face ultimate justice after they died.

These atheists claim to be on the side of nature. Then why do they reject what seems to have been the intuition of almost the entire human race from the beginning of time right up to the present? Dawkins mourns in hopeless despair the agonizing death of his god Darwin, “It is almost as if the human brain were specifically designed to misunderstand Darwinism, and to find it hard to believe.” Then why cling to this bankrupt theory? And how can this be, when everything we think, say, and do was supposedly produced by evolution?

Richard Dawkins cheerfully insists, “Flowers and elephants are ‘for’ the same thing as everything else in the living kingdoms, for spreading Duplicate Me programs written in DNA language. Flowers are for spreading copies of instructions for making more flowers. Elephants are for spreading copies of instructions for making more elephants.” And Dawkins delights to declare that none of them has any purpose or meaning.

“I regard it as an enormous privilege to be alive . . . especially at the beginning of the twenty-first century, to be a scientist and therefore to be in a position to understand something of the mystery of existence . . . why we exist. I think that religious explanations are now petty and parochial. The understanding we can get from science of all those deep questions that religion once aspired to explain are now better, more grandly, and in a more beautiful and elegant fashion, explained by science.”

“*Why we exist*”? But Dawkins vociferously denies that there is any meaning. Certainly matter, if that’s all we are (as he claims), knows nothing of meaning or purpose.

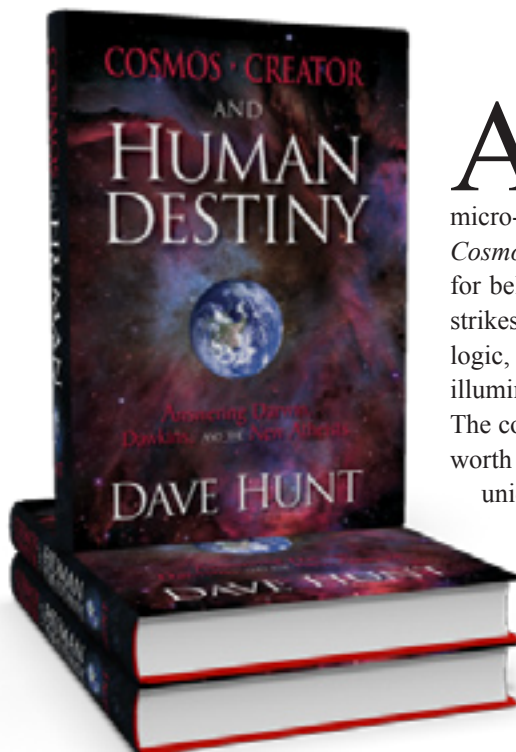
—Excerpted from Dave Hunt’s new book, *Cosmos, Creator, and Human Destiny*, pp 508-512.  
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## COSMOS, CREATOR, AND HUMAN DESTINY

As Dave has repeatedly said throughout the production of *Cosmos, Creator, and Human Destiny*, "This is not the book I set out to write." For one reason, it is not an exhaustive scientific treatise dealing purely with innumerable physical evidences. Neither is it a micro-focused academic volume that requires a degree in astrophysics to understand. Rather, *Cosmos* is a book that every Christian can and should read. Comforting and confidence-boosting for believers, convicting and catastrophic to the skeptic's worldview, this soul-arresting work strikes to the heart of the human condition and man-centered philosophy. With shatterproof logic, Hunt turns the arguments of atheists upon themselves, while at the same time graciously illuminating the irrefutable evidence of providence and design in every "corner" of the cosmos. The countless quotes of leading scientists and atheists (used in their original context) are alone worth the price of this lovingly written and beautifully presented hardcover. Though Dave's unique approach will hold the attention of ardent critics, this book is also an indispensable armory for the serious high school, college/career, and adult believer. And, as one can expect from a Dave Hunt book, the author does not avoid the Scriptures but skillfully weaves the historicity of God's Word and the gospel throughout, with unmistakable clarity and conviction. In a world increasingly hostile to the truth that "sets one free" and that may be "clearly seen," *Cosmos, Creator, and Human Destiny* is one book you'll want to read, share, and prayerfully consider using for your home, church, or college/career study group. Hardcover, 608 pages.

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**Goforth**—Mrs. Goforth continues the account that her husband began in the missionary classic, *By My Spirit*. Despite violence, disease, and poverty, the Goforths found God's provision to continue their work in the harsh land of post-imperial China. Evangel House, 196 pp.

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## Trapped in Hitler's Hell

**Dittman**—Anita Dittman was just a little girl when the winds of Hitler and Nazism began to blow through Germany. By the time she was twelve, the war had begun. Abandoned by her father when he realized the price of being associated with a Jewish wife and family, Anita and her mother were ultimately left to fend for themselves. Anita's teenage years are spent desperately fighting for survival yet learning to trust in the One who would not leave her. Lighthouse Publishing, 186 pp.

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